

Romans Chapter 1:20-32

20. **Rom 1:20** For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

A. For since the creation of the world

1. Before the world was created God was not clearly seen

B. His invisible attributes are clearly seen

1. God has made His attributes clearly seen by creation
2. God is invisible and no human eye outside of Jesus has seen God the Father- [Joh 1:18](#), [Col 1:15](#), [Heb 11:27](#)

C. Being understood by the things that are made

1. **being understood**- Gr. *noieo*- *to grasp mentally, mental understanding*
 - a. Scientists who say there is no God have lost their minds, because the existence of God is mentally understood by what is made.
2. **by the things that are made**- You can learn a lot about a person by the things they make. [ie. an artist or musician is revealed by the painting and music they make]

D. even His eternal power and Godhead

1. The first thing revealed by creation is that God is **eternal**. If there was no God then all that we see around us must be eternal because they did not come from nothing. So if there was no eternal Creator, then what we see in the universe **must** be eternal. It is much easier for me to believe that an eternal being with vast intelligence and power created what we see than to believe that all of the non-living, non-intellectual matter of the universe is eternal. If you will just keep asking yourself, "Where did this come from, and where did that come from, and where did that come from?" you will find God in the end! God had no beginning. He is eternal and He was the Creator of time. Even many scientists today are coming to grips with the fact that time did not always exist, but it had to have a beginning point!
2. The second thing revealed by creation is God's awesome **power**. Our human mind cannot fathom the vastness of the universe. There are billions and billions of galaxies that contain billions and billions of stars. (I am sounding like Carl Sagan now!) The enormous power to create even one star is staggering. God is awesome in power. We can see that by what He has created!

3. The third thing revealed by creation is **the Godhead**.
 - a. **Godhead**- Gr. **theiotes**- more properly *divinity, divine nature*
 - b. Creation reveals God as Divine, not necessarily He being *a Trinity*.
 - c. Creation takes powers and abilities that are vastly superior and above man. Only Divinity could have created what we see.
 - d. Divinity is to be worshipped. Beholding what has been made in the universe calls for worship. Sadly, many have mistakenly worshipped what has been made [ie. sun, moon, stars, nature] instead of the Creator who made it! We can do this today my friend!

E. so they are without excuse

1. No one will stand before God with the excuse they did not know of God's eternal existence, His power, or His Divinity which calls for worship.

21. Rom 1:21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

A. because, although they knew [about] God- we can only know God **personally** by faith.

- a. **knew**- Gr. **ginosko**- *progressive and experiential knowledge*. The more they beheld what was made the more they knew **about God**.

B. they did not glorify Him as God

1. **glorify**- Gr. **doxazo**- *to render weight [esteem, honor, or magnification]*
2. The beginning of the downwards slope in human experience began with a decision not to glorify God as God. If we want to turn around any situation or come out of any degradation then the beginning point is glorifying God by worship, thanksgiving, praise, and faith. What we call our God, we will worship. In failing to worship God, man by default changed gods! If you want God to manifest in your life and be God to you, then start by worshipping and praising God!

C. nor were thankful

1. We live in one of the most unthankful generations that has ever been. It is no wonder we are also are so godless and ungodly.
2. Glorifying God will lead you to thank God for all He has done. Many think that the ungodliness today started with homosexuality or some perverse practice. No, it started by a refusal to worship, praise, and thank God for all He is and has done. Unthankfulness is the beginning of heathenism! We have a lot of heathens walking around today! All the evil practices of

our day had their beginning and find their continued energy from refusing to glorify God and to give Him thanks!

3. Therefore, we badly need a revival of worship, praise, and thanksgiving to God. This will begin to turn the tide of ungodliness in our land.

