



ZWTF

Sunday, December 22, 2013 Zapping-you Whenever Thoughts Flow

ROMANS Part 9

Chapter 1:21-32

WHEREFORE, GOD
GIVES THEM OVER



Romans 1:21-25

Knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him, but vain were they made in their reasonings, and darkened is their unintelligent heart. Alleging themselves to be wise, they are made stupid, and they change the glory of the incorruptible God into the likeness of an image of a corruptible human being and flying creatures and quadrupeds and reptiles. Wherefore God gives them over, in the lusts of their hearts, to the uncleanness of dishonoring their bodies among themselves, those who alter the truth of God into the lie, and are venerated, and offer divine service to the creature rather than the Creator, Who is blessed for the eons! Amen!

There is no surer path to moral disintegration than to worship a degraded caricature of the true God.

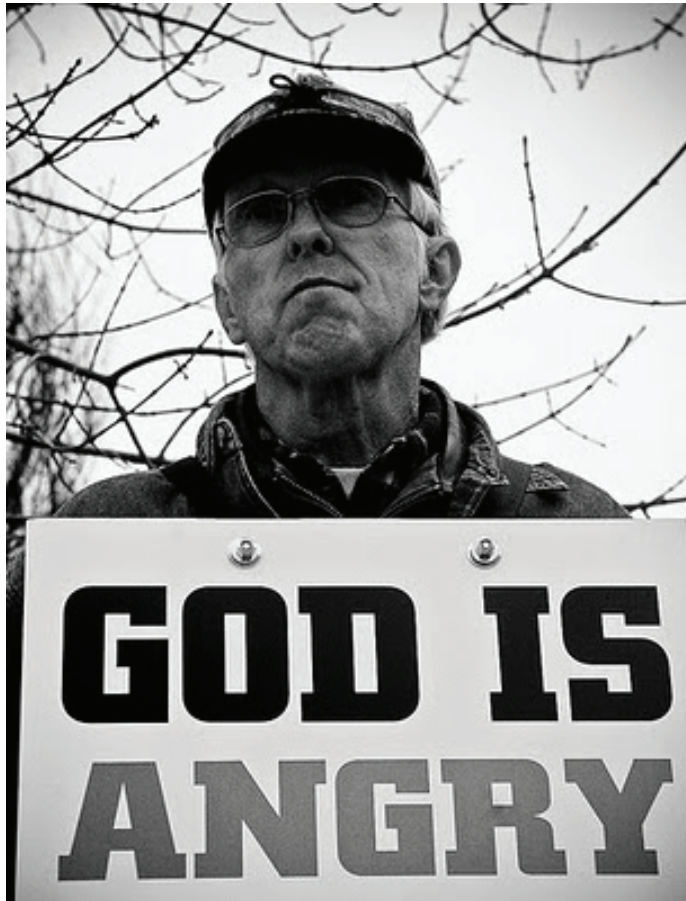
“Knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him.” This is the snare of both religion and the world. I think one of the biggest revelations imparted to me in the last twenty years is the existence of two categories of unbelievers: religious and worldly. The religious unbelievers are the more dangerous and despicable of the two because they think they have truth. God cuts both groups from the same cloth, however, as I will explain.

The worldly unbelievers are misguided on two counts. Not only are they aware of the beauty and power of nature while denying the Mind behind it, but they buy into the religious depiction of God—a caricature of the true.

I speak of the caricature of God invented by religious unbelievers, namely Christianity: God is the mean old man with the pointy, yellow teeth and matching disposition. He rubs his gnarly hands together, waiting to pull the rug out, forever, from unsuspecting sinners. The worldly person can hardly ignore that image. It pervades our culture, compliments of your friendly neighborhood Christian church. Barely a man, woman or child alive has not heard of the terrifying Christian god who tortures his enemies for all eternity—in spite of sending his Son to save these very people. The Christian god loves you unconditionally—as long as you love Him back. Apparently, he’s afflicted with the human personality disorder known as co-dependency. This is the least of his troubles. He is also a megalomaniac and a sadist.

