

## Romans 1:18-20

<sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness. <sup>19</sup> For what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from His workmanship, so that men are without excuse.

Berean Study Bible

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1

### **An agnostic without an excuse. Romans 1:18-20**

(End every sub-point with a statement of being "without excuse")

God makes Himself known to you. 1:18

God reveals Himself as emotions within us. 18a "wrath" (made in God's image)

God reveals Himself as longings for the best. 18a "from Heaven"

God reveals Himself as contrast to our failures. 18b "godlessness and wickedness"

God reveals Himself by pointing us upward. 18b "suppress the truth"

God wants to be known by you. 1:19

We will never fully know God. 19a "what may be known about God"

We can easily know God. 19 "is plain... made it plain"

God is able to be known by you. 1:20

God can be known through Creation. 20a "since the creation of the world"

God can be seen, though invisible. 20a "God's invisible qualities"

God can be recognised as different. 20b "eternal power and divine nature"

God can be understood by His works, 20b "understood from His workmanship"

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2

### **Take a good look at God. Romans 1:18-20**

Take a good look at God and you will see how He feels. 1:18

Look and you will see He is angry when wrong prevails. 18a "wrath at... all..."

Look and you will see He is angry when Truth is suppressed. 18b "suppress the Truth"

Take a good look at God and you will see what He wants. 1:19

Look and you will see God is partly knowable. 19a "what may be known about God"

Look and you will see God makes Himself known. 19b "God has made it plain"

Take a good look at God and you will see what He does. 1:20

Look and you will see the invisible. 20a “invisible qualities... clearly seen”  
Look and you will understand. 20b “being understood”

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3

### **What is your excuse? Romans 1:18-20**

When confronted by God’s anger you will have no excuse. 1:18

There is no excuse for allowing sin. 18a “against all the godlessness and wickedness”

There is no excuse for suppressing Truth. 18b “suppress the Truth by... wickedness”

When confronted by God’s teaching you will have no excuse. 1:19

There is no excuse for ignoring God’s passive display. 19a “is plain to them”

There is no excuse for ignoring God’s active display. 19b “made it plain to them”

When confronted by God’s power you will have no excuse. 1:20

There is no excuse for failing to observe. 20a “have been clearly seen”

There is no excuse for failing to understand. 20b “being understood”

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4

### **A reluctant wrath. Romans 1:18-20**

God is slow to His anger. 1:18

God’s anger is consistent. 18a “The wrath of God is being revealed”

God’s anger is reasonable. 18b “suppress the Truth by... wickedness”

God is sad to His anger. 1:19

God warns of His coming anger. 19a “what may be known about God”

God reveals how to avoid His coming anger. 19 “is plain... made it plain”

God is seen by His anger. 1:20

God’s anger displays His justice. 20a “invisible qualities... clearly seen”

God’s anger displays His holiness. 20b “clearly seen, being understood”

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5

### **Thank God for His anger. Romans 1:18-20**

God’s anger is revealed from Heaven. 1:18

God’s anger must be told. 18a “The wrath of God is being revealed”

God’s anger is against sin. 18b “suppress the Truth by... wickedness”

God’s anger is revealed to all. 1:19

God's anger reflects His nature. 19a "what may be known about God"

God's anger reflects human nature. 19 "is plain... made it plain"

God's anger is fair. 1:20

God's anger is only part of the future. 20a "invisible qualities... clearly seen"

God's anger is only part of the present. 20b "clearly seen, being understood"

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6

### **Romans 1:18-21**

God can be known by everyone. 1:19-20

'what may be known about God is plain to them' 1:19

'have been clearly seen, being understood' 1:20

God wants to be known. 1:19, 21

'God has made it plain to them' 1:19

'they knew God' 21

We do not want to know God. 1:18-21

'people suppress the truth' 1:18

'they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him' 1:21

their thinking became futile

their foolish hearts were darkened

they claimed to be wise

they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for [substitutes / alternatives]

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A

### **The wrath of God is revealed. Romans 1:18**

God's wrath reveals that God is to be feared

It is "a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." (Hebrews 10:31)

God's wrath reveals that God is justice

"But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed." (Romans 2:5)

God's wrath reveals that God is consistent

"Behold the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked." (Jeremiah 30:23) "The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord is avenging and wrathful; the Lord takes vengeance on his adversaries and keeps wrath for his enemies." (Nahum 1:2) "From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron."

