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TRANSFORMED!
*Knowing & Doing
God's Will*

FOCAL PASSAGES FOR TODAY'S STUDY:

❖ **ROMANS 1:18-23**

❖ **ROMANS 1:24-32**

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Anyone remember
when this issue of
TIME magazine
hit the newsstand?

Time Magazine
Volume 87, Number 14
April 8, 1966

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ROMANS 12:2

Do not be conformed to this age, but be **TRANSFORMED**
by the renewing of your mind, **so that you may discern what is
the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.**

Week 2:

INTRO

- ❖ **Righteousness from God**, as revealed in the Gospel and lived by believers through faith, is the theme of Romans.
- ❖ After introducing that theme in 1:16-17, Paul moves immediately to **substantiating the need for the Gospel**.
- ❖ Paul wants everyone to know that **humans stand condemned** before God and are **helpless and hopeless** apart from His grace.

ROMANS 1:18-23

¹⁸ For God's wrath is revealed from heaven against all godlessness and unrighteousness of people who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth, ¹⁹ since what can be known about God is evident among them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, that is, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, being understood through what he has made. As a result, people are without excuse. ²¹ For though they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became worthless, and their senseless hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles.

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Wrath of God Revealed

Romans 1:18-23

ROMANS 2:5

Because of your hardened and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath, when God's righteous judgment is revealed.

¹⁸ For God's wrath is revealed from heaven against all godlessness and unrighteousness of people...

- ❖ **When, where and how has God's wrath been revealed to mankind so far?**
 - ✓ Garden of Eden
 - ✓ The Flood
 - ✓ Sodom & Gomorrah
 - ✓ Exile to Egypt
 - ✓ Period of Judges
 - ✓ The Cross

Everyday, Right Now (God gave them over...)

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Reasons for Condemnation

Romans 1:18-23

UNIVERSAL SINFULNESS

Paul is about to expound a wonderful salvation. But first he **establishes the need for it** by showing that all people are sinful.

¹⁸ For God's wrath is revealed from heaven against all godlessness and unrighteousness of people...

- ❖ **Paul characterizes unrighteous people as **unwise fools without excuse.** (1:20-22)**
- ❖ **Paul give us three reasons to justify the wrath of God and condemnation.** (1:18-23)
 1. For Suppressing God's Truth (1:18)
 2. For Ignoring God's Revelation (1:19-20)
 3. For Perverting God's Glory (1:21-23)

ROMANS 1:18-23

¹⁸ For God's wrath is revealed from heaven against all godlessness and unrighteousness of people **who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth**, ¹⁹ since what can be known about God is evident among them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, that is, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, being understood through what he has made. As a result, people are without excuse. ²¹ For though they knew God, they **did not glorify him as God or show gratitude.** Instead, their thinking became worthless, and their senseless hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools ²³ and **exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images** resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles.

Results of Condemnation

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ROMANS 1:24-32

²⁴ Therefore God **delivered them over** in the desires of their hearts to sexual impurity, so that their bodies were degraded among themselves. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served what has been created instead of the Creator, who is praised forever. Amen.

²⁶ For this reason God **delivered them over** to disgraceful passions. Their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ The men in the same way also left natural relations with women and were inflamed in their lust for one another. Men committed shameless acts with men and received in their own persons the appropriate penalty of their error.

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ROMANS 1:24-32

²⁸ And because they did not think it worthwhile to acknowledge God, **God delivered them over** to a corrupt mind so that they do what is not right. ²⁹ They are filled with all unrighteousness, evil, greed, and wickedness. They are full of envy, murder, quarrels, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, God-haters, arrogant, proud, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ senseless, untrustworthy, unloving,, and unmerciful. ³² Although they know God's just sentence—that those who practice such things deserve to die,—they not only do them, but even applaud, others who practice them.

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Results of Condemnation

Romans 1:24-32

FREE WILL

God does not force Himself on anyone, if they choose to reject Him then He will honor their wishes and allow them to pursue their passion, but they are **without excuse**.

²⁴ Therefore, God delivered them over...

- ❖ People cannot reject God without **facing the consequences** of their actions.
- ❖ One could say the results of condemnation on rebellious humanity are nothing more than the natural consequences of suppressing truth, ignoring revelation, and perverting God's glory.
- ❖ But God does more than let nature take its course, **He abandons the unrighteous to expressions of a corrupt lifestyle** deserving of His wrath and the sentence of death. (v. 32)

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Results of Condemnation

Romans 1:24-32

SEXUAL PURITY

The only sexual relationship endorsed in the Bible is a heterosexual one within the boundaries of biblical marriage.

