

## Romans 1:26~27

Read verses 26~27:1... *Therefore, thou are inexcusable...*

These words really sum it up... There is NO EXCUSE for mans unrighteousness... Paul has made it abundantly clear, that mans sin is not a result of “*Ignorance*”, its not that he doesn’t “*know better*,” for he does. No one else is to blame for his sin... Paul has clearly pointed out, that mans unrighteousness before God is a result of mans “*defiant, rebellious, hard heart!*” Man “*Knows better*,” yet he “*willfully sets*” that truth aside, to carry out his own will and ways...

This is an extremely important truth for all of mankind to grasp... Because it is mans natural instinct to “*Excuse*” away his or her sin, their rebellious lifestyle, their unsundered submission to Gods will... We see this truth, in the sinful lifestyle that lies before us in this text...

The homosexual community is claiming... “*They were born that way...*”

In one sense, I’d agree with them... They were born sinners... But they say that, in the sense that God made them that way...

Not True! Paul just explained how one reaches the point of this lifestyle. **By rejecting what they know to be right, to follow their own desires!**

Take a “*Fornicator*,” an “*Adulterer*” for example... **Were they “*Born that way?*”**

These two are sins of sexual *perversion*... And like homosexuality, they are a result of a person giving him or herself *to the lust and desires* of their heart! You talk about a dangerous thing... A society that believes the “*excuse*” that they can’t help it, that they were born that way, just opens the floodgates to a sin saturated, sexual perverted society! Much like the society we’re living in...

There is NO EXCUSE other than a *God rejecting, defiant, self-willed, rebellious hard heart!* Like the one described in verses 29~31...

<sup>29</sup>Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, <sup>30</sup>Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup>Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

And listen, by no means is this an exhaustive list... Look with me in Galatians 5:19~21...

<sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, <sup>20</sup>Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, <sup>21</sup>Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Look at 1Co. 6:9~11...<sup>9</sup>Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, <sup>10</sup>Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup>And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Paul’s point here in verses 29~31 is simple! Man’s heart is *desperately wicked!*

**Jeremiah the prophet said**...<sup>9</sup>The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

The amazing thing is, that it can be so wicked, yet men trust in it... It is not until a person understands the wickedness and depravity of their own heart that they can even be saved! Most people “see” themselves as pretty good people... But before one can truly be saved, one must realize he or she is a sinner!

The human heart has not the capacity to produce “*Any Good*” at all... (Illus. Water/Vinegar)  
It is utterly sinful, therefore anything it can produce is tainted by sin... That’s the reason, why we must turn from it, completely abandon it, and turn, putting our faith and trust in Christ...

(Vs 26~27) <sup>26</sup>For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: <sup>27</sup>And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.

The “Key” to this passage, is... for even their women **did change the natural use** into that which is against nature:

★ It declares that these **women sin against God**, when they “**Use their bodies**” for any other reason, than what it was designed for.

Though the “context” seems to suggest “Lesbianism,” (read in light of verse 27), it also **includes all sexual perversion!** Paul is declaring it to be a sin for a woman to “Use her body” in any form that is not according to it’s designed purpose!

To say that “women’s bodies” are being “Merchandised” today, would be a gross understatement! Bottom line, “Sex Sells!” If it were possible to remove this aspect from our society, the economy would collapse! Why? TV ads, cars, etc...a lot of things that are bought today, are sold on the premises of sex!

A woman’s body, in the sense of her “sexuality”, was designed for the sole purpose of conceiving a child, carrying that child to term, giving birth, and then nurturing that child... That’s it! Anything outside that goes against the nature of its intended design! Thus is perverted and sinful, ungodly and unrighteous!

Women with women is outside the intended design, prostitution outside, merchandising...outside...

This same truth applies to the man...

(Vs 27) <sup>27</sup>And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.

Once again...the “key” to understanding this truth, is... **leaving the natural use of the woman...**

The word “Use” in both verses is a “Sexual” reference.

κρηραυε-σισ.....employment, (specifically) sexual intercourse (as an occupation of the body):—use.

Many of the homosexual community argue that the bible does not teach against this lifestyle... They either argue that, that is not what this passage is saying, or they reject this passage one...

But the thing I want to point out... Paul isn’t claiming it is “**wrong**” based on “his opinion,” based on his “personal preference” or “his “religious beliefs...” Paul is arguing from the basis of TRUTH! There’s not a person on earth that “Can Argue” against this truth...the design of the woman’s body. How it is made, and what each part does... No one can argue that! The only thing they can do is reject the truth, and pursue the “lust” of their own foolish heart!

Paul says... <sup>27</sup>And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, **burned in their lust one toward another**; men with men **working** that which is unseemly...

Something I think is important to point out, is the “**Working**” that which is unseemly...

