
The downward spiral of I (1:28-32)

Romans 1:28 *And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a base mind and to improper conduct.*

²⁹ *They were filled with all manner of wickedness, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malignity, they are gossips,*

³⁰ *slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.*

Hitting Rock Bottom.

³² *Though they know God's decree that those who do such things deserve to die, they not only do them but approve those who practice them.*

Key: pg 2: power; salvation; everyone; intelligence;

pg3: ignorance; indulgence; pg4: impenitence.

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The Downward Spiral of Man

Romans 1

June 14, 2015

Author: The apostle Paul, addressed to: Roman Christians

Date: Winter of A.D. 56-57

Written: from Corinth, Greece. (3 month stay in Greece)

Theme: The righteousness of God; how unrighteous people are made righteous.

Key verse: *Romans 1:17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it's written, He who through faith is righteous shall live.*

Key word: Righteousness: (righteous, just, justify, justified)

Key question: How can a holy God ever forgive sinners?
How can unrighteous people become righteous?

*Romans 3:26 ...He did it to demonstrate his **justice** at the present time, so as to be **just** and the one who **justifies** those who have faith in Jesus.*

Paul's credentials and calling: (1:1-7)

*Romans 1:1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God-- ² **the gospel** he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. ⁵ Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith.*

Paul's concerns and cares. (1:8-15)

Romans 1:10 asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. ¹¹ For I long to see you...

¹³ I want you to know, brethren, that I have often intended to come to you¹⁴ I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish: ¹⁵ so I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

The Gospel (1:16)

Romans 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel... it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

The operation of the gospel: it is the _____ of God.

The outcome of the gospel: _____.

The outreach of the gospel: salvation offered to _____.

The downward spiral of I _____ (1:18-20)

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of men who by their wickedness suppress the truth.

¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

²⁰ Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse;

The downward spiral of I _____ (1:21-23)

Romans 1:21 ...for although they knew God they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their senseless minds were darkened.

²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man or birds or animals or reptiles.

The downward spiral of I _____ (1:24-27)

Romans 1:24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,

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

²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. Their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural,

²⁷ and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in their own persons the due penalty for their error.