(Gen 2:21-24; Matt 19:4-6)

²⁴ Therefore, God delivered them over...

- ❖ Paul says that “**God delivered them over to**” three things in versus 24-32, what are they?
 1. Abandoned to sexual impurity (24–25)
 2. Abandoned to disgraceful passions (26–27)
 3. Abandoned to a corrupt mind (28–32)

Results of Condemnation

Romans 1:24-32

COLOSSIANS 3:1-3

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²**Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.** ³For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

²⁸ And because they did not think it worthwhile to acknowledge God, **God delivered them over to a corrupt mind** so that they do what is not right.

- ❖ Think about our memory verse for a second; **how are we to be transformed?**
 - Renewing the mind is a key part of transformation and it is essential to knowing and doing the will of God.
- ❖ So then, how do we renew our minds?

Results of Condemnation

Romans 1:24-32

But the unrighteous
do not do that, they
do what is right in
their own eyes.

²⁹ They are filled with all unrighteousness, evil, greed, and wickedness.

- ❖ The mental vacuum created by dismissing God gets filled with **four forms of sin**:
 1. Unrighteousness (depravity)
 2. Evil
 3. Greed
 4. Wickedness
- ❖ These four in turn express themselves in 17 more specific types of wickedness.

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Depraved Lifestyle

SPECIFIC TYPES OF WICKEDNESS

• Envy	• Slander	• Disobedient to Parents
• Murder	• God-hater	• Senseless
• Quarrels	• Arrogant	• Untrustworthy
• Deceit	• Proud	• Unloving
• Malice	• Boastful	• Unmerciful
• Gossip	• Inventors of evil	

- ❖ So, Paul is not trying to give us an exhaustive list of sins, he is trying to point out the total depravity of man, left to his own devices.
- ❖ Open defiance to God leads to a pattern of evil that brings condemnation upon oneself and encourages others to follow suit.
- ❖ Such extreme rebellion against God warrants God's wrath, judgment and condemnation of the sinner.

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TRANSFORMED!
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 God's Will*

**Apart from
 God's grace we
 are helpless
 and hopeless.**

- ❖ Paul's main point is that sinners do not act out of ignorance, they are culpable.
- ❖ While no evildoer ever understands all the implications of their actions, they know enough to know that they are doing wrong.
- ❖ God has revealed enough of himself for people to know what is right and what is wrong.
- ❖ Unrepentant sinners may act wise, but in fact they are foolish, and without excuse.

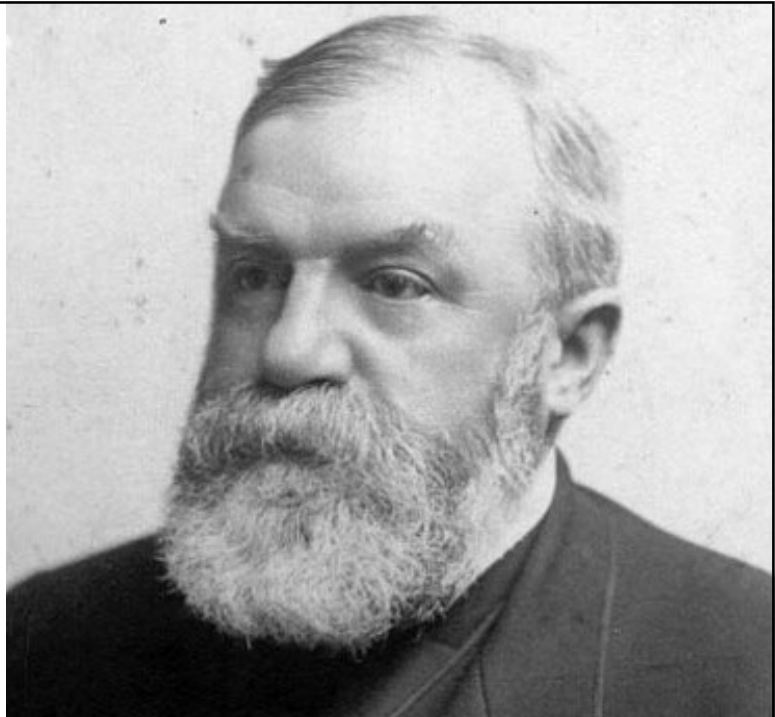
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***You've got
 to get people
 lost before
 you can get
 them saved.***

D. L. MOODY
 1837-1899



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