



Revelation of God to Man - 1:18-20

Theme of Romans: The Righteousness of God

- A. The *Righteousness of God Revealed* - (Blessings) - 1:1-18
 - 1. **Blessings** to Paul - 1:1
 - 2. **Blessings** of The Gospel - 1:2,3
 - 3. **Blessings** of Who Christ Is - 1:3,4
 - 4. **Blessings** of Who We Are In Christ - 1:5-7
 - 5. **Blessings** to the Roman Believers - 1:8-15
 - 6. **Blessings** of The Gospel & God's Righteousness - 1:16-18

- B. The *Righteousness of God Required* - (Condemnation) - 1:18-3:20
 - 1. The Gentile world **condemned** - 1:18-2:16
 - a) Immoral people are unrighteous & **condemned** - 1:18-32
 - Condemnation** against pagan human humanity
 - 1. Reasons for condemnation - 1:18-23
 - a. revelation of God to man - 1:18-20
 - b. repudiation of God by man - 1:21-23



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Rom 1:19 (KJV)

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them.

Question: Who is the “them”(2x) in this passage ?

- It refers back to vs.18 – It is all un-regenerative men who are “holding down” or “suppressing” the truth (about God) in unrighteousness

Question: Why does man hold down or suppress the truth in unrighteousness ?

Would you expect any other response ?

Does it have to do with the very nature of man?

- Recognize that the state of man’s being & very nature is unrighteousness
“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: “ - Rom 3:10 (KJV)
- Because un-regenerative man is energized by his Adamic (sin) nature, it can only manifest itself in unrighteousness (internal & external) – therefore man can only suppress the truth about God

Question: How is it possible then for man to not suppress the truth & believe ?

- Jn 6:44; 12:32; 16:8,9



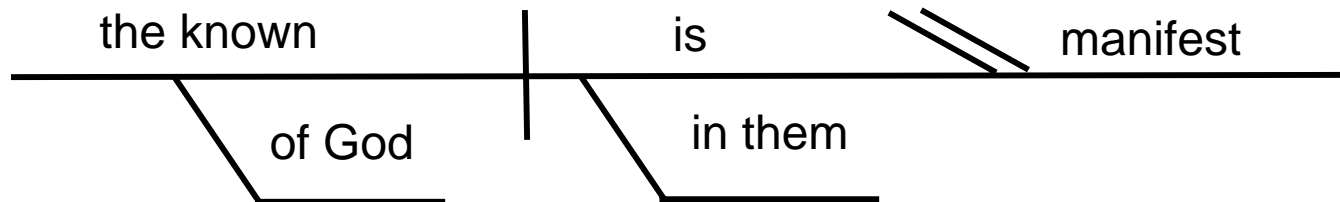
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Rom 1:19 (KJV)

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them.

Question: How has God conveyed the truth about Himself to unrighteous man ?

- Lit: “the known of God is manifest in them”



“the known” - γνωστός, *gnōstos* - signifies "known, or knowable;"

- the “emphatically knowable” (definite article)
- “of God” - the things about God which He revealed to man

• “Is” - **eimi**, *eimi* - essence verb of status quo – continuous existence, pres/ act/ind

• “manifest” - φανερός, *phaneros* - apparent, clear, evident, (opposite to "in secret")

- “in them” – in the heart & mind of man, the truth about God is very clear & plain
- It’s emphatic - God Himself makes the knowledge of Himself totally clear to man, by the statement: “for God has showed (φανερῶ *phanerōō*) it unto them



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1:19 Summary

- Verse 19 states the reason why God reveals His wrath (His settled anger out from His righteousness) toward unrighteous man
 - Because God has placed in all men the emphatically knowable truth about Himself but man suppresses that truth
 - The truth of God is continually (24 x 7) and emphatically made clear to mankind but man still continues to hold down or suppress the truth
- No man can say:
 - “There is no God”
 - “I can’t know if there is a God”
- From God’s viewpoint :
 - There are no atheists
 - There are no agnostics
- Sinful man holds down or suppresses his knowledge of God in his unrighteousness because that is the very state of his being
- Because God is righteous, He must pour out His wrath & indignation on man
- Man has a choice:
 - God’s blessing - by faith (The believer is at rest)
 - God’s wrath - by unbelief (The unbeliever is at unrest)



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Rom 1:20 (KJV)

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Question: What are the emphatically knowable things of God that are intrinsic in man ?

Question: How long has man had this knowledge of God ?

Question: What does verse 20 say about God's eternal power & Godhead (Deity) ?

1. **They are invisible** - ἀόρατος, *aóratos*; 'a' - not, and *horáō* to see - that which cannot be seen with the physical eyes = Invisible
2. **They are clearly seen** - καθοράω, *kathoráō*; - to perceive clearly, understand (apart from visual sight)
3. **They are understood by the things made** - ποίημα, *poíēma*; - It denotes the result of a work, what is produced (i.e. creation)

Question: What is God's response to man who suppresses the truth about God's eternal power and Godhead (Deity) ?

- Man is without excuse - ἀναπολόγητος, *anapológētos*; Without apology or excuse, inexcusable