

The Sins of Men Without God

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Scripture Basic: Romans 1:18-32

Focal: Romans 1:18-21, 24-25, 28-32

Outline

II. What God Has Done for Man: Justification by Faith (1:18-11:36)

A. What It Is (1:18-5:21)

1. The universal need of righteousness (1:18-3:20)

a. Gentiles lack righteousness (1:18-32)

(1) Natural revelation available (1:18-20)

(2) Natural revelation rejected (1:21-23)

(a) Stage 1: Indifference to known truth (1:21a)

(b) Stage 2: Worthless speculation about God

(1:21b)

(c) Stage 3: Disappearance of Knowledge of God

(1:21c)

(d) Stage 4: Foolish pride in their own philosophy

(1:22)

(e) Stage 5: Fetishism (1:23)

(3) Abandonment to terrible sins (1:24-32)

(a) Sexual perversion (1:24-27)

(b) Reprobate mental attitude, producing list of 24

sins (1:28-32)

Applications:

1. All men can know of the existence and power of God from nature alone. Therefore the atheist (or agnostic) is a "fool". Psalm 19:1, 14:1. Men cannot be saved, however, by natural revelation alone - thus the necessity of special revelation (the message of the Bible).
2. "Heathenism" is the consequence of a rejection of God's revelation. Cf. North Africa (and - well on the way - North America!).
3. Homosexuality is a sin (as is all perversion) and falls under the wrath of God (despite all of the "gay rights" movements).
4. Societies (or individuals) who reject God and His revelation are "turned over" to terrible sins as the initial form of divine judgment.