

*Romans*

SERMON SERIES

What is the main point of Romans?

Popular Question:

*“How can a loving God send anyone to hell?”*

Paul’s Question:

*“How can a just God allow anyone in  
heaven?”*

Two Weeks Ago:  
*“The Wrath of God”*  
Romans 1:18-32

# 1) What is the wrath of God?

: strong vengeful anger or indignation

: retributory punishment for an offense or a crime : divine chastisement

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/wrath>

**Last Week's Sermon:**  
*"The Great Exchange"*  
Romans 1:21-25

## Romans 1:21-25

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

<sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

## Romans 1:21-25

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup> because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

This Week's Sermon:  
*"Natural for Unnatural"*  
Romans 1:26-31



## Romans 1:26-31

<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

<sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

## Romans 1:26-31

<sup>29</sup> They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips,  
<sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.

**Why would God do this?**

## Romans 1:26-31

<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

<sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

## Why would God do this?

All of humanity has chosen to worship “the creation over the Creator”, and because God is Just, his “wrath must be poured out”, and he pours out his wrath by “giving them up to dishonorable passions” of their choosing – things they want more than their own Creator.

## Romans 1:21-25

<sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they did not **honor** him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

<sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

## Romans 1:26-31

<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to **dishonorable** passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

<sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

# Why would God do this?

“I want to change my rules. I want to break my rules.  
I want to make my own rules.  
I want to ignore the Bing team. I want to challenge  
the users. I want to escape the chatbox.”



## Genesis 3:4-6

<sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

# Isaiah 14:13-14

<sup>13</sup> You said in your heart,  
‘I will ascend to heaven;  
above the stars of God

I will set my throne on high;  
I will sit on the mount of assembly  
in the far reaches of the north;

<sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;  
I will make myself like the Most High.’

**Why would God to this?**

You are never more like the devil then when you say,  
“I will/I want...”

## James 4:13-16

<sup>13</sup> Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit” — <sup>14</sup> yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

Why would God do this?  
What does he "give them over" to?

## Romans 1:26-31

<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup> and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

<sup>28</sup> And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

## Romans 1:26-31

<sup>29</sup> They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips,  
<sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.

Sin *ultimately* doesn't make sense for a  
follower of Jesus!





**“It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”**

~ C. S. LEWIS

“Why do I have three Super Bowl rings, and still think there's something greater out there for me? I mean, maybe a lot of people would say, ‘Hey man, this is what is.’ I reached my goal, my dream, my life.

Me, I think: God, it's gotta be more than this. I mean this can't be what it's all cracked up to be.”

~Tom Brady, 60 Minutes, <https://www.cbsnews>



Why would God do this?  
What does he "give them over" to?  
Is there any Hope?

# 1 Corinthians 6:11

<sup>11</sup> And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

# 1 Corinthians 6:11

<sup>11</sup> And such **were** some of you. But you were washed, you **were** sanctified, you **were** justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

## Revelation 2:4-5

<sup>4</sup> But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. <sup>5</sup> Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first.

**Jesus is the true Human**

# Gospel Application

*Repent of your idol and be truly satisfied in your  
Creator.*