

June 26, 2016



# Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks  
Baptist Church  
Grand Prairie, Texas

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**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:**  
Although God has revealed His majesty, many refuse to acknowledge and thank Him. But God will hold everyone responsible for ignoring who He is and what He has revealed.

**POEM FOR THE WEEK:**  
The treasures of the crystal snows,  
And all the wonders nature shows,  
Speak of a mighty Maker's hand  
That all in love and wisdom  
planned. —Bosch

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:**  
*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*  
**(Rom 1:20 NKJV)**  
*(from "Our Daily Bread", Mar 22, 2008)*

**Series: Toward A New Salvation**

UNIT: A World Gone Wrong

NEXT WEEK

**Ignoring Law Requirements**  
**(Rom 2:17-29)**

## Ignoring God's Plain Truth Rom 1:18-32

**Aim and Application of the Lesson**

The lesson reveals the ways that mankind seems to always be **Ignoring God's Plain Truth**. The **study's aim** is to avoid the world's ways of thinking and behaving. The **study's application** is to structure our actions and thoughts to reflect God's truth, resulting in His blessings.

*(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)*

**Lesson Introduction and Background**

Our lesson text is embedded in one of the most sobering contexts of the whole Bible. The context states that "the wrath of God is revealed from heaven" (Rom. 1:18). God's wrath is His settled judgment against sinners. It is not to be thought of as some kind of emotional outburst but is rather the state of mind of the eternal God as He considers the world's sin. His wrath is clearly revealed throughout the pages of Scripture as we contemplate the punishment on Adam (Gen. 3:17-19) and other striking moments of God's judgment, such as the Great Flood and the Tower of Babel. God's concern is humanity's ungodliness and impiety, its lack of respect for Him, and its unrighteousness, all of which involve the breaking of God's holy commands. The truth of God's character and presence hovers over humanity, even though humanity often seeks to ignore or suppress this truth. No matter how much men and women seek to evade the truth about God, He can be clearly perceived and understood through the world He has made. Literally, His "invisible things" are clear. By any measure of reflection, human beings, who have a God-given capacity to think and reason, are able to deduce that there is a God and that He is eternal and powerful. The world we live in was obviously created as a wondrous home for humanity. It displays God's power and His loving care. Who would not want to know such a God? Yet, as we see, the sinful heart of humanity turns from this knowledge and refuses to bow the knee to God the Creator. To one degree or another, all of us are guilty of this. The most sobering words of this passage come right at the end of Rom 1:20: "They are without excuse." God holds humanity accountable for the knowledge He has revealed about Himself. Since we can understand Him, we should turn to Him and are without excuse if we do not. Whoever, and that means all of us, responds perversely to the knowledge of God falls under God's wrathful judgment. The improper response to the knowledge of God is sufficient to eternally condemn any and all sinners. There is no excuse, which upon reflection is a remarkably absolute statement. What shall we do? How can we rectify this terrible situation? It can be done only through the Lord Jesus Christ, as we become conscious of our rejection of God and of our many sins and as we are led to seek the Saviour. That God still loves us and provided a Redeemer for us, despite our sinful response to the knowledge of God, is an astonishing gift of His grace. His cross provided a complete and perfect atonement for our rejection of God. By His grace, we can be redeemed and God's wrath set aside. We like to sing the old hymn about God's grace that says that grace is greater than all our sins. Despite the enormous consequences of the rejection of God and His truth, the Saviour is able to overcome it all for us.

*(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)*

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### **EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW THE TRUTH (ROM 1:18-20)**

#### *The truth of revealed wrath (18)*

Wrath that is poured out daily by the righteous judge (Ps 7:11)

Wrath that makes the recipient an object of horror (Ezek 5:15)

Wrath in response to detestable conduct (Ezek 7:8)

Wrath because of stubbornness and an unrepentant heart (Rom 2:5)

Wrath on those who are disobedient (Eph 5:6)

Wrath on those who belong to man's sinful and earthly nature (Col 3:5-6)

#### *The truth of revealed glory (19-20)*

God's glory is revealed in the Heavens (Ps 8:1)

God's glory is revealed in the work of His hands (Ps 19:1)

God's glory is revealed in all the earth (Ps 57:5)

God's glory is revealed in His sanctuary (Ps 96:6)

God's glory is revealed because God is the King of glory (Ps 24:7-10)

God's glory is revealed so that man will worship Him (Ps 29:1-2)

God's glory is revealed so that all authorities will revere God (Ps 102:15)

God's glory is revealed because God's glory is great (Ps 138:5)

### **RESULT OF REJECTION OF THE TRUTH (ROM 1:21-23)**

#### *Darkened hearts (21)*

Darkened hearts as part of His punishment (Deut 28:28-30)

Darkened hearts because Satan has caused a darkness over people (Isa 60:1-2)

Darkened hearts because of a lack of knowledge (Acts 26:15-18)

Darkened hearts because of seeking salvation in the wrong ways (Rom 11:7-10)

Darkened hearts because of rejecting God (1 Peter 2:7-9)

#### *Foolish wisdom (22)*

Foolish wisdom because of using human intelligence (1 Cor 1:18-21)

Foolish wisdom because true wisdom comes from God (Eph 1:6-9)

Foolish wisdom does not understand spiritual things (1 Cor 2:14)

Foolish wisdom is of the devil (John 8:44)

Foolish wisdom perverts the ways of God (Acts 13:10)

Foolish wisdom comes from ungodly lusts, and causes divisions (Jude 17-19)

#### *Idolatry (23)*

Idolatry through worshiping an image of a person (Deut 4:15-16)

Idolatry through sacrificing to idols of surrounding nations (Exodus 34:15)

Idolatry through rebellion (1 Sam 15:23)

Idolatry through making corrupt idols (Deut 4:25)

Idolatry that leads to death (Deut 30:17-18)

### **GOD'S REACTION TO REJECTION OF THE TRUTH (ROM 1:24-32)**

#### *Allows unnatural relations (24-27)*

Unnatural relations related to homosexuality or lesbianism (Lev 18:22-24)

Unnatural relations related to sexual immorality (1 Cor 6:13)

Unnatural relations that are sins against one's own body (1 Cor 6:18)

Unnatural relations that need to be controlled (1 Thess 4:4)

Unnatural relations that brings destruction (Gen 19:4-5)

Unnatural relations deemed as detestable to God (1 Kings 14:24)

#### *Allows debased minds (28-31)*

Debased minds that are depraved (2 Tim 3:8)

Debased minds that have been blinded by Satan (2 Cor 4:4)

Debased minds that are sinful and hostile to God (Rom 8:6-9)

Debased minds that have no understanding (Jer 4:22)

Debased minds that have given a delusion (2 Thess 2:9-12)

#### *Provides righteous judgment (32)*

A righteous judgment that will bring everything to light (1 Cor 4:5)

A righteous judgment that judges man's secrets (Rom 2:16)

A righteous judgment of the nations (Matt 25:31-33)

A righteous judgment entrusted to Jesus by God (John 5:21-22)

A righteous judgment that all will stand before (Rom 14:10)

A righteous judgment that judges what was done in the body (2 Cor 5:10)

A righteous judgment that is destined for man (Heb 9:27)