What is the Wrath of God that is being revealed? Part 3

Romans 1:23-32; Mark 7:14-23

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Introduction

Definition of God's Wrath –

God's wrath should be defined as His temporal displeasure and display of judgment against all human sin, whether performed by unbelievers or sinning believers.¹

Following Zane Hodges outline from his commentary – Romans: Deliverance from Wrath

God's Displeasure with Humanity

- a. Humanity stands under God's wrath, 1:18-25
 - i. The declaration of this manifestation, vs. 18
 - ii. The cause of this manifestation, vv. 19-23
 - iii. The results of this manifestation, $vv. 24-32^2$

¹ René A. Lopez, p. 56.

² Zane C. Hodges, *Romans: Deliverance from Wrath*, ed. Robert N. Wilkin (Corinth, TX: Grace Evangelical Society, 2013), pp. 39-41

God giving people over can be seen throughout Scripture - cp. **Psalm 81:12**; **Acts 7:42**; **James 1:13-15**; 1 Cor. 6:18-19; **Eph. 4:19**; 5:3

- 1. Exchanging God's glory for idolatry, vs. 23
- cp. **1 Thess. 1:9; 2 Thess. 2:11; Deut. 4:19**; Isa. 44:9-20
 - 2. God gives man over to selfish sexual deviations, vv. 24-27

cp. Romans 6:19; 2 Cor. 12:21; **Gal. 5:19**; Eph. 4:19; **Col. 3:5**

God's judgment upon the sexual deviance of our world is seen throughout Scripture, cp. Gen. 19; Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Deut. 23:17-18.

3. God gives man over to an unapproved mind, vv. 28-31, Romans 7:23; 8:5-8;

12:1-2, alternative is seen in our choices Vice lists - cp. Romans 13:13; Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Cor. 5:9-11; 6:9-10; 2 Cor. 12:20f.; Eph. 4:31; 5:3ff.; Col. 3:5, 8; 1 Tim. 1:9f.; 2 Tim. 3:2-5; Mark 7:21-22

4. God's wrath results in death as long as people reject and suppress the truth.

What is the alternative to this broken world? Can we saved from the wrath of God? The

answer is yes. It begins by simply believing that Jesus is the Christ, John 14:6; 1 John 5:1, 10-13.

Kent Hughes wrote an alternative to Romans 1:24-32 for those who receive the grace of God, the Love of God, the mercy of God as follows:

Therefore, God *gave them over* in their hearts to self-control and purity, that their bodies might be honored among them. For they kept and cherished the truth of God and worshiped and served the Creator, who is blessed forever, rather than the creature. Amen.

For this reason God *gave them* over to pure and wholesome lives, lived with carefree ease even in the most intimate relations so that all received in their own persons the due reward of their fidelity.

And just as they saw fit to acknowledge God in all things, God gave them over to a sound mind, to do those things which are proper, being filled with all righteousness,

goodness, generosity, kindness; full of selflessness, life, healing, openness, kindliness; they are gentle in speech, always building others up, lovers of God, respectful, humble, self-effacing, inventors of good, obedient to parents, understanding, trustworthy, loving, merciful; and as they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are possessors of life, they do the same, and give hearty approval to those who do likewise.

By reversing Paul's thoughts, one of the most terrible portions of Scripture becomes sublime. God's grace brings freedom from bondage, light from darkness, life from death.³

³ R. Kent Hughes, *Romans: Righteousness from Heaven*, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1991), 39–41.