



## Responding to the Wrath of God Romans 1:18 – 2:4

### What behavior reveals the wrath of God?

- Wrath =
- When we suppress the truth about God which is evident to all (Romans 1:18-21)  
*“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.” (v. 18-19)*
- When we exchange the truth about God for that which is false (Romans 1:22-24)  
*“and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man” (v. 23)*

### What consequences result from the wrath of God?

- We are given over to “degrading passions” (Romans 1:26-27)  
*“For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural” (v. 25-26)*
- We are given over to a “depraved mind” filled with all kinds of sins (Romans 1:32)  
*“And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper” (v. 28)*
- We find people to approve of these sins (Romans 1:32)  
*“...they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.” (v. 32)*

*I Chronicles 33:10-13 is a case study on why God “gives over” people to sin*

### What should our response to this sin be? Romans 2:1-4

- Do not judge others since we all have our own sinful problems to be judged (Romans 2:1-3)  
*“But do you suppose this, O man, when you pass judgment on those who practice such things and do the same yourself, that you will escape the judgment of God?” (v. 3)*
- Do show kindness which leads to repentance. Romans 2:4  
*“Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?” (v. 4)*

# Digging Deeper

## ROMANS OVERVIEW:

**SIN**  
Romans 1 - 3

**SALVATION**  
Romans 4 - 6

**SANCTIFICATION**  
Romans 7 - 8

**SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD**  
Romans 9 - 11

**SERVICE**  
Romans 12 - 16

We must remember that the book of Romans was a letter written by Paul to the church in Rome. Because it was a letter, it was to be read in full, and not meant to take just one part and build your values around that part alone. This is important to remember each Sunday because as we examine only certain passages alone, one may develop a distorted or inadequate view of God and His plans. For example, today's passage is all about the wrath of God. Well, some people love to focus only on His wrath and judgment. But it would be unfair to see that aspect of God alone. Therefore, we must read this entire letter to gain the proper perspective because in Romans 8, Paul emphasizes the truth that everyone in Christ will not be condemned. So, let's be careful to examine each chapter in light of the greater context of the book.

One of the significant sins Paul describes is homosexual behavior by both men and women in Romans 1:26, 27. As you know, this is a major issue. A homosexual couple was married on a Rose Parade float New Year's Day. The Tet parade is now allowing homosexuals to march as an act of "inclusion and acceptance." The Boy Scouts now are openly accepting homosexuals. That is why Paul warned us 2000 years ago in Romans 1:32 that these sins will increase and people will be persuaded that they are acceptable to "give hearty approval to those who practice them."

## LifeGroup Discussion:

The real issue is not how many times Jesus or the Bible condemn homosexual behavior. Rather, the issue is how do Jesus and the Bible affirm sexual relationships and define marriage. The following passages reveal the God-given norm for sex and marriage. Homosexual relations are never affirmed or approved, only condemned. Read these obvious answers and reflect on what they mean for the homosexual movement today and how married couples should live.

- **Genesis 2:18-25** - When God created a "helper" what gender did He create?
- **Genesis 2:24** - What were the two genders does God affirm as parents?
- **Genesis 2:22-23** - Woman comes to the man to reunite. The sex act in marriage is to recreate that oneness since woman came from man, sex portrays the oneness of marriage and is an example of the oneness of the trinity.
- **Genesis 1:27** - Man and woman are in God's image, and will be the marriage partners God affirms.
- **Genesis 2:25** - What are the two genders? Interesting why God needed to tell us they were "unashamed." Why was that important in light of what happens in Genesis 3?
- **Matthew 19:3-9** - Jesus addresses the issue of marriage and reaffirms God's only original design for sexual relations and marriage. What does He teach us that the two genders are to be in marriage?
- **Ephesians 5:22-33** - Paul teaches us on the roles of marriage. Which two genders does he assume and affirm are in marriage? How are they related to each other? What does Paul teach about homosexuality and the ability to be forgiven and changed in I Corinthians 6:9-11?
- **John 3:36** - What hope can we all have to remove the wrath of God?

## Next Steps:

1. **Attend the Alpha Course beginning Wednesday, February 5 at 6:00 pm in the Worship Center Lobby.** This will help you get grounded in the basics of the Christian faith and explore any questions, doubts or thoughts you have about the gospel of Jesus. Learn more about the Alpha Course at [calvarylife.org/alpha](http://calvarylife.org/alpha)
2. **Find a discipleship mentor through Growing in Christ.** Discipleship is being mentored in what it means to follow Jesus. To find out how you can be mentored, contact Ross Strachan at 714.541.1053 for more info.
3. **Join a support group in Celebrate Recovery to find fellowship and freedom.** Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered twelve-step program and a ministry of Calvary Church of Santa Ana. We are a safe haven where people who are hurting can experience hope and healing in a Christian community. More info at [calvarylife.org/cr](http://calvarylife.org/cr)



CONNECT.GROW.REACH  
1010 N. Tustin Ave. | Santa Ana | CA

phn | 714.973.4800  
web | [calvarylife.org](http://calvarylife.org)