D. **but became futile in their thoughts**

1. **became futile**- Gr. **mataioo**- *to become empty, vain, or foolish*; aor. pass. - the **passive voice** reveals that this was the result that happened to them after they stopped glorifying and thanking God. They did not **actively** get this way, it **happened to** them. If you stop praising and thanking God in your life you will become an empty headed fool by default! It will just happen to you!
2. **in their thoughts** - Gr. **dialogismos**- *mental dialogue, inner self discussion*
 - a. we all have an inner dialogue with ourselves. In this dialogue we can either speak truth to ourselves or we can lie to ourselves to justify our own desires and lusts. Fallen humanity has a unique ability to justify their evil ways with elaborate self-lies and false excuses. Atheists have done this to themselves. They have lied to themselves in this inner dialogue and have pushed down the knowledge of God into their sub-conscious. However, there are no atheists in fox holes or in airplanes going down for a crash! What is in the sub-conscious will come roaring to the surface!
 - b. Even Christians can lie to themselves in this inner dialogue. **What the heart wants to do, the mind can find justification for.** This is why it is so important to keep your heart aligned with God by continuing to worship, praise, thank, and believe God.

E. **and their foolish hearts was darkened**

1. **foolish hearts**- It is one thing for someone to fool our heart, but it is another for our hearts to fool themselves. There is no greater deception than self-deception. When we cease to worship, praise, and thank God we become empty headed fools that then results in a foolish heart. Once the heart is made foolish, this opens the way for all manner of evil to be unleashed through the mouth and in the actions. The heart is the wellspring of life or all manner of death. [Mat 15:19](#), [Pro 4:23](#)
2. Having a dark heart reveals the absence of God's influence [*Who is Light*] in the heart. A heart that is devoid of God's thoughts is a dark heart. Once a heart is plunged into darkness, it loses its way and point of reference. Up is now down, and down is now up. As with natural

darkness it is the same with people with a dark heart. They stumble over things that are a mystery to them. They do not know what is tripping them up and why.

3. Staying in the Word of God keeps the heart filled with light. God's Word is a light to our way and a lamp unto our feet. [Psa 119:105](#) One's attitude and relationship to the Word of God speaks volumes of their heart. One who esteems God greatly in their heart will esteem His words greatly. If one who does not esteem God in their heart, will not esteem His words either. A worship life then will facilitate a hunger and desire for God's Word.

22. **Rom 1:22** Professing to be wise, they became fools,

A. Professing to be wise

1. **Professing**- Gr. **phasko**- *to affirm, allege, or declare*

2. **wise**- Gr. **sophos**- *skilled, expert, learned*

- a. It is interesting to see that the most educated today seem to be shouting the loudest that there is no God and we have all evolved from primordial soup. They laugh at uneducated simpletons that still believe in God and in His Son Jesus Christ. They laugh at the idea of sin and hell. Many a youth is being perverted from true wisdom at college by professors that claim to be wise but are really fools.

- b. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the thrice Holy, Triune God. Therefore the Word of God repeats three times that the beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord! [Psa 111:10](#), [Pro 1:7](#), [Pro 9:10](#)

B. They became fools

1. The further they advanced in their godless acquisition of knowledge the more they advanced in foolishness! Many have higher degrees in foolishness today. They have PHD's- Phenomenal Human Dumbness! Don't get me wrong, you can be a PHD and have true wisdom because you fear the Lord.

23. **Rom 1:23** and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

A. and changed the glory of the incorruptible God

1. **changed**- Gr. **allaso**- *to make different*

2. **glory- doxa**- *esteem, honor, and magnification*

3. **uncorruptible**- Gr. **aphthartos**- *undecaying*
4. Once the heart is darkened then man and natural things become more esteemed than God and spiritual things.
5. Nature now takes the place of God. Nature is spoken of as an exalted person and replaces God. Many today are feverishly trying to preserve nature because nature is their god. I don't know about you, but I want a God that can preserve and defend me and does not have to be preserved and defended by me!
6. Many have taken the same road as the heathen and have become more focused upon their natural life than on God. Have we done that in our lives?

B. into an image like corruptible man

1. Once we have gotten rid of the living God in our mind and heart, then the only thing left is images. This is called idolatry. Once God is removed, man tries to put himself in His place, at least in his own estimation. Man is only the image of God, not God Himself. An image as no life of itself. Our society has given itself over to images. T.V., movies, videos and such are nothing but images. However, people hang on these images for hours at a time in mesmeration! We by in large entertain ourselves with images that are not real. It is no wonder we lack life and vitality!
2. It is amazing to see movie stars, musicians, and sports heroes getting more praise and attention than God. We were made to worship, and if it is not the God of heaven, then it will turn towards man and what has been made.

