

Romans 1:18-32

Introduction.

- A. Written from Corinth early 57.
- B. Paul hoped to visit them soon.
- C. The church at Rome.
 - 1. Not founded by Paul.
 - 2. Not founded by another apostle.
 - a. Paul was careful not to build on another's foundation.
 - b. Converts from Pentecost.

Paul contrasts the righteous of vs. 17 with the unrighteous.

I. The opportunity of the unrighteous (18-20).

- A. God has revealed himself.
 - 1. Plainly.
 - 2. Since the beginning.
 - 3. Through creation.
 - 4. In his Power & divinity (the totality of what God is).
- B. The guilt of the unrighteous.
 - 1. Continually suppress the truth by their wickedness.
 - 2. They are without excuse.

II. The response of the unrighteous.

- A. Turned to idolatry (21-23).
 - 1. Refused to give God his due.
 - 2. Constantly claimed their own wisdom.
 - a. God clouded their thinking.
 - b. God darkened their hearts.
 - c. They became fools.
- B. Exchanged truth for lies (25).
- C. Refused what they knew to be true--the knowledge of God.

III. The fate of the unrighteous.

- A. God handed them over to sexual impurity (24).
 - 1. Allowed sinful desires to enslave them.
 - 2. Degraded themselves with one another.
 - 3. Idol worship became self-worship.
- B. God handed them over to shameful lusts.
 - 1. Unnatural sexual behavior.
 - 2. Became slaves of Perversion.
- C. God handed them over to a depraved mind.
 - 1. Because they cast out of their minds the knowledge of God.
 - 2. Do things which are unthinkably wicked.

IV. The Practice of the Unrighteous.

- A. All manner of wickedness.
- B. Knowing their punishment, they yet approve this practice.

V. Application.

- A. This passage describes present day America.
- B. Individually we must reverse this.
 - 1. Reverse the response.
 - 2. Check ourselves against the list.