He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty." (Revelation 19:15)

God's wrath reveals the power of the cross

"whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;" (Romans 3:25), "...to make propitiation for the sins of the people." (Hebrews 2:17), "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:10)

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B

### **Why is God always angry? Romans 1:18-19**

False: God of anger in the Old Testament; God of love in the New Testament.

True: By my actions I choose which of all God's attributes I will experience.

God's anger is real. 18a "The wrath of God is"

God's core character is holiness

God's total character is broad-spectrum

God's anger is revealed. 18a "being revealed"

God's person is too big to be seen by mortals

God's character is always visible to mortals

God's anger is right. 18b "against unrighteousness"

God's anger is specifically directed

God's anger is always muted – comes with love, mercy, patience...

God's anger is reasonable. 19 "For... because..."

God's anger is a warning to us

God's anger is a plea to us

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C

### **Bad news: God is angry. Good news: God is angry. Romans 1:18-19**

God is always angry. "The wrath of God is"

Anger is essential for wholistic well-being

God never becomes angry

God explains His anger. "against unrighteousness"

God's anger is against all forms of sin

God's anger comes with His loving warning

God expresses His anger. "because God has shown it"

Anger is God's last expression

God pleads with us to avoid going into His anger

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D

**God's anger is really God's love. Romans 1:18-19**

Anger is love exposed. 18a cp. "wrath... revealed"

The importance of godliness

The importance of righteousness

Anger is love expressed. 18b cp. "truth suppressed"

The importance of truth expressed

The importance of truth in righteousness

Anger is love exonerated. 19 "may be known"

The importance of my relationship with God

The importance of my recognition of God

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E

**The innocent native who never heard. Romans 1:18-25**

Is there anyone who has never heard? No! 18-21a

Is there anyone who is innocent? No! 21

Is a different culture a good excuse? No! 22-25

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F

**God is on display. Romans 1:18-25**

God shows us His anger. 1:18-20

God is justice. 18 "revealed... against... wickedness"

God is generous. 19-20 "God has made it plain"

God shows us His wisdom. 1:21-23

Sinners reject God. 21-22 "became fools"

Sinners replace God. 23 "exchanged the glory"

God shows us His gentleness. 1:24-25

We are allowed our sin. 24 "God gave them over to..."

We are allowed our gods. 25 "worshipped and served..."

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## G

### **Take a good look at God. Romans 1:18-25**

Look and you will see God's wrath. 1:18

God is angry when wrong rises up. 18

God is angry when right is suppressed. 18

Look and you will see God's power. 1:19-20

The invisible can be seen. 19 "God is plain to them"

The incomprehensible can be known. 20 "being understood"

Look and you will see God's existence. 1:20-21

Everyone begins close to God. 21a "they knew God"

Everyone moves away from God. 21b "they became futile"

Look and you will see God's kindness. 1:22-25

What God always gives. 24 "God gave them..."

What God always keeps. 25 "truth... worthy..."

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## H

### **God wants me to know Him. Romans 1:18-25**

God wants me to know Him through emotions. 1:18-19

I know God through why He is angry. 18 "wrath of God"

I know God through what He celebrates. 18-19 "truth... plain"

God wants me to know Him through thoughts. 1:20-21

I know God through insight. 20 "...clearly seen"

I know God through understanding. 21 "futile in their thinking and..."

God wants me to know Him through values. 1:22-25

I know God through practical wisdom. 22 "claimed to be wise..."

I know God through absolute truth. 25 "exchanged truth for a lie"

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## I

### **Two-up. Romans 1:18-25**

Truth and righteousness. 1:18

With truth, I can know God. 18

With righteousness, I can be close to God. 18

Power and Godhead. 1:19-20

God's power is obvious. 19

God's existence requires a response. 20

Glory and thanks. 1:21

God's glory is my first response. 21

God's works demands my thanks. 21

Heart and body. 1:22-24

A pure life comes from a Godly heart. 24

A pure body comes from a Godly heart. 24

Exchange and serve. 25

Truth leads to blessing. 25 "He is blessed forever"

Lies leads to wrath. 25, 18 "exchanged truth for a lie"

