

## The Downward Spiral

October 1, 2023

**Romans 1:18-32**

Pastor Todd McAllister

Context: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1:9 Ongoing prayer
- 1:11 Longing to visit
- 1:16 Unashamed of the Gospel
- 1:17 Righteousness of God revealed
- 1:18 Wrath of God revealed
- 1:19 What can be known about God is plain.
- 1:20 His invisible attributes...clearly perceived
- 1:21 Although they knew God

Key Problem: Suppression of the \_\_\_\_\_

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

- 1:19 What can be known about God evident
- 1:20 Invisible attributes clearly perceived
- 1:21 Although knew God, did not honor Him

In what ways has the suppression of truth affected you?

Results: “God \_\_\_\_\_ them up...” 1:24, 26, 28

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- 1:20 Without excuse
- 1:21 Futile thinking; foolish hearts darkened
- 1:22 Claiming to be wise, became fools
- 1:23 Exchanged the glory of God for images
- 1:25 Worshiped and served the creature

What temptations do you encounter to replace the glory of God with idols?

(Continued on other side)

## The Downward Spiral (continued)

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**Romans 1:18-32**

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- 1:24 Lusts of their hearts to impurity
- 1:26 Dishonorable passions
- 1:28 Debased mind

“Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.” Romans 1:32

How does God view this downward spiral?

What is the difference between “God \_\_\_\_\_ them up” and God gave up on them?

*Video: “How Jesus Redeemed My Gender Confusion” --Dr. Linda Seiler*

--What temptations to impurity do you face?

--If the truth about you were known, would it reveal you as being controlled by sinful passions and desires or “the obedience of faith”?

How should we view this downward spiral?

--In what ways do you need to change your thinking...

- ...about God?
- ...about your own way of life?
- ...about those given over to sin?

*Resources for further study:*

“Reflections on the Existence of God” Richard E. Simmons, III

“Genetic Entropy” J.C. Sanford

“Return of the Gods” Jonathan Cahn

“The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert” Rosaria C. Butterfield

“How Jesus Redeemed My Gender Confusion” Dr. Linda Seiler

(Focus on the Family Broadcast)

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Context: **“For”** 1:9 Ongoing prayer  
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Key Problem: Suppression of the **truth**

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

1:19 What can be known about God evident  
1:20 Invisible attributes clearly perceived  
1:21 Although knew God, did not honor Him

In what ways has the suppression of truth affected you?

Results: “God **gave** them up...” 1:24, 26, 28

### Idolatry

1:20 Without excuse  
1:21 Futile thinking; foolish hearts darkened  
1:22 Claiming to be wise, became fools  
1:23 Exchanged the glory of God for images  
1:25 Worshiped and served the creature

What temptations do you encounter to replace the glory of God with idols?

(Continued on other side)

## The Downward Spiral (continued)

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### Immorality

1:24 Lusts of their hearts to impurity  
1:26 Dishonorable passions  
1:28 Debased mind

“Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.” Romans 1:32

How does God view this downward spiral?

What is the difference between “God **gave** them up” and God gave up on them?

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--What temptations to impurity do you face?

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...about God?

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