Because we possess a wicked, depraved heart...we cannot escape the thoughts and desires that surface from time to time... Those thoughts are not sin...it is the carrying out of them...the “Working” of them...

**James 1...**<sup>13</sup>Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempts he any man: <sup>14</sup>But every man is tempted, **when he is drawn away of his own lust**, and enticed. <sup>15</sup>**Then when lust hath conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death.**

The thought that our heart produces is not the problem that is the battle... What we do with that thought is the issue. And I just want to say, if you entertain that thought...you'll end up where you don't want to be.

**(Vs 27)** <sup>27</sup>And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.

...receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.

...recompense... "Pay or Wages..." "Correspondence..." It speaks to what they "got back" in return.

This is a most interesting part of the whole passage... Some may say that he is speaking of "Aids..." which holds a lot of truth. The leading cause of aids is through the homosexual lifestyle... Like other sexually transmitted diseases, society is in pursuit of a cure for each of them... I heard John McArthur make a very wise statement on this subject. Instead of searching for a remedy for these diseases, why don't we promote the "Absolute cure..." abstinence! When a man and women got married, they would be pure of sexual defilement and sexually transmitted disease, and would fulfill the intended design of man and woman! Thus, sex would be a thing of Honor, Dignity, and beauty...

But instead... we are trying to find cures so they can continue in their sin... Instead, we are offering contraceptives, so they can continue in their sin...

...receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.

Because mankind rejects the truth of God, and exchanges it for a lie... He will receive the fruits of his choices... Simply stated, they "Rejected" the truth of God for a lie, and now they get the rewards of a lie!

Some people question God...

If this sin is so vile, so wrong...then why does he allow it to continue?

Why does He not punish it? I want you to listen very closely... HE IS!

What do you mean? Are you blind preacher? You need to open your eyes and look around... He's not doing anything!

Their "Getting Away" with their sin!

**Exactly!** The people who practice this lifestyle...are WITHOUT GOD!

I can't imagine a greater judgment, a greater punishment...than for God to leave me alone. To leave me to my own will and ways. To be alone in this world, without God! You see, this passage teaches that the "fruits" of our labor is our reward.

Whether or not you see this as the judgment of God, is really based on your perspective of God and Sin... In verse 25, Paul declares the God is the most "adorable" thing that he has ever seen! The best thing that has ever happened to him...

You see, Paul views God as a "Blessing..." and Sin as a "Curse..." All sin leads to death... Paul gives his whole heart in seeking to know and do the will of God, because the one who does so, is blessed! But he who does not, reaps the wages of sin! Paul sees his own will and ways as BAD!

The sad, tragic truth is... There are many...many in our churches today, who sees serving God as “bondage.” My heart grieves for these people... They see serving the Lord as a burden, as something they have to do, out of guilt. Given the choice, they’d much rather do something else... This is reflected in that, that’s exactly what they do...

These are the folks, you have to “Prod” to come to church, you constantly have to remind them, they always have an excuse, and on and on... Truth is... They don’t see God as “adorable!”

Knowing God... I can’t imagine living a day without Him! I long for Him... He is my water, my bread...

...receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.

...recompense... It means “Correspondence...” “Pay or Wages...” It speaks to what they “got back” in return. Simply stated, they “Rejected” the truth of God for a lie, and now they get the rewards of a lie!

God gives them what they asked for... “Godless” lives... They insisted on fulfilling their own will and desires... OK!

**(Vs 28)** <sup>28</sup> And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Conclusion... Anyone who practices the homosexual lifestyle, “Knows Better...” They are not “Born” that way... They have made a conscious decision, a deliberate choice...like everyone else.

They have but two choices...given the truth in this passage...

- 1) Believe the truth, and repent of their sin by turning from that lifestyle...
- 2) Or, Reject the truth and continue in it...and suffer the wrath of God!

If they will turn from their “own will and ways” and put their trust in Christ, they will be saved...

**No one is “Excluded” from the gospel...but many are “Excluded” by it!**

Women and Men are sexually designed for a specific purpose! When a husband and wife come together to fulfill this purpose, the “Blessing of God” comes as a result...children... But mankind, out of a depraved, rebellious, sinful heart...has perverted it... And to add insult to injury, try and justify it!

Some will argue... “*There’s nothing wrong with it...*” Well, Paul begs to differ...truth is, there’s nothing right with it! There is not “one thing” that is consistent with the design and purpose of the body!

I want to make this clear... The issue of homosexuality is not based on personal preference, not opinion, not even religious beliefs... It is one based on truth! And to reject truth, is to live a lie, and to live a lie is to reap the rewards it has to offer...

**(Vs 28)** <sup>32</sup> Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Having warned man...God warns society...

Its one thing for a person to “ignore or reject” the truth of God and give themselves to their sinful desires... But its quiet another thing, when that sin is accepted, and not just accepted, but promoted. Any society which is guilty of this...has gone too far!