Competing with this is the testimony of nature. The testimony of nature witnesses to the true God. The voice of Christianity drowns it out, however. The Christian religion destroys more people than the beneficent testimony of the rolling ocean and the sparrow’s song saves.

The worldly unbeliever will be able to say to God at the Great White Throne: “The world was inundated with



false images of You. I never saw You truly. There were too many church signs, Christian billboards, and TBN specials. The smokescreen of popular religion misled me. I thought You were actually like that.”

The counter-argument from God will be, “I understand. But you were also aware of my goodness and power through the testimony of nature.” This will shut the mouth. The nature argument renders every man “defenseless” (Romans 1:20). It’s God’s trump card. It isn’t that God conducts cross-examinations at the Great White Throne to discern facts for Himself; He already knows everything. The purpose of this bar is to expose the heart of the one judged, for that person’s personal knowledge and ultimate benefit.

THE RELIGIOUS UNBELIEVER

God will subject the religious unbeliever to harsher judgment, for the religious unbeliever (i.e. the Christian man or woman) is complicit in the spread of the false image. As Paul testifies concerning the Jews in Romans 2:24, “For because of you the name of God is being blasphemed among the nations, according as it is written.”

If the person tripping upon the false God is judged, what shall we say of the judgment of those staging, producing, and promoting the trip wires? This is the horror (the future horror) of being a Christian: standing before God having been an accomplice (albeit unwitting, in most cases) to the worst crimes against humanity. True, modern Christians did not invent the demonic teachings driving humanity from God, but participation in the religion is evidence enough to indict. Sheep will be less accountable than shepherds. No one can stop the steamroller of lies, but one can jump off the steamroller. Those who don’t are complicit and will answer for it.

I know how distasteful this sounds, but Jesus described it well in Luke 17:1-2,

Now He said to His disciples, “Incredible is it for snares not to be coming. Moreover, woe to him through whom they are coming! An advantage were it to him if a millstone were lying about his neck and he were pitched into the sea, rather than that he should be snaring one of these little ones.”

No Christian applies this verse to him or herself, which itself testifies to the strength of the deception. Christians apply this verse to bar owners and pornographers. This is not our Lord’s context at all. Jesus had just finished a five-part parable condemning the self-righteous Pharisees. The context is clearly a religious one. Religion is God’s vilest enemy. By defaming Him, it wreaks more damage upon the human race than any other influence.

“Christians did not invent demonic teachings, but participation in the religion is evidence enough to indict.”

This section of Romans explains why: God is not glorified or thanked as God (Romans 1:21). His glory and majesty are replaced by demon-inspired theologies about Him, incubated in the hen house of tradition, and broadcast world-wide by those imagining themselves to be God’s dearest friends. With friends like these, who needs enemies?

At the Great White Throne, I would rather be



pornographer Larry Flynt than evangelist Joyce Meyer. I would rather be a beer salesman than the architect of the Crystal Cathedral. I ought to simply resort to Jesus' words, for they are true and more shocking: I would rather have a millstone hung around my neck and be pitched into the sea (Jesus called this "an advantage"), than to be complicit in the snaring of a true seeker.

At the Great White Throne, I would rather be Charles Manson than Billy Graham. Don't smile, because I am serious. You believe the words of Jesus Christ concerning the millstone, correct? Billy Graham, Jonathan Edwards, Benny Hinn, Billy Sunday, and countless other so-called men and women of God have snared millions of innocent people. Charles Manson, on the other hand, ordered the killing of a mere nine human beings. I can say "mere" only in comparison to the millions damaged and deranged by the modern message. I can only consider murder the better alternative compared to the slow, miserable death of worry, guilt, and fear. It is these religionists, therefore, who deserve the millstone. Manson merely gets life in prison.

The priesthood incurs greater judgment than Pontius Pilate (John 19:11). You were surprised, in the previous paragraph, that I favor Manson over Graham at the Great White Throne. You would be equally surprised, then, to hear Jesus practically vindicating Pilate—a cruel man of the nations with the blood of thousands upon his hands—and hanging the millstone around the necks of the priests of Israel, who thought they were doing the right thing.

