

Romans 1:18-32 “The Fall of Rome”

Vs 18-21 Roman culture SUPPRESSED the truth...

[#1] Simply stated - God is AGAINST Sin ... But, Paul would be the first to say... God is FOR the Sinner...
"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8
(Psalm 19:1-4)

[#2] A living “DNA design” requires a Living “DESIGNER” ...
Our Creator God!

Vs 22-27 Roman culture CONFUSED the truth...

[#3] But Paul would be the first to say ... “Don’t CONCLUDE that a homosexual is *not loved* by God.”
(1 Cor. 6:9-11)

Vs 28-32 Roman culture celebrated TRANSGRESSING the truth...

[#4] Paul didn’t write this to show us why EVERYONE ELSE needs Jesus. He meant to show us why WE need Jesus.

[#5] Paul’s solution to a messed-up culture wasn’t to make NON-CHRISTIANS live like Christians. It was to introduce everyone to JESUS .

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “*The just shall live by faith.*” ... in Jesus!

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Life Group Homework
For the week of October 24, 2021

- 7) The people, music, books, and media we spend time with influence us. What does the following passage reveal about this truth spiritually?

Galatians 6:7-9 - "[7] Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. [8] For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. [9] And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."

TAKING IT HOME

- 8) ****For personal study only.**** Look back to the Galatians 5:19-21 passage on page 1 of this homework. What sin(s) are you most susceptible to? How can you give this to God this week?
- 9) Looking back at this week's teaching and homework, what is most important for you to remember and why?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶ Pray for persecuted believers in Egypt.
- ▶
- ▶

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1) During this week's message, we watched a short video about how creation reveals the truth of God's existence. What did you like most or least about the video? (If you missed it, or to watch it again, scan the QR code with your phone)



REVIEW

- 2) Looking back at your notes, what stood out to you from this week's message in Romans 1:18-32? (Favorite point? Questions? etc..)

DIGGING DEEPER

- 3) This week we read a list of sins (in Romans 1:28-32) that come as a result of *suppressing* the truth of God's existence. Read the following passage and then answer the questions.

Galatians 5:19-21 - "[19] Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, [20] idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, [21] envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Do you think *these* sins are *also* a result of suppressing the truth of God's existence? Why or why not?

What do you think verse 21 means by saying "those who *practice* such things"?

This passage says those who *practice* such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. In your own words, what is the difference between *practicing* sin and *struggling in* sin? (If you need help, see 1 Samuel 15 and Romans 7:21-25 for examples, respectively)

4) Remember that Paul's list of sins in Romans 1:28-32 and Galatians 5:19-21 should primarily remind us that we (not others) are sinners in need of Jesus. What do the following verses reveal about God's heart towards us?

2 Chronicles 16:9a - "[9] *For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.*"

Luke 13:34 - "[34] *"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!"*

5) What do the following verses say about our "flesh" or "old man"?

Galatians 5:22-25 - "[22] *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. [24] And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. [25] If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*"

Romans 6:6 - "[6] *knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.*"

Galatians 2:20 - "*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*"

Based on the above verses, *who* does the work of crucifying our flesh? (*Hint: this is a trick question*)

What does that look like practically?

6) One might argue that we are either growing closer to or farther away from God, and that our choices either suppress the truth or stand in the truth. Do you agree or disagree, and why?