

ROMANS

THE GRACE OF GOD: A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS

God's Wrath Against Mankind

• Romans 1 : 18 - 32 •

Week 3

DEVOTION

When we think of Jesus, we often focus on His love, mercy, and grace—but what about God's wrath? It's something we easily shy away from, yet Romans 1:18-32 brings it into focus. Paul presents a sobering reflection on humanity's rejection of God's truth. Despite God making His existence and divine nature evident through creation, many choose to suppress this truth, leading to a downward spiral of moral decay and spiritual blindness.

We see this happen to this day. People place their trust in created things—money, status, even their own opinions—rather than in the Creator. When they turn from God, He allows them to continue down that path, which leads to brokenness and emptiness. As Christians, this is a wake-up call. Even though we've accepted Christ, we might be still holding onto old habits—like superstitions or trusting in things other than God. Anti-God attitudes mentioned in this passage aren't just a reflection of our present times. Think about the ancient civilizations like Sodom and Gomorrah and the empires that followed. Their lifestyles and pagan practices would shock even the most liberal-minded people today.

The message here is clear: God's truth is not just a set of rules but a revelation of who He is and how He desires us to live. Suppressing this truth distances us from His grace, leading to a life devoid of purpose and filled with brokenness. The good news is, despite the reality of God's wrath, there's an incredible hope in Jesus. He redeems us from sin and the punishment we deserve. In Him, we find true freedom and the strength to walk in God's truth.

Monday

Read Romans 1:18-32; Ephesians 5:6

Romans 1:18 begins by introducing the concept of God's wrath—a topic often misunderstood. Here, Paul reveals that God's wrath is not arbitrary but directed at the ungodliness and unrighteousness of those who suppress the truth.

1. What is the wrath of God and why is it revealed against humanity?
2. How does Paul describe the reasons for God's wrath, and how does it compare to the warnings in Ephesians?

Tuesday

Read Romans 1:20; Psalms 19: 1-6

Paul makes it clear that God has made His existence evident through His creation. The natural world testifies to God's eternal power and divine nature, leaving no one with an excuse for denying Him.

1. How does creation reveal God's existence and attributes to humanity?
2. In what ways does creation testify to God's reality, and how does this make people "without excuse" according to Romans 1:20?

Wednesday

Read Romans 1:18; John 3: 19-20

Paul highlights the grave sin of suppressing the truth about God, despite clear evidence of His presence. Suppressing truth leads to a darkened heart and a life lived apart from God's wisdom.

1. What does it mean to 'suppress the truth' about God?
2. Why do people reject the truth, and how does this rejection affect their relationship with God?

Thursday

Read Romans 1:21-25; Exodus 20:3-5; Psalm 81:11 -12

Humanity's rejection of God often leads to idolatry—replacing the Creator with created things. Paul uses the phrase "God gave them over" multiple times in this passage, indicating that when people persist in rejecting Him, He allows them to experience the consequences of their choices.

1. How does idolatry in Romans 1:23 lead to a downward spiral of sin, and what are the consequences of putting anything above God?
2. What does it mean for God to "give them over," and how does this reveal the seriousness of rejecting God?

Friday

Read Galatians 5:19-21; 1 John 2:15 -17; Isaiah 5:20

Reflect on the entire passage that you have been reading this week.

1. How does this passage challenge your view of God's justice and mercy?
2. In what ways can we ensure we are living in alignment with God's truth, rather than being influenced by the world's values?