

## Romans 1:18

**No Excuse Sunday**... I think we get the point... A person may offer up all kinds of “Excuses”, all kinds of reasons, why they do not serve the Lord, this passage is a reminder that there is “**No Excuse**...”

Paul makes it clear, that not only is there “**No Excuse**,” but he also makes clear, that such will be held accountable! They will undergo the “*Wrath of God!*”

**(Vs 18)** <sup>18</sup>For the **wrath of God** is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

He uses a word that means to “hold down” ... “to suppress...” Paul is speaking to those who “*Know better*” but yet continue to do contrary... It describes a person who knows the truth about God, but they “*Suppress*” that truth, in order that they might live their lives the way they choose to...

There’s a terrifying truth, that Paul goes on to teach in this chapter about a person who does as much... Three times, it mentions that “**God gave them up**...”

It’s living despite “*knowing*” what we are doing is not right, yet continue therein... Verse 19~20, explain that this is a result of God working in our lives... Growing up, many times I would be convicted about something I was doing... I knew it was wrong, but I did it anyway! It didn’t bother me too much, I’d always explain it away, I’d convince myself with some excuse...

Well, despite that I convinced myself that I was ok, if I would have died in that state, I would have faced the wrath of God! I was without excuse, there was something inside me, I knew better!

**(Vs 18)** <sup>18</sup>For the **wrath of God** is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Paul doesn’t neglect to preach the “*Full Gospel*” of Christ!

The message of the Cross, is a twofold message...

<sup>17</sup>For therein is the **righteousness of God** revealed from faith to faith:

<sup>18</sup>For the **wrath of God** is revealed from heaven...

The “*Gospel of Christ*...” speaks to God’s Love for Mankind!

While at the same time, it also speaks of God’s HATRED & JUDGMENT of SIN!

**The first is, that it speaks of the “Goodness & Grace” of God toward man...** God sent His Son Jesus into this world to save sinners... And he accomplished that by taking their place, taking upon himself the judgment of God for sin! If you really think about it... it is utterly unbelievable to conceive the thought, that God would love us so much, as to take on the form of a man, and die in our place!

But Jesus did just that... And in doing so, provided a way for anyone who will turn from this old world, and put our trust in Christ Jesus, we will be spared from the “Judgment of God!”

But not only is it a message of the Love of God, it also has another message...

**It speaks of the “Judgment & Wrath” of God toward unrighteousness, against sin...**

**(Vs 18)** <sup>18</sup>For the **wrath of God** is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

**God HATES SIN!** At the cross, we are reminded of the “*wages of sin...*” DEATH! The Judgment of God was executed against sin! For all those who do not turn from this world, and serve the God & Father of our Lord Jesus...they will face His Judgment, the “*Wrath of God!*”

The wrath and hatred of God is something that isn't talked about much today... Many aren't preaching the full gospel... God not only deserves our allegiance and worship, he demands it! Faithfulness and Obedience to Him are not optional; He calls for a complete surrender of our lives to Him!

Anyone who does not...regardless of their excuse, stands in danger of facing His wrath!

God is not only a God of Love, but He is also a God of Hate.  
God is not only a God of Forgiveness, but He is also a God of Judgment.  
It is His “*Perfect*” balance of these qualities is what makes Him God!

Since God is a **God of Justice**...He cannot “*Overlook Sin...*”  
His **pure and perfect** “*Justice*” demands that unrighteousness and sin go not unpunished!

Something that we have become accustomed to in our society... We often are appalled at the great “*injustice*” that often takes place in our courts! When the *punishment does not fit the crime!* And rightly so, Justice is simply the carrying out of truth! By the way, our courts, our judges and such, have been established by God according to the scriptures!

(Romans 13:1~7) ...<sup>4</sup>*For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he bears not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.*

The “*Message*” that should come out of our court system is... “*Justice will be served!*”  
All will PAY for the wrong they do... You let a man, having committed a crime, get off scott-free, its just not right! Justice needs to be served on that man! If you don't want to undergo the punishment, don't do the crime! That ought to be the message coming out of the courts! Just a note, because Justice is not being upheld in many courts, *evil is increasing!* Many have “Lost Faith” in our justice system... Thus, many of those same people have a tough time believing in God. They have trouble trusting in a God who seems to let people get away with murder! They protest that its just not fair...and its not! But its not the system that is the problem...its corrupt men who are the problem!