C. and of birds, and four footed animals, and creeping things

1. We now are more concerned about preserving the life of a duck egg and its embryo [*made in the image of a duck*] than saving the fetus of a baby [*made in the image of God*]
2. We see the progression downwards from what speaks of God and heaven to what is of the earth and eats the dust- Here is the progression downwards: man [*made in God's image*], birds [*which fly in the heavens*], four footed animals [*who walk on the earth*], things that creep on the earth and eat the dust- [*snakes, reptiles and insects*]- it is amazing how people even give their hearts to creeps!
3. Many civilizations of man have worshipped statues of men, birds [*such as the eagle*], animals [*such as the bull*], and reptiles [*such as snakes and insects*]

4. One might say, "Well in the modern world of today, we don't worship images like this." No we don't worship images of other people, or animals, no it is worse, people today are worshipping themselves! Their lives are fully immersed in themselves and their hearts are filled with themselves. Paul saw this rock bottom place humanity would find itself and spoke of it. [2Ti 3:1-2](#) He called these days we live in today as perilous times in which men would be lovers and worshippers of themselves.

24. **Rom 1:24** Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

A. **Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness**

1. **God gave them up**

- a. Some people **abandoned God**, so God had no other option than to **abandon them!**
- b. God created man to be a servant. If we will not serve God, we will serve Satan and be enslaved to the Earth.
- c. God gave Adam and Eve authority and rulership over the Earth, however, in the fall; man became enslaved to the Earth. Man is enslaved to their earthly flesh. They have become addicted to natural substances that come from the Earth- food, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, etc.

2. **to uncleanness- Gr. akatharsia- impurity**

- a. Man's body was made in the likeness of God. This is why Satan longs to mar that image. Satan wants to take what reminds him of God and to dishonor it as badly as he can. He feels by doing this he is mocking God and dishonoring Him. Sadly, to say many Christians are allowing their bodies which are not only the image of God, but also the temple of the Holy Spirit to be dishonored by sexual sin. Only trusting in the grace of God through Jesus Christ can set them free.
- b. Sexual sin will always be prevalent when man rejects God. The more a society is removed from God, the more sick and perverse will be their sexual practices. The basement of sexual perversion is bestiality. We are fooling ourselves if this is not a growing trend even in our modern sophisticated world. Homosexuality and lesbianism are rampant today more and more. It does not shock us to hear someone

say they are gay or to see a man act like a woman. It seems normal to us now.

- c. Sexual sin is but an outward manifestation of a relational and heart problem in a person. A heart that is filled with the Word of God and the Holy Spirit of God will express holiness and purity.

B. in the lusts of their own hearts

1. Once the light of God has left the human heart then it becomes the breeding ground for lusts. The heart was created to be filled. As a vacuum will always be filled, so it is with the human heart. Once God has vacated the heart, then it will be filled with the lusts of the flesh and the eyes.
2. The good news for those who are enslaved to lusts is that the process can be reversed. Lusts can be displaced by the light of the Word of God and the grace of God by His Spirit. These will always conquer and cast out of the heart whatever opposes them! The law of displacement can work for you. Instead of struggling to get rid of lusts, you can fill your heart with something else that will remove them from your heart! It is crucial that a believer is grounded in grace instead of legalism. The strength of the flesh and sin is the Law. [1Co 15:56](#) What liberates is grace. [Rom 6:14](#) This is why understanding the book of Romans and the grace of God is so vital for a believer.

C. to dishonor their bodies among themselves

1. When sexual sin is committed with others you dishonor your body and you dishonor their body. Sexual sin is the opposite of walking in love. Many excuse their sexual sins as acts of love, but they are acts of selfishness.
2. When sexual sin is committed alone- ie. As in pornography- one defiles and dishonors their own body. When a Christian does it, it also dishonors the Lord, because your body is His temple.

