



¹⁸ ... men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. (ESV)

The wrath of God is revealed from heaven for 2 reasons:

1. The character of sin and how it manifests (we covered this last time)
2. The inexcusability of sin (this study will cover this topic)

Why is sin inexcusable?

1. Mankind cannot plead ignorance in these matters. He has the truth!
 - a. v.18 He *suppresses* the truth (not saving knowledge [2 Tim 3:7], but general knowledge)
 - b. v. 21 “For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God”
 - c. v.28 “And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God”
2. Because the known of God is manifest *in* them (v. 19) διότι τὸ γνωστὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ φανερόν ἐστιν ἐν αὐτοῖς
 - a. All people have a sense of God or a Supreme Being
 - b. Conscience (v. 32)
3. External knowledge a.k.a the finger of God in the sun, the moon, the stars, animals, order, arrangement, design, seasons, etc... (v. 20; Ps. 147; Job 37-39; Acts 14:15-17)
4. Providence (Ps. 104)
5. He has provided us with history (Gen. 1-11)

What is the difference between general (power and divinity) and specific (1 Cor. 2) revelation? General revelation will not save us, but it renders us inexcusable for our ungodliness and sinfulness.

These pagans at the time when Paul wrote are without excuse. How about you? You have the Old Testament and the New Testament, knowledge of the Person of Jesus Christ, His life, His teaching, His death, His resurrection, the sending of the Holy Spirit, and the teachings of the church.

On the Day of Judgement, those who suppress this truth will be made accountable.

Why do they suppress the truth?

- Intellectual pride (v. 22) Adam and Eve set themselves up as gods. Do you? Is religion primitive to you? Are you educated and proud of it?
- Wickedness (v. 21)
 - To do the things man wants to do he must deny God’s law
 - To avoid guilt and condemnation and especially accountability man must say, ‘There is no God’.
 - “and their foolish hearts were darkened” meaning destitute of spiritual understanding so when the Son of God stands before him, he sees a carpenter. (Eph. 4:17-23)