

THE RESULTS OF MAN'S REBELLION ROMANS 1:24-32

Text:

Introduction:

We are still dealing with the same theme of God's divine wrath against sin. In this passage we find the results of man's rebellion against God.

Note an expression or a thought that is repeated three times in this passage.

Romans 1:24

*²⁴ Wherefore **God also gave them up** to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:*

Romans 1:26

*²⁶ For this cause **God gave them up** unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:*

Romans 1:28

*²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, **God gave them over** to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;*

These verses let us know that there is a limit to the patience and longsuffering of God. When man makes his choice to abandon God, God will give them over. That is a very sobering thought.

Notice:

1. THE SUBSTANCE OF MAN'S SINFUL REBELLION (VS. 24-25)

A. Based in Sinful Choices (vs.24)

Romans 1:24

²⁴ Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

Mans chooses sin over God because sin is bound up in his own heart.

Matthew 15:19-20

¹⁹ For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: ²⁰ These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.

James 1:14

¹⁴ But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

Notice that the more a man seeks to honor himself by exalting his will over that of God, the more dishonorable he becomes.

When man chooses sin over a relationship with the living God, his sinful nature grows more and more corrupt.

B. Based on Sinful Changes (vs. 25)

Romans 1:25

²⁵ Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Since man refuses to live by God's law, (vs. 18) he invents his own law.

Romans 1:18

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

The result is that man also invents his own gods.

Man trades that which is living, helpful and vital for that which is dead, harmful, and vain.

2. THE SYMBOL OF MAN'S SINFUL REBELLION (VS. 26-27)

Because man has chosen his sin over God, man is given over, (vs. 26), to vile affections.

These verses give a portrait of the pit of iniquity. That is where societies always end up when they choose their ways over God's way.

That has been the case in every major society throughout history, and we are seeing the same trend in our country as well.

A. Man's Attractions are Sickening (vs. 26-27a)

Romans 1:26-27

²⁶For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: ²⁷And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

Paul here describes the sin of sodomy. Today they are seeking special privileges and promoting their lifestyle in open, demanding that people endorse them, accept them, and affirm them in what they are doing.

This verse tells us that even their women were involved in this sinful lifestyle.

What's the significance of this? The truth is that women are usually the last defense of morality in any society.

These verses are describing a people who are totally given to a sinful standard of life.

B. Man's Addiction is Settled (vs. 27b)

Romans 1:27

²⁷ And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

This choice of lifestyles, and it is a choice, brings its own judgment! When God gives a man up to his choice of lifestyles, that man will find that his attraction to and addiction to his sin will become stronger by the day.

3. THE SCOPE OF MAN'S SINFUL REBELLION (vs.28-32)

A. Seen In His Decision

Romans 1:28

²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

At this point, man's rejection of God is complete. As they give themselves more fully to their sins, the less room they have in their minds for God. Eventually, He is rooted totally out of the picture by the vile affections that have these people trapped!

Even the gods of his own invention become less and less necessary. The person who has come this far in his rebellion comes to think of himself as his own god.

B. Seen In His Depravity (vs. 28b-31)

Romans 1:28-31

²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; ²⁹ Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, ³⁰ Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of

evil things, disobedient to parents,³¹ Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

We are told that God gives them over to a "reprobate " mind.

The idea is that men did not want God in their lives, so He gives them over to the power of a totally depraved mind. At this point, they are absolutely capable of any sin imaginable!

We have a list of 23 sins given. This isn't an exhaustive list but is a representation of the sins that man is capable of committing.

Note:

- Unrighteousness, Fornication, Wickedness - These three categories of sin encompass all those listed below and every other form of sin imaginable! They are all represented in these words.
- Covetousness – An appetite for the things of others.
- Maliciousness – Ill will and vengeance

- Envy – The spirit that wants not only the thing that another person has, but begrudges the fact the person has them.
- Murder – Self explanatory
- Debate – Spirit given to fighting
- Deceit – Lying
- Malignity – A spirit filled with evil, envy, and hatred, and loves nothing better than the destruction of other people.
- Whisperers – A gossip who seeks to harm another’s reputation.
- Backbiters – While whisperers do their work in secret, this person works in the open.
- Haters of God – This person hates the standards and restrictions imposed by God. His goal is to be the god of his own life.
- Despiteful – A defiant that dares God or anyone else to get in the way.
- Proud – Self-exaltation
- Boasters – A bragger.

- Inventor of Evil Things – A person who tires of sin as usual and seeks new forms of sinful pleasure and excitement.
- Disobedient to Parents – Self explanatory
- Without Understanding – This is a person who refuses to learn by experience. They reject truth and have closed their eyes and mind to it.
- Covenant Breakers – Not trustworthy
- Without Natural Affection – Abnormal affection and love.
- Implacable – One who will never make peace or come to an agreement.
- Unmerciful – The absence of consideration or feeling for others.

C. Seen in His Destiny (vs. 32)

Romans 1:32

³² Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Man knows in his heart where his sin will lead!
 However, he chooses to sin against his own conscience

and go on in his sinful activity. He pursues his sin with everything in his power. And, to make matters worse, he passes his sinful behavior on to others by encouraging them to follow in his footsteps.

Close:

When does this turning these individuals over occur? I'm not certain that I can be specific in giving a time, but I think we can gain some insight about this in the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs 29:1

¹ He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.

These people are often reprov'd by parents and friends, by magistrates and ministers, by colleague and consciences all the while their neck or heart gets harder and harder with each rejection of truth.

Eventually their conscience is seared.

1 Timothy 4:1-2

¹ Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; ² Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

Those that continue in sin, in spite of admonition, shall be destroyed; those that will not be reformed must expect to be ruined; if the rod of correction fails to work one can expect an axe that will destroy.

They shall be suddenly destroyed, in the midst of their security, and without remedy.

There is a great price to pay for rejecting the Lord and His Truth.

Perhaps you have never trusted Christ as your Savior. You have heard the truth and have rejected it. May I encourage you to trust Him before your heart becomes hardened.

Maybe this evening you are a Christian but you have allowed some of these sins mentioned in these verses into your life.

Let's allow the Lord to work in our lives as we close this service.