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God's Wrath Part II

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Romans 1:20-32 ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from His workmanship, so that men are without excuse. ²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking and darkened in their foolish hearts. ²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images of mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. ²⁴Therefore **God gave them over** in the desires of their hearts to impurity for the dishonoring of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is forever worthy of praise! Amen. ²⁶For this reason **God gave them over** to dishonorable passions. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷Likewise, the men abandoned natural relations with women and burned with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error. ²⁸Furthermore, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, **He gave them up** to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed, and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant, and boastful. They invent new forms of evil; they disobey their parents. ³¹They are senseless, faithless, heartless, merciless. ³²Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things are worthy of death, they not only continue to do these things, but also approve of those who practice them. (BSB)

Intro: The alleged disagreement between Jesus and Paul has been used to throw this passage out of the Bible.

I. Here are the additional details of this passage.

- A. We are looking at God's wrath on mankind when He is not given the **proper** place in our lives and when we do not have a **thankful** heart for all that He does for us. V. 21
- B. When we fail to do these things we become **idol** worshipers. V. 23, 25
- C. God's wrath is revealed by **giving us over** to dishonorable passions that lead to impure behavior. V. 26-27
- D. God's wrath is also revealed through mankind receiving a **depraved** mind. V. 28-31

E. Both lists of behaviors are forbidden by God's children. We are not to participate nor are we to condone behavior that is ungodly.

II. How do we apply these truths?

A. We, as believers, must be putting God in the place in our life that He deserves. Otherwise, we are going to be objects of His wrath as well.

B. We must cultivate a heart of thanksgiving. The complaining of how bad things are is not what God wants in us.

C. We must walk the fine line of not condoning godlessness but still seeking the salvation of everyone that we come in contact with.

D. We need to combat this conflict in the spiritual realm.

Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world's darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.
(BSB)

E. We also need to combat this conflict with truth and righteousness.

II Corinthians 10:3-5 ³For though we live in the flesh, we do not wage war according to the flesh. ⁴The weapons of our warfare are not the weapons of the world. Instead, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We tear down arguments and every presumption set up against the knowledge of God; and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.
(BSB)