

# WALKING THROUGH ROMANS - PART 3

## THE HUMAN CONDITION EXPOSED

This is Lesson Three of our Romans study. This is classroom style, comprehensive, pedagogical, and didactic teaching. That means you are not expected to get everything in one sitting. You must go back, listen again, take notes, and allow repetition to build understanding.

The driving question remains: Has God remained faithful in a fractured world? That question is central to everything Paul is arguing.

In Lesson One we understood the letter before the letter. In Lesson Two we explored the gospel revealed. Now in Lesson Three, Paul shifts into exposing the human condition.

Before humanity can understand salvation, humanity must understand its condition. The human condition is what happens when we trust ourselves first, leading us beyond God's design and into brokenness.

## BUCKET 1 - ROMANS 1:18-20

Paul introduces the wrath of God revealed against all ungodliness and wickedness. This wrath is not emotional rage. It is a settled, righteous opposition to sin and distortion.

God is not reacting emotionally. God is responding morally. When creation is twisted away from its intended order, God's nature responds.

Paul establishes a dual revelation: the righteousness of God is revealed through the gospel, and the wrath of God is revealed through human rebellion.

The issue is not ignorance. The issue is suppression. Humanity knows truth but suppresses it.

This introduces general revelation. God makes Himself known through creation. The world bears witness to the Creator.

Because of this, humanity is without excuse. The truth is present, but it is resisted.

## BUCKET 2 - ROMANS 1:21-23

Paul moves deeper into the diagnosis. Humanity knew God but did not honor Him or give thanks.

The crisis is not intellectual. It is a crisis of worship.

When God is no longer honored, life becomes disoriented. Thinking becomes futile. Hearts become darkened.

This introduces idolatry. Idolatry is placing created things in the position of the Creator.

Paul describes the great exchange—trading the Creator for creation.

When worship is distorted, thinking is distorted. When thinking is distorted, life follows.

### **BUCKET 3 - ROMANS 1:24-27**

Paul now describes the consequences. He repeats the phrase: God gave them over.

This is not God causing sin. This is God allowing consequences.

This introduces disordered desires. When the Creator is removed from the center, desires become distorted.

What humanity worships shapes what humanity wants.

Distorted worship leads to distorted desires, and distorted desires lead to distorted living.

### **BUCKET 4 - ROMANS 1:28-32**

Paul reaches the final stage of the argument. Humanity did not acknowledge God, so God gave them over to a debased mind.

A debased mind is a mind that has lost its ability to properly discern.

Paul introduces the vice list—a catalog of behaviors that reflect moral collapse.

This is not just about behavior. This is about a condition.

Paul then shows that the issue deepens: people not only practice sin, but approve of it.

This introduces moral corruption. Sin becomes normalized and even celebrated.

When truth is suppressed long enough, brokenness becomes standard.

### **FINAL TAKEAWAY**

The human condition is not ignorance. It is resistance.

Truth is present, but it is suppressed. Worship is distorted, and life follows that distortion.

The gospel is necessary because it restores clarity, confronts distortion, and brings humanity back into alignment with God.