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J

### **Why is God angry? Romans 1:18-32**

Revelation from God. 18-20

Rejection of God. 21

Rebellion against God. 22,23,25

Response by God. 24,26,28

Ramifications without God. 25-32

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K

### **Will the real God please stand up. Romans 1:18-32**

God is real in values. 18

God is revealed in creation. 19-21

God is replaced in idolatry. 22-25

God is rejected in rebellion. 26-32

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L

### **Downward spiral. Romans 1:19-23**

First of all

God is known. 19 "may be known"

God is seen. 19 "God has shown"

Failure

Fail to glorify God. 21 "did not glorify"

Fail to thank God. 21 "nor were thankful"

Futility

Futile in mind. 21 "futile in their thoughts"  
Futile in heart. 21 "foolish hearts were darkened"

#### Foolishness

Promote self. 22 "Professing to be wise"  
Promote creation. 23 "into an image..."

I can intervene at any point and reverse the spiral

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#### M

#### **How did we get it so wrong? Romans 1:20**

Creation-centred. "creation"  
Clearly seen. "clearly seen"  
Comprehensible. "understood"  
Condemning. "without excuse"

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#### N

#### **Romans 1:20-32**

Human rejection of God. 21-22  
Human replacement of God. 23, 25  
Human rebellion against God. 32

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#### **Other possible titles**

How to get God angry  
What makes God angry  
Pushing God's buttons  
Surviving a wrathful God  
The only good God is an angry God  
Why can't I see God?  
Knocking on Heaven's door.  
Stairway from Heaven.  
You do not want to mess with God.  
Yes, God will give you what you want.

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## Cross-references, quotes, and commentary

### The wrath of God, 18a

Only those who are aware of God's wrath are amazed by God's grace. C J Mahaney

God's wrath in the Bible is never the capricious, self-indulgent, irritable, morally ignoble thing that human anger so often is. It is, instead, a right and necessary reaction to objective moral evil. J I Packer, *Knowing God*, p151

The doctrine of the wrath of God has fallen on hard times. In today's world, any concept of God's wrath upsets our modern sentiments. It's too disconcerting, too intolerant.

We live in a day where we have set ourselves as the judge and God's character is on trial. "How can hell be just?" "Why would God command the Israelites to destroy the Canaanites?" "Why does God always seem so angry?"

The fact that so many people struggle with these questions, and many more like them, means that more than ever right thinking is needed about the doctrine of God's wrath. It is needed for motivation for Christian living, fuel for proper worship, and as a toolbox to confront objections to Christianity. Joseph Scheumann

Only God's love and mercy can save me from God's wrath and justice. IBD

### *Defining anger and wrath*

In the New Testament the words "anger" and "wrath" are both translations of the one Greek word ὀργή, and its cognates. These English words "anger" and "wrath" are selected at the discretion of the translators, and are used interchangeably in English. But in the original Greek text of the New Testament "anger" and "wrath" are one and the same word.

Outside the Bible, in modern English usage, anger or wrath occur in many forms on a subjective continuum from upset, irritated or annoyed, through frustrated, agitated, or irate, to furious and enraged.

There is no agreed English definition for either anger or wrath. However, in common usage, anger is often used as an erratic and unpredictable expression, and in an extreme form may be seen in revenge or violence. Whereas wrath is used as a deep, immovable, settled and predictable outcome to be expressed in justice or punishment.

### *Jesus expressed anger*

Jesus looked around at them with anger [ὀργῆς 3709] and sorrow at their hardness of heart. Then He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." So the man stretched it out, and it was restored. Mark 3:5

ὀργῆς noun, genitive feminine singular of ὀργή [Strong's 3709], means 'to teem, to swell', implies that it is: full and about to overflow; bottled up and could potentially explode; passionate uprising; agitation and indignation. There are 36 occurrences of ὀργή in the New Testament, including “flee from the wrath to come” Matthew 3:7 = Luke 3:7; and “you are storing up wrath for yourself” Romans 2:5.

#### *We are commanded to express anger*

Be angry [ὀργίζεσθε 3710], yet do not sin. Do not let the sun set upon your anger [παροργισμῶ 3950] (close beside + anger), and do not give the devil a foothold. Ephesians 4:26-27

ὀργίζεσθε verb, present middle imperative or passive voice, second person plural, of Strong's 3710 ὀργίζω. Expressing a fixed anger or a set opposition. 8 occurrences in the NT including, “everyone who is angry with his brother” Matthew 5:22.

