

It's Worse Than You Think

Romans 1:24-31

Context: After mentioning how the Gospel reveals the righteousness of God (1:17), Paul shows the wrath of God towards the unrighteousness of men (1:18). The Holy God separates himself from Men given to idolatry and sin (1:24-32).

To see how bad things are...

I. _____ God's distance from sinners (vs. 24-31)

- A. Three times in the passage is a mentioning of God giving up sinners to their sins. Mankind does not want God, and God lets them experience the negative consequences of living independent of him.
- B. In verse 28, God hands them over to a debased mind. This is a mind void of judgment, unable to see clear morality it once did.

II. _____ how bad you truly are (vs. 24-31)

- A. It is common to read this passage and see it applying to other people - people "out there." Paul eventually makes the case that this depravity describes all of us (Romans 2-3).
- B. Jesus shares a similar list to Romans 1:29-32 in Matthew 15:18-19: (ESV) But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

III. _____ society's approval of sin (vs. 32)

- A. You know a person or culture has descended into ultimate corruption when people give public and legal approval to sin.
- B. When society applauds others who practice these sins, it has lost its moral compass