

**“No Excuses:  
an inconvenient truth” Part 2”**  
- **Romans 1:18 - 32**

**by Pastor Tim Dodson  
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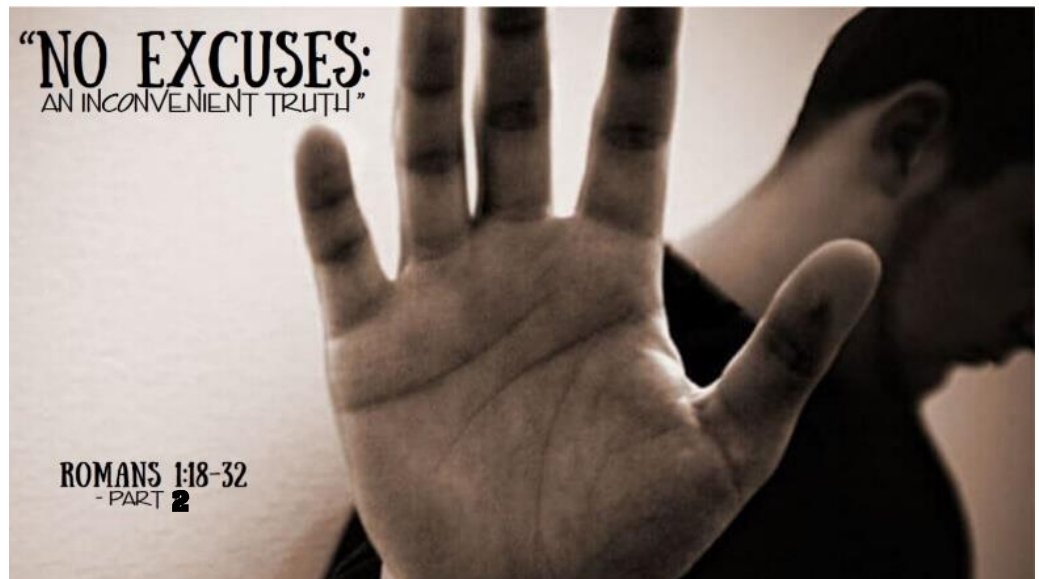
**Romans 1:18-32** *But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. 19 They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. 20 For*

*ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God. 21 Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. 22 Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. 23 And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles. 24 So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. 25 They traded the truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. 26 That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. 27 And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved. 28 Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. 29 Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. 30 They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. 31 They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. 32 They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.*

There are several places in scripture that speaks of family and of the family dynamic. We are taught that marriage and thus the subsequent family setup is a picture of Christ's relationship with the church. We can read some also of the creation process when it comes to mankind...how He made man and woman, as well as all of the created world and all of the intricacies and specificities of His work. Everything operating in perfect harmony in the grand order of His design. Certainly we can gather that all of it was by no means an accident but rather the work of a master artist, and Paul essentially says so in this passage.

Deep in the theology of humanity, the flood record and God's plan, lies doctrinal issues that come together to paint a picture of history, of the heart of man, and God's ultimate plan. Many see scripture as having given us enough 'break crumbs' to follow a trail that began soon after creation, and leads even to the front door of humanity, to current practices of sin and even to the state of the church today.

The book of Genesis speaks of something called the Nephilim (Genesis 6)... a species of "giants" or a kind of "supermen" that seems to have played a part in the flood. Genesis 6:2 & 4 says "...the 'sons of God' (Old Testament phrase meaning angels) saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, **and also afterward**, (meaning after the flood?) when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown." **Numbers 13:33** "And there we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak, who come from the Nephilim), and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them." (See also Deut 1:28, 3:11, Joshua 11:21, 2 Sam 21:18, etc)



The Nephilim are commonly understood as the result of fallen angels (demons) that sexually united with human women and these are the children that resulted. The details and the magnitude of this issue is not clear and certainly a matter of debate. However, the idea behind such says that along with the wholesale spirit of wickedness that was prevalent in those days, there was also...through the Nephilim, the Satanic attempt to corrupt the bloodline of humanity so that the coming Messiah would not be fully human. We gather then at this point that Noah and his family were the last “pure” people on earth...*in more ways than one*. There is evidence of this strange phenomena both before and after the flood, which would lead us to believe that if such a thing happened, then it happened again after the flood. The latter manifest is sighted in the likes of Goliath and other “giants”...some with 6 fingers and 6 toes on each hand and foot, and one sleeping in a bed 14 feet long. (Deut 3:11)

Now whether you are on board with this doesn't change the overt fact that Satan has been attempting for a millennia to destroy the pinnacle cornerstones of God's creation. Not to just undermine both Creator and creation itself, but to skew the very meaning of each picture and each “painting” of artist Jehovah. Just as if in a museum we might step back and seek what the artist was portraying in his works. What was He or she trying to say? While Satan has been unable to destroy the art, He has thus focused his attention on altering its perception...its public “meaning.”

