



NOTES PAGE

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Book of Romans: God Gave Them Over

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | February 4, 2024

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."

— A.W. Tozer

Exodus 34:5-7 (NIV)

⁵ Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord.
⁶ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; ..."

Romans 1:18 (NIV)

The wrath of God **is being revealed** from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness,

Romans 1:24-32 (NIV)

²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸ Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They 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, ³⁰ slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; ³¹ they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. ³² Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

God Gave Them Over...

Romans 1:

v.24 **Therefore God gave them over** in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity...

v.26 Because of this, **God gave them over** to shameful lusts...

v.28 **Furthermore**, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, **so God gave them over** to a depraved mind...

Romans 1:32 (NIV)

Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

"There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, "Thy will be done," and those to whom God says, in the end, "Thy will be done." All that are in Hell, choose it. Without that self-choice there could be no Hell. No soul that seriously and constantly desires joy will ever miss it. Those who seek find. Those who knock it is opened."

— C.S. Lewis, *The Great Divorce*

Matthew 27:45-46, 50-51a (NIV)

⁴⁵ From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. ⁴⁶ About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?")...

⁵⁰ And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

Isaiah 53:4-6 (NIV)

⁴ Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Romans 2:1 (NIV)

You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.

Reflection Questions:

1. Why is our view of God so important? How can we develop inaccurate or caricature views of who God is? How do we develop accurate views of who God is?
2. Do you tend to see God as more of a God of love (grace) or a God of judgment and wrath (truth)?
3. How do we define the wrath of God? What do you think of when you hear that God is a God of wrath?
4. Why is understanding God's wrath important to understanding and experiencing the gospel as beautiful and as good news?

Romans 1:

v.24 **Therefore God gave them over** in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity...

v.26 **Because of this, God gave them over** to shameful lusts...

v.28 **Furthermore**, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, **so God gave them over** to a depraved mind...

5. How is God giving us over to our own desires a form of punishment and experience of his wrath?
6. How have you experienced the consequences of going your own way and not living out God's plan and purpose for people?
7. How is the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15 a picture of God giving people over to their sinful desires? How is the wrath of God revealed in this story? How is the gospel revealed in this story?
8. If the intention of God's plan and purpose is for people to thrive and flourish, why would obedience always be in your best interest? Even when obedience is challenging and counter intuitive?
9. When we look at Paul's list of vices that are evidence that people live outside of God's design, where do you see yourself? Why is it important to see that we are included in that list? Why are we tempted to want to see others in that list and not ourselves?

Read Isaiah 53:4-6

10. When we understand the wrath of God toward sin and evil we understand what was accomplished on the cross of Christ. What are your thoughts about the gospel when you reflect that Jesus took the wrath of God that you deserved?



**BASE CAMP
KIDS MINISTRY:**

Visit: journeybozeman.com/children

**STUDENT
MINISTRIES:**

Visit: journeybozeman.com/students

GIVE ONLINE:

Visit: journeybozeman.com/give