

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT THROUGH SCRIPTURE: **ROMANS 1:1-32**

ABOUT: Romans chapter 1 lists the steps man takes away from God destined for a reprobate (*castaway; rejected; worthless; not enduring trial; abandoned*) mind.

ANALYSIS: The judgment of God will come upon the lives of those that CONSISTENTLY DENY God's attempt to make Himself known to them (Romans 1:32). Mankind sows in CONSISTENT DENIAL of God and will reap God denying them (Galatians 6:7-8). The wrath of God is against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men (Romans 1:18). Wrath is defined as: *"That in which God stands opposed to man's sin, disobedience, hardness of heart and manifests itself in punishing the same. To teem, bring forth, as a woman in travail thus implying a gradual building up of a controlled fixed response rather than a sudden outburst."*

APPLICATION: Here are some facts concerning the wrath of God ---

~~~The REALITY of the wrath of God --- The wrath of God is designed to put the fear of God in every person (Hebrews 12:18-29)...and it should.

\*The wrath of God in Noah's day --- Genesis 7:17-24

\*The wrath of God in Lot's day --- Genesis 19:24-28

----The wrath of God in the days of Noah and Lot should cause us to fear displeasing God. The reality of these days that have passed should lead us to right living. The reality is that these days are ahead of us today.

\*The wrath of God in the last days --- Luke 17:22-30 --- the reality is that this day is coming...a day "as (*exactly*) it was in the days of Noah and Lot". The wrath of God in the last days will be made up of many events, but a main stage of God's wrath pouring out is found in Revelation 14:8 – 16:21. Some may mock the days of Noah and Lot as if they never happened, others may mock the future period of great tribulation, but be assured, the reality is that Noah's day did happen...Lot's day did happen...the great tribulation will happen, and may even happen in your lifetime.

~~~The REASON for the wrath of God --- The reason is because sin will always bring forth death and destruction – Romans 6:23; James 1:14-16. When a society becomes so bad, so wicked, so sinful, so Godless...then God, as a Righteous Judge, must righteously punish those guilty (Romans 1:32 – 2:16). A judge is to punish crimes (sin - 1<sup>st</sup> John 3:4) and that punishment is to be based on the punishment stated by law (Romans 6:23). The crime is sin, the wage is death, but in God's mercy He provides eternal life. Really, when a society gets so wicked that it is to the place of the world in Noah's day (Genesis 6:5 & 6:11-13) & Lot's day (Genesis 18:20-21; 18:23; 18:32; 19:13) then God is saving society from itself. A society can come to the place of such corruption, such filth, that there is no hope of recovering. God's wrath comes to, in a sense, push the reset button on humanity. A people can

become so rotten in sin that there is no choice but to tear down and rebuild with the little good that remains. Think of a world, that is absolutely filthy morally toward God's Word, toward children, toward one another, etc...justice would demand wrath against such a place. The bad news is that the last days will be EXACTLY as these days of Noah & Lot in our day.

~~~The RESCUE from the wrath of God --- The good news (gospel) is that before God says what he says in Romans 1:18 He says Romans 1:16-17. In Noah's day God provided a rescue by an ark & a preacher of righteousness (*condition acceptable to God* - 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 2:5). In Lot's day God provided a rescue by there being 10 righteous souls (out of tens of thousands of people) (Genesis 18:32). Before God's wrath is poured out in Revelation God sends a rescue in Revelation 14:6-7. There is a rescue from the wrath of God and this rescue is found in Jesus Christ. In the days of Noah and Lot they looked forward to the rescue found in Christ and His sacrifice. In our day we look back to the rescue found in Christ and His sacrifice (Romans 3:10 – 4:3).

~~~The RESPONSE to the wrath of God --- Unfortunately only Noah's family took the rescue, in Lot's day not even ten came to righteousness, in our day not many truly come to Christ in repentance. I already know that there will be many that scoff at the wrath of God in Noah's day, Lot's day, our day. I know this because God's Word tells us so in 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:1-14. I want those of you that are born again believers to know that as we see the wrath of God coming, we are told to respond in accordance to 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:11-14. Understand, as the days of Noah & Lot, warning was given along with the way each person could be rescued from God's wrath.

ACTION: Warning is given to you now one way being through preachers like me warning you of the wrath to come. God wants all to be rescued (1st Timothy 2:4; Titus 2:11; 2nd Peter 3:9) but if you CONSISTENTLY DENY the knowledge & warnings given to you by God, the result is found in Romans 1:16-32; Proverbs 1:20-33. Dear Christian, as you see the last days around us, are you living in 2nd Peter 3:11-14? To the unsaved, those that have never come to Christ as Savior, do not deny God's grace to you found in the Gospel of Christ mocking the wrath of God to come. It will come, as this COVID 19 virus, it will come as a thief in the night (1st Thessalonians 4:13 – 5:11)...by total surprise! When God pours out His wrath, if you have not taken heed to the warning, it will be too late to do anything for safety then. The reality of the wrath of God should put the fear of God in everyone, the reason for the wrath of God is just, the rescue from the wrath of God is wonderful ----
WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE TO THE WRATH OF GOD as a believer or unbeliever?

WALK B4 TALK: Thursday – Reality (with verses); Friday – Reason (with verses); Saturday – Rescue & Response (with verses). **ALLOW** the Holy Spirit to speak to you specifically, **APPLY** accordingly, **ACT** on God's Word.