We see today the incredible onslaught against the family that is described in scripture. Through divorce, remarriage, the practice of ‘living together’ and having children, gay marriage, etc, we have in a generation seemingly lost the definition of what a family is to be or what one is to look like in Christ.

Because one can simply “identify” as a different-than-birth gender, no longer is what God made a person sufficient. One can even be “genderfluid” which allows a person to declare what they are today dependent upon how they felt when they woke up this morning, and please remember...you as a mere bystander are expected to roll with all this. Anatomy, dna, and genes, are no longer the definitive declaration, but rather simply what I say I am. The official boys over at the land of the dictionary just recently changed the meaning of the pronoun “they” to cover this.

Truth is therefore what I say it is, not the facts and evidence. This understanding then goes on naturally to affect our legal system, where proof and evidence is rapidly taking a backseat to accusations and “beliefs.” I just have to *say* it happened and your life is over as you knew it. No evidence is necessary.

Spanking children is all but illegal now, and bills have been made and many passed giving more and more rights to children and taking them from their parents. Many political experts predict that we are but a step away from declaring children to have full adult rights. One problem that all of this has is this ride “has no brakes.” Once we started down this road, we can't tell the next guy that he can't have the same considerations, so thus it seems daily we add another letter to the LGBT acronym. Today we have LGBTIP2SQQAPKA – Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, intersex, pansexual, two-spirit, queer, questioning, asexual, polyamorous, kinky, and allies. What do we tell the pedophile or the one who wants to practice bestiality? They have both, by the way, openly said their day is next in coming. With the surge of children's' rights and the rise in child emancipation, how will stop them from have a relationship with a much older adult if they...even as a minor...want it so?

I am not stating all of these things in some sort of radical religious right tantrum. Ironically, I am politically almost a libertarian in my standing. I have no desire to try to legislate morality or try to force anyone to act like a Christian when they are not! I am however also a realist, which leads me to understand that there is “more of them, than of me,” and I am reminded that scripture clearly prophesies that the world will wax worse and worse. It will not “get better” because of my rabid “dominion theology” where we as Christians are going to vote in our chosen electorate and mandate conservative laws. The Bible says that “*evil men and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived*” (2 Timothy 3:13). My point herein is that Satan is indeed actively undermining the foundations of not just *Christianity* but even *humanity*. Not just the *Bible*, but even what we have long accepted as *reality*...

In just a few brief years, homosexuality has gone from an officially stated mental illness to an accepted *and even celebrated* “alternative lifestyle.” Again, in the non-christian world I can very much understand a persons any and every attempt to cling to every shred of happiness and security that they can lay their hands on. In this, I do not blame them whatsoever. I do not “draw the line in the sand” here. The problem lies in the attempt to “have their

cake and eat it too.” Meaning they want my God **and** the practice of what He Himself declares as sin. And that, they cannot have. This is where the “line” is drawn. I know...I know...truth is what they say it is! But let us stick to the facts here, and scripture clearly says that sexual practice outside of marriage...*and there are numerous manifests of such...is sin*. And God will never condone sin of any kind. Please note the following passages:

**Genesis 19, Leviticus 18 & 20, 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, 1 Timothy 1:8-10.**

Are these passages a prohibition against the act of homosexual sex? Absolutely. The Bible clearly lists such a *sin*, not a permissible “alternative lifestyle.” But let us not forget that with no less gusto the Scriptures prohibits extra-marital heterosexual sex, along with the sins of lying, gossip, rebellion against God ordained authority, gluttony, and drunkenness among others. What I want to know is where are the petitions, placards and marches against these sins? How come Christians aren’t lining up to pass legislation against *those* sins? Is it because we want to personally sanction *these* as earnestly as the homosexual wants to sanction his or her actions?

And most importantly in all of this is to be reminded that God loves the sinner. If he doesn’t, then He doesn’t love you either! “Sin is sin” to God, and rarely does He distinguish between one over another. He does clearly say that *any* unrighteousness will separate us from our Creator, and He is not hating the homosexual and He is not reserving an especially hot corner of hell for them! He loves the homosexual, just as He loves the ‘illicit sexual’ heterosexual. But He does not love their sin. And that is exactly what He expects of us, as we are called to strive to be like Him.