παροργισμῶ noun, dative masculine singular of Strong's 3950 παροργισμός. exasperation, irritation, indignation, bitterness, be provoked, a personal (up-close, in-your-face) sense of anger. Ephesians 4:26 is the only occurrence of this word in the New Testament.

#### *The current anger of God*

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life. Whoever rejects the Son will not see life. Instead, the **wrath** of God remains on him. John 3:36

The **wrath** of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness. Romans 1:18

But if our unrighteousness highlights the righteousness of God, what shall we say? That God is unjust to inflict His **wrath** on us? I am speaking in human terms. Romans 3:5

because the law brings **wrath**. And where there is no law, there is no transgression. Romans 4:15

<sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's **wrath** on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's **wrath** but also for the sake of conscience. Romans 13:4-5, ESV

All of us also lived among them at one time, fulfilling the cravings of our flesh and indulging its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature children of **wrath**. Ephesians 2:3

The Jews <sup>15</sup>who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and drove us out as well. They are displeasing to God and hostile to all men, <sup>16</sup>hindering us from telling the Gentiles how they may be saved. As a result, they continue to heap up their sins to full capacity; the utmost **wrath** has come upon them. 1 Thessalonians 2:16

### *The future anger of God*

But when John saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his place of baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming **wrath**? Matthew 3:7

Then John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming **wrath**? Luke 3:7

But because of your hard and unrepentant heart, you are storing up **wrath** against yourself for the day of **wrath**, when God’s righteous judgment will be revealed. Romans 2:5

But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow wickedness, there will be **wrath** (ὀργή) and anger (θυμός). Romans 2:8

Therefore, since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from **wrath** through Him! Romans 5:9

For what may be known about God is plain to them, 19a

<sup>7</sup>But ask the animals, and they will instruct you;  
ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you.

<sup>8</sup>Or speak to the earth, and it will teach you;  
let the fish of the sea inform you.

<sup>9</sup>Which of all these does not know  
that the hand of the LORD has done this? Job 12:7-9

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

<sup>2</sup>Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they reveal knowledge.

<sup>3</sup>Without speech or language,  
without a sound to be heard,

<sup>4</sup>their voice has gone out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world. Psalm 19:1-4

<sup>21</sup>Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been declared to you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the foundation of the earth? <sup>22</sup>He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth; its dwellers are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. Isaiah 40:21-22

<sup>21</sup>“Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see, who have ears but do not hear. <sup>22</sup>Do you not fear Me?” declares the LORD. “Do you not tremble before Me, the One who set the sand as the boundary for the sea, an enduring

barrier it cannot cross? The waves surge, but they cannot prevail. They roar but cannot cross it. Jeremiah 5:21-22

<sup>9</sup>The true Light who gives light to every man was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him... <sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:9-10, 14

Yet He has not left Himself without testimony to His goodness: He gives you rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling your hearts with food and gladness. Acts 14:17

<sup>13</sup>And this is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. <sup>14</sup> The natural man does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God. For they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:13-14

<sup>1</sup>On many past occasions and in many different ways, God spoke to our fathers through the prophets. <sup>2</sup>But in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. Hebrews 1:1-2

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11:3

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 2 Peter 1:3

<sup>20</sup>Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture comes from one's own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no such prophecy was ever brought forth by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:20-21

<sup>19</sup>We know that we are of God, and that the whole world is under the power of the evil one. <sup>20</sup>And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true— in His Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 1 John 5:19-20

Everyone who is seriously engaged in the pursuit of science becomes convinced that the laws of nature manifest the existence of a spirit vastly superior to that of men, and one in the face of which we with modest powers must feel humble. Albert Einstein

so that men are without excuse. 20b

<sup>57</sup>As they were walking along the road, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow You wherever You go."

<sup>58</sup>Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay His head."

<sup>59</sup>Then He said to another man, "Follow Me."

The man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

<sup>60</sup>But Jesus told him, "Let the dead bury their own dead. You, however, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

<sup>61</sup>Still another said, "I will follow You, Lord; but first let me bid farewell to my family."

<sup>62</sup>Then Jesus declared, "No one who puts his hand to the plough and then looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 8:57-62

<sup>21</sup>Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup>Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?'