25. **Rom 1:25** who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

A. who exchanged the truth of God

1. **exchanged-** Gr. *metallaso-* *to trade one thing for another; to switch*
 - a. Satan has always gone about to replace the things of God with His things. Here the truth of God is replaced by the lie.

2. **THE truth of God**- A specific truth is in mind here, just as there is a specific lie, called THE lie.

a. THE truth is that God is the source of all things for man including righteousness and life. Man possesses nothing of himself, not can attain to anything by himself. God created man in order to be all to him and to graciously give all to him. These resources would empower man to fulfill the will and purposes. When Adam and Eve ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they exchanged this truth for THE lie. What is THE lie?

B. for the lie

1. THE lie is the direct opposite of THE truth. The lie was the first lie our parents Adam and Eve believed.

a. Gen 3:4-5 - "You **will become as gods**, knowing good and evil"

b. This singular lie is the root of all other lies. Satan promised that man could become like God. When Adam and Eve believed this they disconnected from God as their source and they lost God's life. Instead of receiving life and righteousness by God's grace, they went about to work to establish them themselves.

c. With the introduction of the lie, religion came. At this point Adam and Eve sowed fig leaves together to cover their nakedness. They were trying to make up for the deficiency they now had and felt. They used to be complete by God's grace, now that they believed the lie that they would be themselves gods, they were very incomplete.

d. They did not understand the nature and heart of God which is grace. Therefore, they tried to make themselves as they ought to be in God's sight so that He would accept them. They tried to do all the good things and avoid all the evil things in order to become as they ought to be. However, this did not bring them closer to God but led them further away from God's grace. The entire OT is just a record of mankind either trying to make themselves as they ought to be [religion] or denying God's existence to soothe their conscience [heathenism] because they knew were not as they ought to be.

e. Multitudes of Christians are still believing the lie when it comes to living the Christian life. They are trying to become as they ought to be, instead of believing that they are as they ought to be by a gift of God. Believing this causes the actions to come in line with it. The Truth is that you have been given righteousness and made righteous

in Christ. It is a grace gift of God. He is the life source. He provides Himself to us freely and abundantly. This is the cause and resource of our life which then will explode in activity and vibrancy by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- f. Most Christians are trying to become. This was the lie of Satan- "**you shall become...**" Adam and Eve already were like God according to [Gen 1:26-27](#). As long as we believe that we are not as we ought to be we will try to become. The greatest hindrance to experiencing being as we ought to be is trying to become as we ought to be. When you try to become what you are not you are saying to yourself, **I am not!** God says you are! Once we have cast out the truth of God, then the truth will be replaced by the lie. The lie will never produce life and victory even though it promises both!
- g. God cares about our actions and life taking on the image of His Son, but God has designed that it be by transformation instead of trying to change outwardly hoping to make an internal change. Transformation is based upon morphosis. To morphe means to take on outwardly what you are on the inside. A butterfly worm goes through metamorphosis. The worm takes on outwardly what was locked up in its DNA all the time. Once it looked like an ugly worm, but by the process of transformation, it takes on its true inner nature. This is how the Christian is to see their lives take on the image of Christ. By meditating and believing the truths of the New Covenant and what occurred at the cross and our new identity in Christ, we are transformed into that same image by the Spirit of God. [2Co 3:18](#)

C. and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator

- 1. What or who you **worship** is what or who you will **serve**.
 - a. [Mat 4:10](#) - Satan asked for Jesus' worship. Jesus responded that we are to worship **AND SERVE** God alone. Jesus knew that worship will lead to servitude. We cannot truly serve God without first worshipping Him. If we will worship Him we will be empowered to serve Him!
 - b. Many worship money and thus have become slaves to money
- 2. If we cease worshipping God, then there is nothing left than the creation to worship, even if it is ourselves. God has set a law into effect- worship

leads to service. If we turn our hearts to anything that is created to meet our needs, then that thing will enslave us and hold control over us.

3. Some say they have no gods. This is not the case. Man was made to worship. We cannot help but worship. What we turn our hearts over to becomes what we worship and then what we worship ends up being what we are a slave to.