The case against the priests is: they had the Scriptures, claimed to be wise, saw Christ, witnessed some of

His miracles, heard His testimony, yet used God to serve themselves.

Wake up and smell this. The greatest evils existent today seep from those purporting to know Him. These evils spread like gangrene because people blindly trust the source. The deadliest evils kill in the name of the One Who will one day redeem all evil. The Christian god is more detestable than that of the Muslims; the Christian god is close to the truth, but so far away. Muhammad isn't even close.

Christianity is a negative image of truth.

THE PHARISEE SYNDROME

Billy Graham is an unbeliever. His confession is that mankind saves itself by exercising its will. "No will, no salvation," is that man's creed. If a man chooses to be lost, then poor Christ crucified hangs helpless. That's how Graham sees it. Jesus wishes He could help, but He can't. The so-called Dr. Graham has foisted this sad tale of divine failure upon millions. He writes good-looking books about it. He advises presidents, and yet, of all humans on earth, Billy Graham is the man I most pity. I would sooner shake Adolph Hitler's hand, than his. In the Day of Indignation, stand as far away as possible from the tents of Billy Graham, for on that day the earth shall open and consume him. Besides Satan's, Graham's knee will be near the last to bow. Only one Crusade will matter to him then—Christ's "crusade" to reveal Himself. Graham will finally be brought to tears before the God he never knew.

Jesus convicts the religious again in Matthew 23:13,15:

"Now woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are locking the kingdom of the heavens in front of men. For you are not entering, neither are you letting those entering to enter. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you are going about the sea and the dry land to make one proselyte, and whenever he may be becoming one, you are making him more than double a son of Gehenna than you are."

No Pharisee escapes alive. Rather, God subjects this lot to a stricter judgment. If only they believed in the saving work of Christ, they would pass from judgment into life. Instead, they believe the lies of their father, the Adversary. They embrace not one essential element of either the gospel of the Circumcision, or that of the Uncircumcision. God is the Savior of all humanity, yes

(1 Timothy 4:10), but this fails to affect my previous contention. Christians will be the last among humanity to be saved. I base my belief on the words of Jesus, above, and also the words of Paul in Romans 2:21-27: the Jews, boasting in law, are blaspheming God's name and dishonoring Him. Simultaneously, the nations, who had no law, will judge the Jew who, through letter and circumcision, are transgressors of law. In other words, the responsibility of "teacher of others," failing, carries with it heavier responsibility and stricter judgment. Again, belief in Christ would deliver from judgment, but because of a deadly self-confidence ("human free will"), judgment remains.

If the nations are judging the Jews, the Jews are saved behind them. How ironic.

The professed belief of all hypocrites is unwittingly feigned (1 Corinthians 15:2).

Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have had no sin. Yet now you are saying that 'We are observing.' Your sin, then, is remaining" (John 9:41).

Besides the Pharisees of Jesus' generation, no generation of feigned believers has failed more spectacularly than modern-day Christian teachers, pastors, and evangelists. Never has Christianity been so accepted. Never in history has a religion inspired so *much* fashionable jewelry and celebrity. Christianity is the largest, most popular cult in the world. This is why I am known for saying, "God is the Savior of all humanity—even Christians." I can understand Him saving the likes of Larry Flynt, Lady Gaga, even Charles Manson. What drives me to laud Him the most is His benevolence toward Billy Graham, Billy Sunday, Benny Hinn, and Joel Osteen. It is a testimony to God's vast love, grace, and patience. He carries with much patience vessels of dishonor (Romans 9:22).

THE MEANING OF HIS NAME

"Knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him." The name God is, in the Greek, "*Theos*," meaning "placer, or subjector." God's name says what He does: He subjects. He is sovereign. Paul is making the case here for a sovereign God Who operates all in accord with the counsel of His will (Ephesians 1:11). Human degradation (which includes the catalog of sins in Romans 1:29-32), begins with a failure to acknowledging God as God and honor His universal placership.

"For in Him, we live and move and are" (Acts 17:28).

