Intro: 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For 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. 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 foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

I. We are subject to a loving God’s wrath – 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

a. We are ungodly and wicked

• If this verse does not sequester the “everyone is basically good” doctrine then nothing will. The wrath of God is against all unrighteous and ungodly men, “ALL”. I don’t care what Joel Olsten tells you, or the Pope tells you, or even the all-holly and most supreme godly woman of all time (Oprah Winfrey) tells you, all at one time were ungodly and unrighteous and had the wrath of God directed towards us.

° 6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. Isaiah 64:6

b. We will suppress the truth

• Adam and Eve obscured the truth in Gen. God said, “did you eat from the tree of good and evil?” And their response was to blame one another without taking responsibility. Suppressing the truth comes on many forms; from denying to reflecting the suppress truth is the point here.

° 11 He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” 12 The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” Genesis 3:11-13

II. We will with intent reject the basic knowledge about God – 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

a. First understand that there is a lot we will never know about God

• Everyone knows that there is someone greater than they are. Everyone knows that there are some things bigger than what they can imagine, and that great deeper knowledge of basic understanding of the existence of God, can only be put in your hearts by God. We worry about that tribe deep in the jungles of Africa that never have heard of the gospel and when you go there you find them worship some type of god. It is instilled in us that there is something bigger than ourselves.

° 18 “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. John 15:18

b. But we do have a basic understanding of God that we need to accept

• Everyone has a basic understanding of what is right and wrong. We know that we are sinners, we know that we need to do better, we know that there are and is absolute truths. But what our undoing is that we don’t want to accept God’s absolute wisdom and truth.

° 14 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. 15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them 16 on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus. Romans 2:14-16

III. We reject the science and signs of His great creation – 20 For 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.

a. We reject that God is the beginning of Creation

• We were told for years that we had a “big bang” that created everything in the cosmos. All billions of galaxies were created by one big bang. While now thanks to the James Webb telescope scientists must rethink this theory. For when they looked back to the beginning of time, they found galaxies that should not exist, that should have taken trillions of years to create, at the movement of where time began. This is simple for us as Christians, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

° 6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. Psalms 33:6

b. We reject His eternal power in Creation

• Our carnal minds have rejected the power of God in so much so that we have replaced Him with something that is impossible to happen. The power of Creation. The big bang is 7,000 to the 100 trillion power that it happens. It is impossible, but we are told that it happens. So, it is like this, either you believe God created heavens and the earth or reject this belief and turn to human belief that you happen by an impossible situation.

° 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. 14 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:10-14

c. We reject His divine nature in creation

• Take an atom it is made up of neutrons, electrons, and protons. When split you can make a bomb. In other words, you can’t separate them without destroying them. This is a picture of the Trinity. One God that have three different parts that can’t be separate but has different functions in the Trinity. Without atoms you can’t have life.

° 20 For 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. Romans 1:20

d. Because of man’s rejection of God we stand without an excuse

• So, does this mean that the tribe in the jungles of Africa that has never heard of Jesus Christ will go to hell for not accepting Christ as their Savior? This question has separated churches, causes preachers to quit the ministry, and kept people from accepting Christ as their Savior. So, Pastor Mike what is your answer. And my answer is God is sovereign in all His ways, and He is fair in all his decisions, and we are all without excuse. How He deals with us without our excuse is in His will not ours. But you, who are hearing this message are now without an excuse.

° 21 “Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes, but see not, who have ears, but hear not. 22 Do you not fear me? declares the Lord. Do you not tremble before me? I placed the sand as the boundary for the sea, a perpetual barrier that it cannot pass; though the waves toss, they cannot prevail; though they roar, they cannot pass over it. Jeremiah 5:21, 22

IV. We don’t honor God with our worship – 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 foolish hearts were darkened.

a. We at one time knew who God was

1. We then chose not to honor Him

2. We chose not to give Him respect (honor)

• I believe that this is speaking of knowing God through head knowledge. They rejected God in rational thinking, they refused to honor (respect) him personally, which lead to futile thinking and rejecting him personally, which leads to rejecting him spiritually. Most people, when asked to be saved, will say, “well I thought about it, but it’s not for me, and there are some things that don’t make sense to me, but believing that I can come from dinosaurs’ snot, well then, I can believe in that.

° 7 By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, ‘How have we polluted you?’ By saying that the Lord’s table may be despised. 8 When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the Lord of hosts. 9 And now entreat the favor of God, that he may be gracious to us. With such a gift from your hand, will he show favor to any of you? says the Lord of hosts. Malachi 1:7-9

b. We became vain (futile) in our thinking

• The word futile (mataioō) means to be vain and this is not just being vain or foolish, but it is an immoral foolish and vain thinking that leads to immoral and vain acting in on what they are thinking. One illustration to this point, men can be women, and vis-versa.

° 23 These also are sayings of the wise. Partiality in judging is not good. 24 Whoever says to the wicked, “You are in the right,” will be cursed by peoples, abhorred by nations, 25 but those who rebuke the wicked will have delight, and a good blessing will come upon them. Proverbs 24:23-25

c. We allowed ourselves to be darkened by foolishness

• Make no mistake about it, we have been darkened by our own foolishness. Our free will is a blessing and a curse. It is this free will that has caused our blindness to Christ and the truth. We have allowed darkness to overtake just basic morals and have allowed it to grow deeper into what we see today, “turning the grace of God into lasciviousness.”

° 4 For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. Jude 1:4

V. We are prideful which has turned us away from God – 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

a. Our pride has made us fools

• We have doctors with multiple degrees who can’t define biological what a woman is. We have lawyers with multiple law degrees that does not believe in the first amendment of the United States “freedom of Religion”. We have so-called pastors with multiple degrees and doctorates in pulpits that will not preach out of the word of God so that it won’t offend someone. We have allowed our pride into fooling us into believing that we are OK with God.

° 3 By the mouth of a fool comes a rod for his back[[1]](#footnote-1), but the lips of the wise will preserve them. Proverbs 14:3

b. Our pride has replaced God with idols of His creation

• We have rejected Him as being our Creator and now we have replaced Him with images that we made up of His creation to worship. Witches will worship mother earth, Buddha will worship a idol of Bubbah that is made of stone or wood, there are many religions will worship the sun and moon god. In Africa some tribe will not eat the livestock because they believe that they are gods, even as to go as far as drink some cow blood to obtain some divine power. Israel worshiped a gold calf just after crossing the Red Sea.

° 21 And Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you that you have brought such a great sin upon them?” 22 And Aaron said, “Let not the anger of my lord burn hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. 23 For they said to me, ‘Make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ 24 So I said to them, ‘Let any who have gold take it off.’ So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf.” Exodus 32:21-24

1. Or “in the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride”. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)