

# Romans 1:25-28

## A Reprobate Mind

### 1. 1:25 - Serving the Creature

- a. A good reason to study this subject is to recognize the ditch when you see it.
- b. *"served the creature"* encapsulates humanism, materialism, pantheism, all false religion
- c. *"more than the Creator"* - God/Christ above all - 2 Tim 3:4, Col 1:15-18
- d. Man's decline - Reject the truth as it's given, declare your own wisdom, invent your own religion (object of worship) after your own desires/needs, (God gives them up at idolatry), justify yourself with your truth, serve God and truth (made in your image)
  - i. God made us to worship (love, adore, devote, pursue, revere) ...
  - Reprobate man worships acc. to a religion of their own making. Ps 106:1-20

### 2. 1:24-27 - God Gives Men Up

- a. Now, we enter what the theologian Barak called an "obscure passage" - 1:24,26-27
- b. *"wherefore"* - This explains why... what feels natural becomes what is pursued/normal.
- c. *"uncleanness"* - Rejecting God, hearts get defiled - Ps 51:10-17, 53:1-3, Pr 28:26
  - i. Who can know the heart? - Jer 17:9-10 (A: Jesus Mk 7:21, Mt 9:4, Lk 16:15)
- d. *"to dishonour their own bodies"* - Before 'coming out' was secret 'affairs' then free love
  - i. It is a shame even to speak of those things... but for reproof - Eph 5:12-13
  - ii. Our bodies not made for self-sinful-satisfaction, but for the Lord - 1 Cor 6:13-20
  - iii. Marriage worships God (with your body) - Gen 2:24-25, Eph 5:22-32, Heb 13:4
- e. 26 - *"vile affections"* - disgusting, depraved, foul ... due to their false worship (v25)
  - i. *"women"* - Instrumental in pagan worship (vestal virgins, fertility rite) Pro 30:20
  - ii. Sexual deviancy and religion a history (e.g Catholic, Henry VIII, Frisbee)
  - iii. *"change the natural use"* - the Bible is descript, but not bawdy - Lev 18:22-30
- f. 27 - *"the natural use of the woman"* - to help, cleave, wife, mother, love, cherish, adore
  - i. *"leaving [women] men with men"* - homo/trans was always anti-women 1Co 6:9
  - ii. Sodomy - Gen 19:5; 'virtuous' participants include: Socrates Plato Zeno, Cicero
  - iii. Their gods were filthy, scholars call it "studying the classics" (Marquis de sade?)
  - iv. "unseemly" - why the act is discriminated and not the shape of our nation's soul
  - v. *"receiving in themselves..."* - filthy acts and their consequences (Monkeypox?)
  - vi. *"which was meet"* - filthy hearts = filthy acts = filthy outcomes = appropriate

### 3. 1:28 - A Reprobate Mind

- a. When you see the fruit of filthiness, it is not a sign of the end, it is finish line.
- b. *"they did not like to retain God"* - He has always been available
- c. *"God gave them over"* - bodies defiled, hearts filthy, minds reprobate
  - i. God would rather preserve your spirit, soul, and body - 1 Thess 5:23
- d. *"reprobate mind"* - Probation is a trial, under examination; Reprobate = failed the test.
  - i. Hindu salvation is *moksha* =deliverance, freedom of mind, yoga = the path
  - ii. Jews and intellectuals call pornography not a sin and even helpful.
  - iii. They call it enlightenment; the Bible calls it a reprobate mind, a dark heart.
  - iv. Mankind given probation before the flood, Israel given the law, they failed.