

# **The Gospel of God**

*Studies in the Epistle of Paul  
to the Romans*

## **The Wrath of God Romans 1:18-32 Lesson 2**

**Trinity Bible Church Sunday School  
January 10, 2010**

# The Epistle to the Romans

“In the New Testament, the Epistle to the Romans is entitled to peculiar regard. It is the only part of Scripture which contains a detailed and systematic exhibition of the doctrines of Christianity.” – Robert Haldane

# Outline of Romans

1. Doctrine of Salvation (1-8)
2. Correlation (9-11)
3. Evidence of Salvation (12-16)

# Romans 1:1-17

- ▶ **Gospel priority**
- ▶ **Gospel content**
  - Jesus Christ
  - Righteousness of God
  - Faith
- ▶ **Gospel power**

# **All have sinned and come short of the glory of God - Romans 3:23**

## **▶ Romans 1:16-17**

- Righteousness of God**
- The just shall live by faith**

## **▶ The Wrath of God**

## **▶ Romans 3:21-22**

- Righteousness of God**
- Justification through faith in Jesus Christ**

## **Lesson 2: The Wrath of God**

- ▶ God has revealed His wrath from heaven (1:18)
- ▶ Men (we) know it – the decree of God that sinners deserve death (1:32)



# Lesson 2: The Wrath of God

- ▶ The wrath of God revealed (1:18-23)
  - Revealed
  - Rejected
- ▶ The wrath of God received (1:24-32)
  - Dishonored bodies
  - Dishonorable passions
  - Debased minds

# **The Wrath of God Revealed**

## **Romans 1:18-20**

- ▶ From heaven
- ▶ Clearly
- ▶ Invisible attributes
- ▶ By things that are made
- ▶ The wrath of God



# The Wrath of God Revealed

Against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness

## ► Ungodliness

- No specific reference to God in the Greek word
- SEB – to fall back
- Godliness – literally, “well devoted”
- Ungodliness is lack of reverence to God
- Tremble – Psalm 2:11; 96:9; 99:1; 114:7; Isaiah 66:2
- Fear – Proverbs 1:7

# The Wrath of God Revealed

Against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness

## ► Unrighteousness

- Romans 1:29-31
- Wrong doing
- Not a distinction between the condition and the act
- Matthew 12:33 – good fruit is the result of a good tree
- Ezekiel 36:24-31 – promised solution is a new heart
- Jer. 17:9 – righteousness without righteous heart = evil

# Wrath of God Denied

- ▶ Suppression of truth by unrighteousness
  - Not honor God as God
  - Not give thanks to God
- ▶ Became futile in their thinking
- ▶ Claim wisdom but become fools
- ▶ Exalt creation above the Creator

# The wrath of God received by men (1:24-32)

- ▶ Consequences of suppression of truth
  - Exchange truth of God for a lie
  - Worship and serve creature rather than Creator
  - Not acknowledge God – no place for God

# God gave them up . . .

- ▶ to impurity to the dishonoring of their bodies
  - Gal. 5:16-17, 19-21
- ▶ to dishonorable passions
  - Homosexuality
- ▶ to a debased mind
  - Romans 1:29-31



# They do and approve

- ▶ Knowing God's decree – His wrath
- ▶ Death for ungodliness and unrighteousness
- ▶ They do such things
- ▶ They approve others doing them also



Our moral perversion is not the cause but the result of wickedness, the consequence of a more deep-seated evil.

However justifiable they may be, sermons on morals are therefore of little value, because they do not get to the root of the matter. Paul sets to work more thoroughly. All the perversions of life, he says, can be traced back to one fundamental cause, and this original sin is not to be found in the field of morals but in the soil of religion:

Perversion in life stems from perversion in faith.

— Martin Luther —

# The Wrath of God Revealed

- ▶ The root sin is against God
- ▶ The revelation of God is clearly seen
- ▶ All men suppress the truth and reject God
- ▶ God's wrath increases
- ▶ The gracious restraining Hand of God
- ▶ This is my Father's world

# The Gospel Hope

- ▶ The righteousness of God by grace
- ▶ The just shall live by faith
- ▶ Faith comes by hearing the Word of God