

## The Wrath Of God

*"God gave them up ..."*  
Those who refused to have HIM in their knowledge!

Romans 1:18-32

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## The Day Of God's Wrath

- Revealed from heaven – Romans 1:18a
- Against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men – Romans 1:18b
- The righteous judgment of God. cf. Romans 2:4-6
- A day of judgment of the ungodly. cf. 2 Peter 3:7

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## Why God Manifests His Wrath

Because man spurns (attempts to stifle or suppress) God's revealed truth.

- Rejecting what is true.
- Justifying what is ungodly and unrighteous. Isaiah 5:20, *"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"*

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## Why God Manifests His Wrath

Because man spurns God's revealed truth.  
By rejecting what is true.

- Justifying what is ungodly and unrighteous. **Ungodliness** *asebeian*, "godlessness, impiety, in thought and act" (AG). "Want of reverence towards God" (Thayer).
- **Unrighteousness** *adikia*, "It is a deed that violates right or justice; in brief, it is wrongdoing" (Thayer; AG; Vine). – cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7.

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## Why God Manifests His Wrath

Because man spurns what God has revealed.  
Romans 1:19-20

- Things about God. cf. Psalms 19:1-2; Psalms 14:1
- **Eternal power and Godhead.**
  - As a spirit being, God cannot be seen with physical eyes (Colossians 1:15; John 1:18; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 11:27; Exodus 24:10ff; 33:20-23; Genesis 32:20; Judges 6:22f; 13:20ff; Isaiah 6:5).

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- **Things about God.** (Psalms 14:1; 19:1-2; 94:9; 143:5; Isaiah 42:5; Job 12:9; 26:14; 36:24-33; Acts 14:15-17).
- **Power:** *Dunamis* means "strength, ability, power; ... universally inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth" (Thayer; see also AG).
- **Godhood:** "*Theotēs* indicates the Divine essence of Godhood, the Personality of God; *theiotes*, the attributes of God, His Divine nature and properties" (Thayer; see also AG).

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## Why God Manifests His Wrath

Because man is ungrateful and foolish.

Romans 1:21-23

- Making God into their own image.
- Making God into the image of other animate objects.
- Examples: Jeremiah 2:11; Exodus 32; Ephesians 5:5; Colossians 3:5

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## The Wrath Of God

- The wrath of God at the last day will involve a fiery end. cf. 2 Peter 3:10; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9
- God's wrath being revealed today is more subtle, but terrible nonetheless.

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"God gave them up ..." Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- *paradidomi*: "hand over, turn over, give up a person ... he abandoned them to impurity Romans 1:24" (AG; see also Thayer).
- God does not tempt men. James 1:13-15  
When they left him, he permitted them to do as they pleased, but with suffering as a consequence thereof.

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"God gave them up ..." Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- "**To Lust**" *epithumia* "desire, craving, longing, or inclination," but the nature of the desire may be either good or bad.
- "**To Uncleaness**" *akatharsia* in this context, "in a moral sense, the impurity of lustful, luxurious, profligate living" (AG; Thayer). (cf. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20).
- Dishonoring their bodies among themselves. Why? Because they exchanged the truth of God for the lie. Romans 1:25

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"God gave them up ..." Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- "**To vile passions**" ... Sexual perversions!  
– *atimia* has the sense of "dishonor, disgrace, shame" (AG 119).
- It is a scathing denunciation of homosexual acts.  
– Case in point, **lesbianism**. Romans 1:26
  - Women exchanging the natural use for what is against nature
- Case in point, **homosexuality**. Romans 1:27; cf. 1 Corinthians 7:2

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"God gave them up ..." Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- "**To vile passions**" ... Sexual perversions!  
– Their moral standards are based on the delusion that the creature is to be worshiped rather than the Creator. How much more could they go astray?
- Nothing new ... Genesis 19:1-25; Leviticus 18:22; 20:13; Deuteronomy 23: 17-18, both fornication and homosexuality are condemned as prohibited conduct. (see 1 Kings 14:24; 2 Kings 23:7; Isaiah 1:9; 3:9; Lamentations 4:9).
- Paul also condemned homosexuality in other epistles. He referred to "*abusers of themselves with mankind*" (*arsenokoitai*) (1 Corinthians 6:9)

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### "God gave them up ..." Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- "And even as they did not like (*ouk edokimasan*) to retain God in their knowledge ..." KJV
- "They did not see fit to have a true knowledge of God Rom 1:28" (AG).
- They did not "recognize as genuine after examination, to approve, deem worthy: to be kept in knowledge" (Thayer).
- These people did not desire, after proving or examining the evidence of the true God, to select or choose him!

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### "God gave them up ..." Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- "Unto a reprobate mind."
- They were abandoned to their depraved thoughts (AG).
- Reprobate *adokimos* "not standing the test, not approved" (Thayer)
- One can be reprobate not only in mind, but also in person (2 Corinthians 13:5-7), in faith (2 Timothy 3:8), and to good works (Titus 1:16).

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### "God gave them up ..." Romans 1:24, 26, 28

- "to do those things which are not fitting."  
*Romans 13:13; 1 Corinthians 5:9-11; 6:9-10; 2 Corinthians 12:20-21; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 4:19ff; 5:3-5; Colossians 3:5-9; 1 Thessalonians 2:3; 4:3-7; 1 Timothy 1:9-10; 6:4-5; 2 Timothy 3:2-5; Titus 3:3, 9-10*
- Unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness.
- Envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness (malignity).
- Whisperers, backbiters, haters of God (contempt).
- Violent (NKJV), proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents.
- Undiscerning, untrustworthy, Without natural affection (unloving NASV), unforgiving (implacable), unmerciful.

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### God's Wrath

- Is manifested today by simply allowing man to go his own way.
  - To follow the desires of his heart.
  - To follow the passions of his lusts.
  - Stumbling in blind ignorance to increasing degrees of depravity. cf. Ephesians 4:17-19
  - Reaping the consequences.

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### God's Mercy

- Is manifested today for those willing to turn back to Him.
- Willing to acknowledge His revelation.
- That given through creation.
- Even more so that given through His Son!  
cf. 1 John 4:9-10
- Willing to be thankful to Him. cf. Colossians 1:12; 2:7; 3:15,17; 4:2
- Showing gratitude through repentance.  
cf. Romans 2:4

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