I know...this is a hot political issue, and these days it can cause a social storm against you. A lot of pastors would simply avoid the whole subject! But such is to be expected more and more as we near the end, so I am ok with that. I also know that the LGBT community is one of the most protected minorities on earth right now, and I as a Christian am one of the least protected. I also know that my position in this matter is likely to gain me no new friends. Because on the one side I am being held with a gun to my head to support any and all sexual behavior and identity choices, *which I won’t*, and on the other side, there are elements of the religious right who spew hatred and demands I do the same, *and I won’t do that either*.

Please notice something here in the text that is so important for the believing church today. It says “...*God gave them up...*” Let us notice that He did not picket, sign petitions, financially back candidates, or push legislation. (*Nor did He put a politically motivated bumper sticker on His car!*) He did not attempt to **make** anyone **be** something! For as we pointed out in part 1 of this subject, He had already given them the understanding of His reality. Now the choice was theirs! Now the choice is *ours*! I could argue the natural and anatomical facts. I could talk of the dangers of disease and the steeply tilted cultural, psychological and social statistics against such lifestyles. I could debate, name call, and scream profanities. And all of it would absolutely change nothing!

Today we hear so much about the attempt to legislate the definition of marriage between one man and one woman. But we *know* this, and any attempts to legislate this morality will fail. Through force we have not stopped homosexuality, nor abortion, nor the uncontrolled spread of pornography.

What can we do? What are we **called** to do? We are to do what God has done. We do all we can to make men aware of their God and His Kingdom path. We “live it out” in their midst. And then we “*give them up.*” And us? We are to “*come up from amongst them and be separate...*” 2 Cor 6:17.

Please note that I’m not talking about taking a fatalist attitude where I throw my hands in the air and move to Gilligan’s island. I am to always and forever *represent Christ in all things*. And that is not ducking the punch or dodging the bullet. Because the fact is, most everyone will make that hard enough for you. Because clearly we know that it is not enough today to be tolerant. You are clearly expected moreover to *condone and support*. And I can’t do that for either of the two teams on the field. And that will make me a pretty unpopular guy. Like Jesus I guess...

“*God gave them up...*” Paul says “*To deliver such a one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh...*” 1Corinthians 5:5

What does “*receiving in themselves the penalty of the error which was due*” mean? Men have been posing that question since the discover of AIDS and even before. “*Did God create AIDS to punish the homosexual?*” Well, is the child who falls to such as a result of a blood transfusion being punished? Of course not.

But there is no doubt that God *knew* of such a terrible disease. No doubt furthering His warning to not go down such a road. But man would not listen. He was controlled by his lusts and controlled by the “god of sensuality.” A recent survey has found that *83% of the homosexual men estimated they had had sex with 50 or more partners in their lifetime, 43% estimated they had sex with 500 or more partners; 28% with 1,000 or more partners. 79% of homosexual men say over half of sex partners are strangers.*

So God let them chose. He “let them go.” God “*gave them over...*” Why? Why would He do such a thing? Is He just giving up on us? No, because He loves us and because *true love* requires free-will.

Throughout the whole Old Testament we have God dealing with man in his rebellion. Proving repeatedly that we cannot make it on our own! We have the record preserved for all of time! The story repeats itself from Genesis to Malachi.

God pours out His love and man responds for a time until his lust becomes more to him than his God. Man then rebels, slides into sin and spiritual rejection, creates new gods in the image of his foolish mind and then God punishes in justice. Man then repents, God pours out His love, and the cycle begins again.

Man must ultimately *choose* to love Him. We must *choose* to obey. We have *free-will*. We must decide.

**1:29-32 - 28** *Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy.*

Welcome to today’s daily newspaper! We can all point our finger at someone else and some other person’s sin. But truth be told, we all can find ourselves somewhere on this list. We are all a part of the WSGHEMQDMG group. Thus proving that we **all** need Christ’s salvation and God’s grace. **All of us.**

The list reads as the “who’s who” of sin. We need not look hard to find ourselves in this list. We don’t have to be homosexual to be in rebellion before God! You see, I am not...*we are not as a church*, trying to make you a heterosexual. We’re trying to make you a Christian. We’re trying to point you toward Christ and show you what it looks like to be a born again child of God. I am totally at peace letting God handle the rest. For it’s all right here in his letter. And long before, it was written on your soul.

The unredeemed will not find God through the rejection, *voluntarily, policed or legislated*, of these actions in his or her life. But he or she *will* find freedom from these things through redemption. Giving everything over to God will change our world, heterosexual or homosexual. And for the individual that has truly experienced such knows well that there is no price too high to pay...nothing that is worth more, for the redemption of my soul and a relationship with Christ. The unredeemed world, while they know God is there, they do not fully understand God’s displeasure in these things. *But we do. We do...*What will **we** do with this information?