

- ↳ We read this depressing passage last time as we looked at what happens to us when we fail to acknowledge God. The wrath of God is a constant not a point in time or boiling point, Romans 1:18. The language here is present-active; the wrath of God has been a constant because sin has been a constant. God is not going to get mad at sin someday, He is already mad and has been mad from the beginning. God's wrath is relentless because the suppression of the truth has been relentless, John 1:1-10; John 3:19-21. Those who love the darkness suppress the light as much as possible. Notice, you either come into the light or, if you will not, you put out the light; the light affects you either way, Genesis 4:1-8. The light is the truth because it reveals the way things really are.

1. The first problem with light or truth suppression is that the truth is literally everywhere, Romans 1:19-20.

- ✓ Where can you go where this testimony is not played continuously?, **Psalm 19:1**. The entire universe is preaching the message that there is a God to whom we will all answer. The devil and his proxies have worked hard to suppress that truth through two avenues.
 - 1) Through the avenue of the completely untenable lies of atheism and humanism embodied in evolution, **Romans 1:21**.
 - 2) Through the means of false religion that was intended to hijack the position of God .
- ✓ Idolatry and false religion allows mankind to make up their own rules of what is acceptable and what isn't, **Romans 1:22-23**. Even with all that noise to suppress the message of the universe and block out the light of truth, humanity still needs to continuously ramp up their production of darkness because the light is so powerful, **Romans 1:24-28**. Have you ever noticed how sin never stays level in our lives, it always increases? It is always headed higher if it is not headed lower in our lives. Drugs are a great physical example of this spiritual problem; it almost always takes more than the last time. What it took to get you to the state of oblivion last time might not be able to get you there this time. What it took to suppress the truth in my life today will not be enough for tomorrow, so I have run after more and more of it. The grace of God and the wrath of God have hemmed in that process and progression over the years so that it didn't become an exponentially increasing thing among us in a short amount of time. God confused our languages at Babel because when we came together with evil intent we became greater than the sum of our parts, so He separated us. External suppression of the truth is big business in our world today.

2. The other problem with light or truth suppression is that the truth isn't just external, it is also internal, Romans 1:18-19.

- ✓ It is very difficult to run or hide from something that is pre-programed into us. Humans are largely non-instinctive creatures unlike the rest of created order. Animals live and die by their instincts (things they know without thinking), but humans live and die by their intelligence or the lack thereof. But there is one thing that is instinctive in the human race: the knowledge that there is a God who created us. That instinct causes big problems if we don't want to listen to it. That instinct sends us on very self-destructive paths because the loudspeaker we hear is not outside of us but inside of our heads and hearts. To get rid of it, we have to destroy ourselves, **Romans 1:28-32**.

God's built-in warning system, that there is a God to whom we will answer, continues to nag at us no matter how much we try to divorce ourselves from it. An alarm goes off in our heads when we break God's laws. To drown it out, we distract ourselves with pursuits of the world: more things, more power, more recognition, etc. To drown it out, we turn to addictions of all varieties to quieten the noise in our souls. We indulge in further wickedness to dampen the sounds in our hearts, but it doesn't work for long, so we invent even greater ways to be wicked. We reach further and run further, even more than our ancestors did in the pursuit of fleeting darkness but the warning buzzer never completely goes away. Some choose death over life to escape the pain of our built-in warning system only to find that Hell is a place where the truth is better known than anywhere on earth.
