Romans Lesson 2

Robert Harkrider · Romans 1:18–24 · Series: **Romans**

INTRODUCTION

- The Apostle Paul set forth that the gospel is God's power to salvation.
- For God loves what is right, and he hates that which is evil.
- He does this to emphasize that men are sinners, and as a result of sin have stirred the wrath of God.

1 God's Wrath Is a Judicial Response to Evil

Habakkuk 1:13; Deuteronomy 28:1–15; Numbers 16

- When the Bible uses the word wrath in talking about God, it's not talking about uncontrolled anger.
- God's wrath is a legal, judicial response to that which is evil.
- To understand God is to say, first of all, that he is holy.
- But notice the if clause. If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.
- That God's wrath is stirred against people who do not follow his will.

2 Ungodliness and Unrighteousness of Men

Romans 1:18; Matthew 7:21; Acts 2:38

- If on the positive side we understand godliness to be piety, to be a sense of reverence, to have respect for God, then ungodliness is just the opposite of that.
- Those who are ungodly are the kind of people who hold God's commandments lightly.
- Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
- The second word, unrighteousness, perhaps is directly relating to what men do to other men.
- There is no middle ground. You're either for the Lord or against the Lord.

3 Why Are Sinners Lost?

Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 6:23; John 3:18–19

- God's law is that sin is worthy of death.
- Had he never fallen into the water, he would never have drowned.
- Jesus Christ is the means by which there can be salvation. Man is lost because of sin.
- Men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

4 So That They Are Without Excuse

Romans 1:19–20; Psalm 19:1–4; Acts 14:16–17

- The invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.
- The fact that they're lost is their own fault.

- People who do not know the Lord do so by their own choosing.
- Men who seek truth can find truth.

5 Professing Themselves to Be Wise, They Became Fools

Romans 1:21–24; Ephesians 4:17–19

- When they knew God, they glorified him not as God. Neither were thankful, but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
- That word vain literally means empty minded.
- If we do not know God, if we do not know the word of God, man really doesn't know where he came from, or where he's going, or why he's here.
- Idolatry is an establishment of religion like man wants it. Man builds an idol like he wants.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **My friends, fear the Lord, respect and reverence him, honor him, for God's wrath is against those who reject and who live in sin.**

MY NOTES