Lesson 2 Romans 1:18-32

Judgment

1. If vs. 17 is the solution, how do verses 18-21 describe the problem?

17 For in it is revealed the righteousness of God from faith to faith; as it is written, “The one who is righteous by faith will live.”

19 For what can be known about God is evident to them, because God made it evident to them.

20 Ever since the creation of the world, his invisible attributes of eternal power and divinity have been able to be understood and perceived in what he has made. As a result, they have no excuse;

21 for although they knew God they did not accord him glory as God or give him thanks. Instead, they became vain in their reasoning, and their senseless minds were darkened.

2. From vs. 21, what is wrong with the peoples' relationship to God?

3. What does everyone know about God, according to vs. 19-20?

4. When has the freedom to resist God only ended up hurting you?

5. What four stages of progression of sin are described in vs. 21-23?

21 for although they knew God they did not accord him glory as God or give him thanks. Instead, they became vain in their reasoning, and their senseless minds were darkened.

22 While claiming to be wise, they became fools

23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for the likeness of an image of mortal man or of birds or of four-legged animals or of snakes

6. What do you see as the main cause from vs. 21-23?

7. What does it mean that because of people's sin, God "gave them over" to sin?

8. It is common to think of God's wrath primarily in terms of future judgment, yet vs. 18 states that God's wrath is now being revealed. How is this evident from verses 24-32?

18 The wrath of God is indeed being revealed from heaven against every impiety and wickedness of those who suppress the truth by their wickedness.

24 Therefore, God handed them over to impurity through the lusts of their hearts for the mutual degradation of their bodies.

25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie and revered and worshiped the creature rather than the creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

26 Therefore, God handed them over to degrading passions. Their females exchanged natural relations for unnatural,

27 and the males likewise gave up natural relations with females and burned with lust for one another. Males did shameful things with males and thus received in their own persons the due penalty for their perversity.

28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God handed them over to their undiscerning mind to do what is improper.

29 They are filled with every form of wickedness, evil, greed, and malice; full of envy, murder, rivalry, treachery, and spite. They are gossips

30 and scandalmongers and they hate God. They are insolent, haughty, boastful, ingenious in their wickedness, and rebellious toward their parents.

31 They are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.

32 Although they know the just decree of God that all who practice such things deserve death, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

9. How have the attitudes of those who are opposed to basic morality affected your own moral outlook?

10. How carefully do you examine the influence of the media or the opinions of friends upon your own moral attitudes?