

THE REALITY OF DIVINE RETRIBUTION

Romans 1:24-27

#1 - the **REPETITION** of the ROOT OF ALL SIN

25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer...

32 ... they know the ordinance of God...

#1 - the **REPETITION** of the **ROOT OF ALL SIN**

#2 - the **REPETITION** of the phrase *GOD GAVE THEM
OVER* – vv 24...26...28.

What does God turn ungodly people over to?

I. PERVERTED CARNALITY

24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity...

Eph 4:19 – (Gentiles have) given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.

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I. PERVERTED CARNALITY

*2 Cor 12:21 - I am afraid that when I come again ... I may mourn over many of those who have ... not repented of the **impurity**, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.*

*Gal 5:19 - Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, **impurity**, sensuality...*

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I. PERVERTED CARNALITY

24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity so that their bodies would be dishonored among them...

26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions...

(for 'passions' see *Col 3:5* and *1 Thes 4:5*)

Daniel Doriani – *If I want to punch someone in the face because he proves me wrong in a discussion, that desire is evil and sinful, even if I don't act on it. If the thought enters my mind and I immediately reject and repudiate it, we call that a temptation resisted. As Paul assures us, when temptation comes, God will also provide the way of escape – 1 Cor 10:13.*

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I. PERVERTED CARNALITY

26 their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, 27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another...

Gen 1:27 - God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

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I. PERVERTED CARNALITY

Matt 19:4 - ...Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, 5 and said, 'FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH'?

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Gen 19:1-28 - Sodom and Gomorrah

Lev 18:22 - *You shall not lie with a male as one lies with a female; it is an abomination.*

Lev 20:13 - *If there is a man who lies with a male as those who lie with a woman, both of them have committed a detestable act; they shall surely be put to death...*

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1 Cor 7:1-7 - Paul presents the honorableness of heterosexual relationships.

Heb 13:4 - ... *the marriage bed is to be undefiled...*

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Luke Timothy Johnson, in an article entitled *Homosexuality and the Church: Scripture and Experience* (in *Commonweal*, June 11th, 2007) –*I have little patience with efforts to make scriptures say something other than what it says, through appeals to linguistic or cultural subtleties. The exegetical situation is straightforward: we know what the text says. But what are we to do with what the text says?...*

I think it important to state clearly that we do, in fact, reject the straightforward commands of scripture, and appeal instead to another authority when we declare that same sex unions can be wholly and good. And what exactly is that authority? We appeal explicitly to the weight of our own experience and the experience thousands of others have witnessed to, which tells us that to claim our own sexual orientation is in fact to accept the way in which God has created us. By so doing, we explicitly reject as well the premises of the scriptural statements condemning homosexuality.

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27...and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

1 Cor 6:9-10 – 9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

FIRST – We Must Speak Plainly When It Comes to What Scripture Says on this Topic.

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SECOND – We Must Speak Plainly about Our Own Sin.

1 Pet 4:17 - For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God...

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SECOND – We Must Speak Plainly about Our Own Sin.

THIRD – We Must Speak Plainly about Sin Beginning with Desires.

Col 3:5 - Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire...

FIRST – We Must Speak Plainly When It Comes to What Scripture Says on this Topic.

SECOND – We Must Speak Plainly about Our Own Sin.

THIRD – We Must Speak Plainly about Sin Beginning with Desires.

FOURTH – We Must Speak Plainly about the Remedy for All Sin.

Rom 8:32 - He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?