

Romans Refresh

Renewing Gospel-Centrality

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Overview:

The Gospel Explained Comprehensively (1:16-3:26)

1. The Theme/Thesis (1:16-17)
2. Indictment of Humanity Under Sin (1:18-3:20)
3. God's Righteousness in Christ (3:21-26)

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Worldview Implications

Q: What's wrong with the world?

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Worldview Implications

➤ *Romans 1:16-3:26*

1. Humanity's Fallen Condition
 - human beings are by nature idolaters in rebellion against God the Creator
 - in His wrath, God has subjected human beings to their sinful desires resulting in all kinds of sinful behavior

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²⁸And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to an unfit mind, to do those things which are not proper, ²⁹being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; *they are* gossips, ³⁰slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; ³²and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

(Rom. 1:18-32)

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⁹...For we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; ¹⁰as it is written,

- 11 THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;
 THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS,
 THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;
 12 ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS;
 THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD,
 THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.
 13 THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE,
 WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING,
 THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS;
 14 WHOSE MOUTH IS FULL OF CURSING AND BITTERNESS;
 15 THEIR FEET ARE SWIFT TO SHED BLOOD,
 16 DESTRUCTION AND MISERY ARE IN THEIR PATHS,
 17 AND THE PATH OF PEACE THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN.
 18 THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES.

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Worldview Implications

➤ *Romans 1:16-3:26*

2. God's Remedy in Christ—the Gospel

- the church's primary mission is the proclamation of this gospel as humanity's only hope

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Worldview Implications

➤ *Modern Worldviews*

1. Basic Humanism

- human beings are basically good; problems are the result of environment or mental illness
- solutions include education, economic opportunity, therapy (self-esteem), good government

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Worldview Implications

➤ *Modern Worldviews*

2. Critical Theory

- all society can be divided into oppressor groups and oppressed groups based on race, gender, sexuality, class, religion, nationality
- solution: activism that works for "social justice" – the liberation of all oppressed groups to achieve a state of equity (e.g. #BlackLivesMatter)

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Worldview Implications

➤ *Speak the gospel and display compassion*

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