Christianity tells us this is not so. We may live in Him, but we do not move in Him. Instead, we each have our own wills. I speak of the doctrine of human free will which, in my opinion, is the most damaging doctrine of all—damaging and fatal. Fatal to what? To true belief. (A person believing in human free will must deny the efficacy of Jesus Christ's faith, confessing instead a salvation based on *their* faith placed freely *in* Jesus Christ.) Such belief is fatal to a true recognition of God, whose very name ("Placer") is all that's needed to disprove the doctrine of human free will.

Then there is the teaching of eternal torment. Not only does this teaching fail to glorify God, it makes Him crueler than any earthly potentate. Hitler incinerated millions of Jews in his ovens, but could never torment them for eternity. For sophisticated,



never-ending torture such as that, we must look to the Creator of the universe, Who sent His Sweet Lamb to rescue humanity from sin and death. If only it had worked. My! Could there be a more demeaning teaching? As a friend of mine recently and rightly said, "God is the most maligned, misrepresented Being in the universe."

Because of this, the world slides into moral disarray. Nowhere is the slide faster than where Christian influence shouts the loudest. This is why, compared to the West, undeveloped countries still live with relative integrity. They don't kill each other as often as we. Ah, be patient. We have yet to send them our best and brightest evangelists. Give us time. Tender your local missionary a dollar, and he or she will hurry off to the bush to make happy tribes-people double the sons of Gehenna that we are.

WHEREFORE AND THEREFORE

Verse 24-26 of Romans 1 reads,

Wherefore God gives them over, in the lusts of their hearts, to the uncleanness of dishonoring their bodies among themselves, those who alter the truth of God into the lie, and are venerated, and offer divine service to the creature rather than the Creator, Who is blessed for the eons! Amen! Therefore God gives them over to dishonorable passions.

The two key words here are “wherefore” of verse 24, and “therefore” of verse 26. What Paul describes next is a result of what went before, that is, neither glorifying or thanking God as God. What follows is the natural result of making God into our own image. (This is the definition of idolatry, by the way: “making God into an image besides that which is true.”)

Concerning idolatry, A.E. Knoch writes in the *Concordant Commentary*:

The apostle now takes up the conduct of those of mankind who had no written revelation. Nature alone ought to teach them much about the Deity. His attributes are in some degree revealed in His works in creation. Such a knowledge of God called for worship and thanksgiving. Instead, they degraded His glory by making images of Him like themselves or even the lower orders of creation. Idols may be nothing in themselves, but, as they are supposed to represent the Deity, it is of the utmost importance that they do not suggest false ideas about Him. Hence He abhors all images and would not allow His people to harbor them. Christ is the One Image that truly represents Him. There is no surer road to degradation than to degrade the object of our worship.

This is why I say that Christianity and its damaging doctrines have wrought more moral harm to the world than any pornographer or bar owner, ever. Paul makes that case here. The many sins listed at the end of chapter one (I’ll quote them in a moment) pour forth from one well: “Knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him” (Romans 1:21) After this, it is a short walk to: “They alter the truth of God into the lie” (Romans 1:25).

CHIEF SOURCE OF IMMORALITY

In January of 2000, I wrote the following. In this article, I speak of the false teaching of eternal torment. Add to

this, please, the false teaching of human free will. It is the false teaching of human free will (“Knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him”), referenced by Paul, that has caused so many to despair of ever choosing Him correctly, or at all. This teaching, along with that of eternal torment, lowers the moral standard of everyone it touches:

I am now convinced that the false teaching of eternal torment has contributed more to the moral downfall of this world (especially that of the western nations) than anyone can or ever could calculate. We, ourselves, have terribly underestimated its effects. Christian Pharisees deny Christ. A hard, cruel set they are, from high to low. Who will expose the unwitting criminals who have added to the bitterness of life? Who will dare probe behind the whitewashed wall to uncover modern-day Pharisees who have, effectually, done more than Hitler, Stalin, or Castro to drive God from men’s minds? We have studied the consequence of atomic bombs, of Communism, of



renegade germs and viruses. Yet we have never subjected to analysis that amazing thing that has been called the consequence of false teaching. Why? Because the consequences of the false teaching of eternal torment (and human free will) are now the fabric of society. They are the dirty fabric long worn to familiarity. The consequences of the false doctrine of eternal torment are so all-pervasive, so closely connected to the invisible and nearly universal undercurrent of human thinking concerning God, that they are impossible now to separate and calculate.