<sup>23</sup>Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of lawlessness!' Matthew 7:21-23

<sup>1</sup>You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on another. For on whatever grounds you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. <sup>2</sup>And we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. <sup>3</sup>So when you, O man, pass judgment on others, yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? <sup>4</sup>Or do you disregard the riches of His kindness, tolerance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you to repentance? Romans 2:1-4

If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin. John 15:22

Will God give man brains to see these things and will man then fail to exercise his will toward that God? The sorrowful answer is that both of these things are true. God will give a man brains to smelt iron and make a hammer head and nails. God will grow a tree and give man strength to cut it down and brains to fashion a hammer handle from its wood. And when man has the hammer and the nails, God will put out His hand and let man drive nails through it and place Him on a cross in the supreme demonstration that men are without excuse. (With thanks to D G Barnhouse)

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### Structure, Romans 1:18-32

This Scripture begins, 1:18-20; and ends, 1:29-32; with a simple inversion parallelism, flowing A<sup>1</sup> A<sup>2</sup> A<sup>3</sup> and reversing B<sup>3</sup> B<sup>2</sup> B<sup>1</sup>.

Within these 'bookends' is a less structured mixed parallelism, 1:21-28, that runs C<sup>1</sup> E<sup>1</sup> D<sup>1</sup> F<sup>1</sup> E<sup>2</sup> D<sup>2</sup> F<sup>2</sup> C<sup>2</sup> D<sup>3</sup>. This is not a simple step parallelism, but is more like a dance parallelism. It is rather like a complicated knitting pattern that only your grandmother could read, but from which she could produce a garment of astonishing complexity and beauty.

A<sup>1</sup> Anger of God, 18  
A<sup>2</sup> God is known, 19  
A<sup>3</sup> God's nature is clearly seen, 20

C<sup>1</sup> Failed to honour God, 21-23  
E<sup>1</sup> They exchanged the glory of God, 23  
D<sup>1</sup> God gave them over, 24a  
F<sup>1</sup> Dishonour their bodies, 24b  
E<sup>2</sup> They exchanged the Truth of God, 25  
D<sup>2</sup> God gave them over, 26  
F<sup>2</sup> Dishonour their bodies, 27

C<sup>2</sup> Failed to honour God, 28a  
D<sup>3</sup> God gave them up, 28b

B<sup>3</sup> Ungodly nature is clearly seen, 29-31  
B<sup>2</sup> God is known, 32a  
B<sup>1</sup> Justice of God, 32b

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## Music and songs

Songs about the wrath of God, 18

In Christ alone... the wrath of God was satisfied, Ot 4

Day of judgement; day of wonders. (John Newton)

When He rolls up His sleeves... Our God is an awesome God (Mullins), Ot 50

Songs about what God reveals, 18-19

Songs about Truth, 18

The Truth shall set you free, FE 109

We limit not the Truth of God, H

Songs about knowing God, 19

Be still and know, II4

Everybody ought to know, HCJ 43

Happiness is to know the Saviour, CWH 9

He lives / I serve a risen Saviour... how I know He lives, H 725

I cannot tell... but this I know, H 185

I know who holds tomorrow, CWH 84

I looked for love... And now I know... (Carmichael), Ot 77

Knowing You, Jesus. There is no greater joy (Kendrick)

More about Jesus would I know, H 667

Praise You Lord... I want to know You more, Ot 70

Songs about creation, 20a

All creatures of our God and King, H 19

All things bright and beautiful, H 593

Creation sings the Father's song

For The Beauty of the Earth, H 33

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, Ot 7

How excellent Your name in all the Earth, Ot 99

If I were a butterfly

Jesus is Lord, creation's voice proclaims it, (Keith Getty, Stuart Townend)

Lord of all creation, of water earth and sky... God of wonders

Morning has broken

O Lord my God... How great Thou art, H 743

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation! H 8

The Earth is the Lord's, Ot 131

The Heavens shall declare, 537

When morning gilds the skies, H 247

Who put the colours in the rainbow

Why should I feel discouraged... His eye is on the sparrow

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**Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion.**

1. How do you think of God? Do you think of God as being angry? What would prompt someone to think of Him in that way?
  2. What do you see as some indicators that God is angry; in what ways does He display His anger? Could these indicators have some other explanation, other than God's anger?
  3. What, in particular, angers God, v18b? What are some examples of this practice?
  4. Quoting from v19-20, how difficult is it to know God? If you did not have a Bible, what could you know about God?
  5. In what ways would it be possible to suppress the Truth of v20? What answers could we offer to return to the Truth?
  6. What is suggested by the closing words, "so everyone is without excuse"?
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