D. Who is blessed forever. Amen.

1. Blessed- Gr. *eulogetos*- *spoken well of*

- a. All of creation will one day be destroyed as we know it now. What is being worshipped now will cease to be, so also will be it's worship. However, God will never pass away; therefore His worship will be **forever**.
- b. The saints in heaven will forever worship and bless the name of the Lord. The angels will forever worship and bless His name.
- c. Lets turn our hearts to the Eternal One who made all of creation and worship Him right now. God is blessed forever! He is blessed because of Who He is. We are blessed because of Who He is. When we worship God, then we partake of that blessing.
- d. God is blessed forever. It is up to you to say in your heart, "**Amen**- it is so in my life!" If you say amen, then worship Him now.

26. Rom 1:26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

A. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions.

1. God had no other choice but to give them up. What they worshipped they had to serve. They rejected God and refused to worship Him. They instead worshipped the creation, and since there is a curse upon creation, they became slaves to its curse of sin and vile passions. Praise God, that in Christ we are set free from being enslaved to the creation. If we will worship God, then the Spirit of God will take control of us, and He will keep us in His holiness and purity. If we reject Him, then He has to give us over to serve what we worship.
2. **vile-** Gr. *atimos*- *dishonoring, shameful-* If you forsake worshipping God with your heart, your heart will be given over into the slavery of dishonoring and shameful lusts.

B. For even their women exchanged the natural use [of the man] for what is against nature.

1. According to this Divine record lesbianism was the first form of homosexuality introduced. Satan introduced homosexuality to the human race first through women. This was less shocking than if he had first introduced it through men. Satan moves slowly and subtly until he has finally brought full degradation.
2. Homosexuality is dishonoring and shameful. Those who practice homosexuality have a root of shame in them even though they seem to be proud of being gay. In fact, their outward displays of pride are to cover the deep shame they feel about themselves.
3. Homosexuals have been given over to the worship of the creation. They will say, "I was born gay". They will not and cannot say God created me gay. They will say they were born gay and that they are gay by nature. What they are really saying is that nature has caused them to be gay. The fact is that God created every one of us, and He never created anyone a homosexual. Homosexuality is a preference we choose, not something we are. Every homosexual who desires to remain in the lifestyle first accepts the lie that they were born gay. This is what gives someone the excuse to continue in the lifestyle. One cannot help live out what we are by birth so they tell themselves. However, if homosexuality is a choice and not something they are as a person then they are accountable for their decisions.
4. These vile passions are very strong, so strong, that one might think they are part of them and in the deepest part of their being. However, these passions are from Satan as an origin and not God. God can and will set those bound to homosexuality and vile passions free, but they must first forsake the worship of the creation and the lie they were just born gay. They must turn to God and worship Him and the vile lusts will be removed from their heart by the power of God.
5. The deeper you worship the stronger will be the bonds of servitude. The more we worship God the greater the bonds of service we have to God. The more we give our heart however to the things of the flesh the stronger the bonds that tie us. The more a person gives themselves over to homosexuality the stronger they will be held by it, until; it is not possible to free oneself without the aid of God Himself.

27. **Rom 1:27** Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is

shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

A. Likewise also the men

1. once lesbianism was introduced it was not long until male homosexuality was introduced.
2. As with the fall, what is brought into the earth by the man takes the largest toll in the world
3. Today's culture is being shaped by the homosexual agenda, and it is male homosexuals which are leading the charge.

B. leaving the natural use of the woman

1. God has designed that a man needs the woman to reproduce. So homosexuality is a perversion of God's design and against His purposes which is first instituted in Genesis chapter 1. The **first** commandment God gave man was to be **fruitful and multiply**. Therefore, homosexuality perverts the most basic and primary will of God at its very foundation and is the violation of God's first command to man. This first command is impossible for homosexuals to fulfill. [Gen 1:28](#) Homosexuality is founded upon rebellion at its deepest core. It is the throwing off of God's will and authority.

C. burned in their lust for one another

1. **burned**- lit. *burned out; engulfed in flames*
2. The lusts associated with homosexuality are very strong and they consume you. It is much like a house fire. It just gets stronger and stronger until it consumes and destroys. The only way you can escape the flames is to have the fire put out by God Himself! One must repent and turn to Christ and to His grace by faith to have the flames put out!
3. These lusts are so strong many are fooled into thinking that they are a part of their natural makeup and thus they buy into the lie that they were born gay.