Thomas Allin writes in “Christ Triumphant” (1890),

What, I ask, has the dogma of endless pain and sin really effected? Has it checked the growth of heathenism in our cities? Has it kept the artisan in the fold of Christ? Ineffective always, such teaching is more than ever so in these days, because the intelligent are by it forced into open revolt. Let us not forget how much the traditional creed has fostered in man a spirit of cruelty. It is sad, but true, to recollect how much of the suffering inflicted by man on his brother man, has been due, directly or indirectly, to the belief in an endless hell. It gave to torture an apparent divine sanction. Not alone have the popular doctrines done all this, but they have greatly influenced for evil the general course of human legislation, and human thought. Many pages might be filled in enumerating the horrors, and anguish added to human life by these doctrines.

Thus it is that by this shocking creed the moral tone is lowered all round, wherever it is accepted. Men are familiarized with the idea of suffering and sin as permanent facts. They have even in some sort learned to consider heaven as dependent upon the belief in an endless hell. The very holiest men believing the popular creed are unconsciously depraved, morally and spiritually.

This explains the cruelty of the medieval Crusaders. It explains the Inquisitions backed by Rome. Closer to home, it explains the moral slide of not only pastor’s kids, but the pastors themselves. It explains why your friends or family members, though they call themselves Christians, sit unmoved at the prospect of you going to hell. (They

are quite unmoved by the “hell-bound” plight of most of humanity, for that matter.) This is what not glorying God as God does to people. It numbs them. It is what altering the truth of God into the lie does to people. It makes them morally and spiritually depraved.

This is Paul’s point. It is the *raison d’être* of Romans 1:18-3:20. Paul convicts, not only the human race—which merely *holds* false ideas about God—but especially holds to the fire those propagating the ideas.

Wherefore God gives them over, in the lusts of their hearts, to the uncleanness of dishonoring their bodies among themselves, those who alter the truth of God into the lie, and are venerated, and offer divine service to the creature rather than the Creator, Who is blessed for the eons! Amen!

Therefore God gives them over to dishonorable passions. For their females, besides, alter the natural use into that which is

beside nature. Likewise also the males, besides, leaving the natural use of the female, were inflamed in their craving for one another, males with males effecting indecen-

cy, and getting back in themselves the retribution of their deception which must be.

And according as they do not test God, to have Him in recognition, God gives them over to a disqualified mind, to do that which is not befitting, filled with all injustice, wickedness, evil, greed, distended with envy, murder, strife, guile, depravity, whisperers, vilifiers, detesters of God, outragers, proud, ostentatious, inventors of evil things, stubborn to parents, unintelligent, perfidious, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: those who, recognizing the just statute of God, that those committing such things are deserving of death, not only are doing them, but are endorsing, also, those who are committing them. (Romans 1:24-32).

“Altering the truth of God makes people morally depraved.”

A REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE

Like the Pharisees of old, Christians pride themselves on not being like other people. Take a male acquaintance of mine from my recent past. As a Christian, he believes all of the wrong things about God, beginning with God’s





sovereignty—or lack of it. I want this man to repent and come to a knowledge of the truth in this life. I cannot write him directly (he doesn't listen to me), and I certainly cannot show up at his house. He thinks I am a deceiver, a liar, an unbeliever, a false prophet, a danger to his family. Without the slightest inquiry, he has embraced false testimony concerning me. Additionally, he has intimated that should I attempt an appeal to his better nature (he has one) in person, *my* person would be literally at risk. I believe him; I have seen his handgun.

Last year, I offered this man several opportunities to repent of “the evil he has displayed to me”—quoting the apostle Paul’s accusation against Alexander the copper-smith in 2 Timothy 4:14—but, Christian that he is, he has stubbornly stood his ground.

I share a few details of this story, not only to relieve myself of a burden, but to help you understand the reason why *you* may be hated by those calling themselves God’s representatives of peace and love. (The irony, were it not horrific, would be humorous.)

