



Pagans Need the Gospel

Lesson 2 | Romans 1:18-32

Why is God so serious about sin? Many people struggle with God's anger against all sin because we fail to see sin for what it really is. In the second half of Romans 1 Paul shows us why God takes sin so seriously: because at the heart of sin is a rejection of God.

Man's _____ of God (1:19-23)

God's anger with unbelievers is justified, even when those unbelievers have never heard His Word, because everyone knows and rejects God.

Man _____ God (1:19-20)

Everyone has some knowledge of God. Even the illiterate caveman or jungle native has access to truth about who God is through creation. God has made sure that every person who has ever lived can see that there is a Creator because they can see what He created.

Man _____ God (1:21, 25)

But knowing about God isn't enough. According to Paul, not only does everyone know God, but everyone rejects Him, too.

- **Man rejects God by failing to _____ Him**
Paul first teaches that when people knew God they did not glorify Him as God. When they saw the beauty and wonder and splendor of creation, they worshipped the creation rather than God.
- **Man rejects God by failing to be _____ to Him**
Too often we fail to understand what a deadly sin it is to have an unthankful heart. Unbelievers go after idols because they aren't



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Too often we fail to understand what a deadly sin it is to have an unthankful heart. Unbelievers go after idols because they aren't

thankful for what God has given them. Greed leads to a wandering heart and corrupted worship.

Man Becomes a _____ (1:22-23)

People who reject God may get Ph.D.'s. They may be brilliant astrophysicists, or highly decorated generals capable of leading an army several million strong into battle. But if they reject God, they are fools because they have missed what life is all about.

God's _____ of Man (1:24-32)

Man's rejection of God leads to the outpouring of God's wrath. One way God sends judgment is by letting people have their own way, and when that happens nothing but misery and death will follow.

God Gave Man up to _____ Behavior (1:24-25)

Paul begins by talking about the sinful behavior of these pagans. He uses the terms "uncleanness" and "dishonor" to describe the actions of those without God.

God Gave Man up to _____ Desires (1:26-27)

Paul alluded to immorality when he talked about pagans dishonoring their bodies, but now focuses specifically on the sin of homosexuality. This is not because homosexuality is the worst of all sins or totally unforgiveable. Rather, Paul is using homosexuality as a particularly strong example of what all sin is – a perversion of our natural desires away from God's will expressed in creation.

God Gave Man up to _____ Thinking (1:28-32)

Those with wrong behavior and desires have a deeper problem: wrong thinking. He describes these people as having a "reprobate mind," a word that might make us think of people with major problems. But the list of sins Paul is very sobering, not just because these sins are so serious, but also because many of them are so common.

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