God created those institutions for the purpose of sending the clear message to all of society...

**“*A life of unrighteousness will be rewarded with judgment!*”**

But because He is a God of “Pure & Perfect JUSTICE,” *His Wrath is inevitable!*  
God is restrained in the way he deals with wrong! His “JUSTICE” demands that the “*Punishment fits the crime!*”

I've heard people say... “*A God of Love would never send anyone to Hell!*”

In one sense, they are right! The scriptures attest to that truth! By saying that, that person testifies to the truth of verse 19... <sup>19</sup>*Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath showed it unto them.*

But that's where the “Good News of Christ” comes in... Through God's Love, He provided a way of escape, and still remain JUST! Christ took on our sin and punishment!

<sup>16</sup> *...For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

<sup>17</sup> *For **God sent not** his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

<sup>18</sup> *He that believeth on him is **not condemned**: but he that believeth not is **condemned already**, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

★ Your right... *God would never send you to hell...* **but your unbelief will!**

Most people feel that they can't be saved because of what they've done... But God's perfect plan has made it so, that regardless of our past, God will forgive our sin! That because of Christ, God has made it possible for all to be saved from His wrath!

Jesus revealed the “*One Reason*” people will perish...

<sup>19</sup> *And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.* <sup>20</sup> *For every one that doeth evil hates the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.* <sup>21</sup> *But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

God's wrath abides on us, not because of our past... God's provided a way in Christ... God's wrath abides on us, for the simple reason *we have rejected his goodness* towards us!

★ Listen... If anyone dies, and undergoes the “*Wrath of God*” it won't be because “*God Rejected Them!*” ..... It will be because **THEY “Rejected GOD!”**

Listen, God has made it that...

There is “**NO EXCUSE**” for anyone to suffer the wrath of God!

The gospel teaches we are saved from judgment, not by our goodness, but by the “goodness” of God...

He has done everything in “*His Power*” to keep you and I from undergoing “*His Justice!*”

There is literally nothing more he can do... He has gone the full gamete, he has exhausted every possible means...

The only reason someone will perish and face the wrath of God, is to reject the goodness of God!

**Verses 19~25**... Reasons for His Wrath...

<sup>18</sup> *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;* <sup>19</sup> ***Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them**; for **God hath showed it unto them**.* <sup>20</sup> *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:* <sup>21</sup> ***Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*** <sup>22</sup> *Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,*

<sup>23</sup> *And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four footed beasts, and creeping things.* <sup>24</sup> *Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves:* <sup>25</sup> *Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.*

I don't have the time to go into much detail on these verses, but I want to close this morning, by trying to sum them up, by giving you the point of what he is saying...

There is “**NO Excuse**” for any person to die, and suffer the wrath of God!

God has done everything in His Power to keep that from happening... In verses 19 and following, Paul is saying... That God has revealed “*His Goodness*” to every man, woman, boy & girl on earth... That His goodness and love toward mankind is abundantly evident! Paul points to creation, how it speaks of God's love and goodness...

**God is so good to us...** He has given us all the wonderful trees, that give us the air that we breath... He's given us rives and lakes, filled with water, that He supplies from the rain from heaven... He supplies the animals and the vegetation that we so richly enjoy and need! He's given us the stars of the sky and the moon to guide us in darkness, He's given us the sun to keep us warm, the clouds and the breeze to keep us cool...

We could go on and on, of the “*Goodness of God*” towards us... And yet with all of his goodness towards us...we still reject Him... We reject Him by not serving Him, loving Him... But rather what man does, is worship this world and the things of this world! Even with all of God's love and goodness to man, man has turned his back on God, carrying out his own will and ways! Man spends his time in pursuit of the things of this world, instead of the creator of this world!

God's Goodness is all around us! All of creation speaks of the love and goodness of God towards man! And if that were not enough, God in His final effort to reach the hearts of men, sent His own Son, to take on Himself... “Our Sins”... To take upon Himself the Judgment that we so richly deserve! And still! Still men and women reject and turn their backs on the goodness of God!

Listen... To those people... You will experience the full measure of God's Judgment!  
God has done everything in His power to save you...now its up to you...