At base level, there is no difference between this ex-friend and the medieval Crusaders running lances through any liver they deemed “heathen.” There is no difference between him and the Pharisees of Jesus’ day. There is no

difference between him and the Inquisitors of the Catholic persuasion. The hate is the same. The self-righteousness, the plugging of the ears to truth, the justification of evil—it all springs from the same root. There is no other root, and it is found here in the first chapter of Romans:

Knowing God, not as God do they glorify or thank Him, but vain were they made in their reasonings, and darkened is their unintelligent heart. Alleging themselves to be wise, they are made stupid, and they change the glory of the incorruptible God ...

... *wherefore* God gives them over, in the lusts of their hearts ... who alter the truth of God into the lie ... (Romans 1:21-22, 25).

As A.E. Knoch writes in his *Concordant Commentary*:

The failure of Christendom is largely due to the fact that God is unknown, and His place filled by a fierce, vindictive caricature, who is restrained from his thirst for vengeance by the intervention of an effeminate mediator who takes the place of the Christ of God.

The man to whom I refer is a standard-issue Christian who believes homosexuals are going to hell. He, on the other hand, is a hard-working Christian man trying

to do everything right, including raising his children in Christian separation and holiness. Unfortunately for him, his attempt to do everything right is continually sabotaged (he is unaware of it) by his failure to glorify God as God (he believes in human free will and eternal torment) and his altering of the truth of God into a lie. He feeds this



lie every Sunday at his church. Because of this, God has given him over to do most of the things he tries to avoid. Thus, while trying to do everything right, he does nearly everything wrong. The apostle Paul's explanation of this behavioral anomaly is the failure to hold God as God. The god of this man's profession is not the real God. It's an imposter; a caricature.

The caricature god, being non-existent, produces bogus fruit. Or no fruit at all.

It is the way of the Pharisees. The Pharisees also embraced and worshipped a caricature deity. Who tried harder to do the right thing than the Pharisees? Conversely, who blew things worse than the Pharisees? Failure to recognize God as God is a timeless stumbling block. As the truth walks by, religionists of every age and ilk grasp dearly to the lie. Why should my ex-friend act any differently than his deity? If one's deity is a short-tempered, impulsive condemner, why should that god's follower attempt to outdo him?

What follows may strike you as self-serving, but I'll risk it for the sake of a teachable moment.

In brief, this man has entertained false accusations against me and cast me from his life. Even if the accusations were true, he is unwilling to act in accord with godly principles, namely inquiry, grace, and forgiveness. In my opinion, he should at least be willing to deliver me up to Satan for the destruction of my flesh, that I might be restored into his good graces and that my spirit might be saved in the day of Christ Jesus. But no, he will not

even grant me this courtesy. I guess it is hard to deliver up someone to Satan who is thought to be in cahoots with him. My ex-friend plugs his ears to truth, as did Stephen's accusers the day they rushed that disciple to the stoning pit while fondling their rocks.

We will now consider the sins of Romans 1:28-32 in light of their cause. Here is the introductory line:

And according as they do not test God, to have Him in recognition, God gives them over to a disqualified mind, to do that which is not befitting.

Yes, and yes. This fits my ex-friend/antagonist to a T.

My antagonist was well-acquainted with a man named Jakim Tonn. Jakim Tonn was a God-fearing man, seeking the Lord with all his heart, mind, soul, and strength. He believed in the God of Scripture. Jakim was not only a scientist, but a student of the Word. He was a thinker who would not judge anything until he had properly investigated it. He translated the marvelous book, *The Gospel of God's Reconciliation of All in Christ Jesus* from German to English. He had a daughter who skillfully edited it.

The man who shall remain anonymous had easy access to Mr. Tonn's studies and his translated book, but rejected all of it. Instead of investigating truth, as did Mr. Tonn, this other man succumbed to the seduction of religion, unable to resist a set of teachings catering to his need to control his environment and himself. Instead of sober inquiry into the level of God's control and the lengths of His love, this man became vain in his reasonings, and darkened became his unintelligent heart. (It was not always this way; it became so.) Professing himself to be wise, he became stupid (God's word, not mine), altering the truth of God (the truth Jakim Tonn believed and taught), into the lie.