D. men with men committing what is shameful

1. This is Paul's polite way of describing the male homosexual sex act. The Word says it is shameful. Again those who live a homosexual lifestyle have deep shame in their lives and often try to counteract it by displays of "gay pride". Gays often will become quite belligerent and angry if their actions are spoken of as a sin or being wrong. They do not want to be reminded or come to grips with their inner shame.
2. **shameful**- Gr. **aschamosune**- *indescent, deformity, shameful*

E. receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which is due

1. Homosexuality will scar one's personality and alter it. Homosexuality is a deformity of God's design; therefore it causes a deformity of the soul. This is most easily seen in male homosexuals. Often male homosexuals will start taking on feminine characteristics in their speech, demeanor, and look. This is the perversion of their God given personalities.
2. Also, homosexuals are much more prone to sexual diseases such as AIDS.
3. **penalty-** Gr. **antimisthia-** *a reward owed for what is done whether good or bad*
4. **error-** Gr. **plane-** *straying from a fixed or proper position*. We get the word planet from this word. In the ancient world stars were mapped out and used as directional aids because they were fixed. However, there seemed to be some stars that would wander about the sky and did not remain fixed. The ancients did not know that these wandering stars were actually planets and not stars! They thought they were wandering stars so they were called planets. God has fixed his plan and will for human sexuality to be between one man and one woman who are married to each other. This plan is fixed and will never change. However, some have strayed from God's design, and tried to change it. They have strayed from the truth and they are in error. It is possible to be in error and be so deluded that you really think you are in the truth. In the Tribulation those who follow Anti-Christ will be deluded with a strong error and they will believe a lie and think it is the truth. [2Th 2:11](#) Homosexuals are deluded and are living in error. They are guided by their feelings instead of the revealed will of God both in His Word and in nature. If they would but look around at all of nature and at all the other animals they would see that they mate male and female. Only rebellious man perverts God's plan and throws off His will!

28. **Rom 1:28** And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

A. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge

1. The lost and rebellious do not **like** to **retain God in their knowledge**. They do everything possible to forget about God. Every person knows within them that there is a God and they are accountable to Him. They also know that their sins are deserving of death. Therefore, they do not

like to keep God in their conscious thoughts. Therefore they try to push down any thoughts about God with activity, pursuits, entertainment, addictions, or false religion that makes God palatable to them.

B. God gave them over to a debased mind

1. A mind that has rejected God will be given over to debased and dark thinking
2. **debased**- Gr. **adokimos**- *rejected upon testing; to be flawed*- Those who do not like to keep God in their thoughts will by default have flawed thinking!
3. Flawed thinking leads to flawed living. Flawed living will bring forth death in every aspect.

C. to do things which are not fitting

1. **not fitting**- Gr. **me katheko**- lit. *not coming or fitting together*. Homosexuality does not fit! Two women together do not fit! To men together do not fit! Their parts do not fit. You have to go into perversion to try to make them fit.

29. **Rom 1:29** being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers,

A. being filled with all unrighteousness

1. The root of all human perversions is the issue of righteousness. The way to righteousness according to God's Word is by faith in Christ Jesus. It is accepting righteousness as a gift. Those who choose not to believe in Christ or accept His grace will by default be filled with unrighteousness.
2. All the descriptions that follow are fruit of man not trusting, accepting, or believing the grace of God and His imputed and imparted righteousness.
3. All of the descriptions that follow are **rooted in lack**. Righteousness brings **total fullness** where there is no lack. Once a Christian comes to realize and believe they lack nothing in God and are complete then sin and temptation will lose its power.

B. sexual immorality- Gr. **porneia**- *we get the word pornography from this word*

1. Those who reject grace, will often struggle with all manner of sexual sins including pornography. This includes legalistic Christians who reject grace for works.