“The caricature god, being non-existent, produces no fruit at all.”

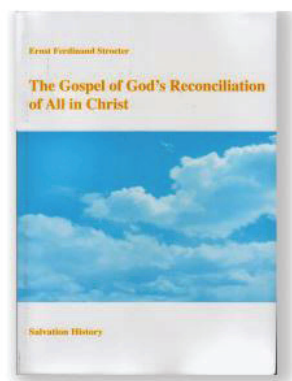
The result is what will ever be the result of a failure to recognize God as God: those under the false influence will fall prey to the Romans 1:28-32 catalog of sin, even while supposing themselves free of it. Because he did not “test God, to have Him in recognition” (Romans 1:28), my ex-friend was delivered by God to dishonorable passions and a disqualified mind, to do that which is not befitting.

The first sins in this catalog (in verse 27) are sexual. My ex-friend would rightly say, “These are not me.” But the fruit of deception consequently becomes more sophisticated and subtle, albeit no less passionate. I claim that it becomes more insidious as well, and all too common among church people:

- ▶ injustice
- ▶ wickedness
- ▶ evil
- ▶ strife
- ▶ guile
- ▶ whisperers
- ▶ vilifiers (to speak ill of; defame; slander)
- ▶ detesters of God (my ex-friend has vehemently and repeatedly rejected the true God)
- ▶ outragers
- ▶ proud
- ▶ stubborn to parents
- ▶ unintelligent
- ▶ perfidious (false, disloyal; unfaithful, traitorous)
- ▶ without natural affection
- ▶ implacable (unbending; merciless; inflexible; not to be appeased, mollified, or pacified)
- ▶ unmerciful

The man is in trouble. Like religionists of old, he stands on the edge of a precipice he cannot see. Millions stand with him. May this be their wake-up call as well.

I say to him: I am still here. This hatred is on your side of the fence, not mine. I know what your problem is: religion. I know how you can fix it: read the book written by the man of God you have heretofore rejected; embrace



truth; walk away from Satan's lies; leave your church—that's where the lies thrive. Stop trying to be an Israelite—it's working. Try not to die before testing God and embracing truth. Even if life leaves you short, the day of your healing will come—not here, on earth, but at a throne before which heaven and earth will have fled (Revelation 20:11-12). This is

yet another appeal from me, the man you once claimed to love. Where is the forgiveness your religion is famous for? Where is the love? I am waiting to see what Jesus would

do. You are acting, instead, like those who killed Him.

“And the way of peace they do not know. There is no fear of God in front of their eyes (Romans 3:17-18).”

MAN-WORSHIP

And they change the glory of the incorruptible God into the likeness of an image of a corruptible human being ... who alter the truth of God into the lie, and are venerated, and offer divine service to the creature rather than the Creator.

According to A.E. Knoch in his *Concordant Commentary on the New Testament*, there may be an allusion here to the prevalent custom of worshipping the Roman emperor:

The prevailing immorality in ancient times was largely attributable to the character of the gods they worshiped. The younger race of gods who held sway on Olympus were usurpers who had murdered the older gods, and were guilty of innumerable deeds of violence and full of sensuality and injustice. If their gods behaved so, it was not difficult for men to emulate their example and endorse such actions in others as well.

Nothing much has changed.

In conclusion, the sorry moral and mental state of Christianity is due largely to the fact that the true God is unknown. His place has been filled by a weak Deity whose will is subject to the will and whim of every human being He has ever created. His place has been filled by an angry, vindictive caricature who will eternally condemn anyone refusing to return his “unconditional” love.

Until this caricature is corrected, the best that believers can hope for is to not be shot. ■ —MZ

GRIDLUCK

Martin, I want to thank you for delivering me from talk radio. I spend a huge chunk of my life sitting in traffic for my job here in Southern California. I am now spending all of my time listening to your Zender Specials while sitting in traffic. This is a huge blessing! —D.S.