C. wickedness- Gr. **poneria**- *evil actions that hurt others*

D. **covetousness**- Gr. **pleonexia**- *grasping for more and more natural things*

1. A grace filled Christian has no desire for more when they have everything through Christ!

2. A filled man has no desire for any more! They will put the fork down!

E. **maliciousness**- Gr. **kakia**- *moral evil*

F. **full of envy**- Gr. **mestos phthanos**- *full of jealousy*

G. **murder**- Gr. **phenol**- *murder not killing*

H. **strife**- Gr. **eris**- *to create factions and divisions*

I. **deceit**- Gr. **dolos**- *decoy*- This is a form of lying. To make something appear to look like something else in order to give a false impression is a lie. Many will tell a partial truth but will leave an impression that is not the truth. This is called a white lie. God sees it as a black lie.

J. **evil-mindedness**- Gr. **kakoetheia**- *to have an evil disposition*

K. **whisperers**- Gr. **psithuristes**- *secret slanderer*- **what is whispered from the lips is shouted into the ear of God!**

30. **Rom 1:30** **backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,**

A. **backbiters**- Gr. **katalalos**- *to talk against someone behind their back*

1. If don't have the courage to say it to their face, then don't say it behind their back

B. **haters of God**- Gr. **theostuges**- *hateful to God*

1. When we are hateful to others, we are hateful to God.

2. The biblical word "hate" carries the idea to prefer something more. The Bible says that Rachel was loved but Leah was **hated**. [Gen 29:31](#) What was being said here was that Jacob preferred Rachel over Leah and loved her more. [Gen 29:30](#)

3. When we put things and prefer things more than God we are hateful to Him.

C. **violent**- Gr. **hubristes**- *to severely insult by words or actions*

1. This can be seen on our roads every day!

D. **proud**- Gr. **huperephanos**- *to show yourself to be better than others*

1. Our society is addicted to competition so we can be seen as better than others

E. **boasters**- Gr. **alazon**- *to be a braggart*- Not only do we like to win, but we love to brag about it!

F. **inventors of evil things**- Gr. **epeuretes kakos**- *discoverers of evil*

1. There are some who are always looking for new ways to sin, or to use the latest technology to commit ancient sins!

G. disobedient to parents- Gr. **apeithes goneus-** *unpersuadable by parents*

1. A child who was rebellious in the OT under the Law was taken out and stoned. [Deu 21:20](#) We would have very few teenagers walking the streets today if we were under the Law now!
2. More and more kids today are disobedient to "**parent**". A child who has "**parents**" is an endangered species today.

30. **Rom 1:31** **undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;**

A. undiscerning- Gr. **asunetos-** *not being able to put it together*

1. Many cannot make sense of life or put things together. Life has become random and meaningless. No wonder the suicide rate keeps escalating.

B. untrustworthy- Gr. **asunthetos-** *not willing to agree or keep agreements*

1. This includes marriage covenants. Divorce continues to be on the rise.
2. This includes contracts, which now are made to be broken
3. This speaks of people refusing to listen or come to any common ground

C. without natural affection- Gr. **astorgos-** *no love between family members*

1. This is seen more and more today with parents abusing and killing their kids. It is not uncommon today to hear about a man coming home and killing his wife and all his kids. We are not shocked by this any longer.
2. We see more and more mothers killing their own children or abusing them.

D. unforgiving- Gr. **aspondos-** *not being appeased, not willing to forgive*

1. Many today hold grudges and take them to their graves. They will not be appeased or let them go for anything. They are held onto like they are priceless treasure.

E. unmerciful- Gr. **aneleemon-** *without any mercy or compassion*

1. Many people today are untouched by the suffering of others or by the pain they inflict on others.

32. **Rom 1:32** **who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.**

A. who, knowing the righteous judgement of God

1. God has placed in the human conscious the knowledge of right and wrong and of God's judgment.

B. that those who practice such things are deserving of death

1. Every person also knows in the core of their being they deserve death for their sin. This is why unbelievers are so afraid of dying because they do not want to face the judgment and wrath of God.

C. not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

1. misery loves company. One feels better and makes them feel more justified if other people are doing the same sins they are doing. However, we all must stand alone before God one day. On that day, all our friends we sinned with will be not be there to stand with us. We will answer for what we did ourselves and give account for our own life to God.