

Devotional Questions – Romans 1:18-32

1. *What is mankind's sin that God is angry with?*
2. *How can God be a God of wrath and a God of love?*
3. *How has God made Himself known (Romans 1:18-20)?*
4. *When did God make Himself known (Romans 1:20)?*
5. *What are God's invisible attributes or qualities* (Romans 1:20)? *These are **“the invisible things of him”** not simply qualities but of His very self **“the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy”** Isaiah 57:15.*
6. *Why are men without excuse (Romans 1:21)?*
7. *What reasons does Paul give for God judging people (Romans 1:18-23)?*
8. *How does God judge mankind (Romans 1:24-32)?*
9. *What do men exchange* (Romans 1:23, 25)? *Nothing is exchanged. Men **“changed the glory of the uncorruptible God”** Romans 1:23 by worshipping evolution and **“changed the truth of God into a lie”** Romans 1:25 by accusing the 1611 Holy Bible of error. See *Questions 1, 4, 7.*
 - a. *What is given up?*
 - b. *What is received?**

Devotional Questions – Romans 1:18-32, Answers to Questions

See Dr Ruckman's commentary *The Book of Romans* pp 38-68 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1485-1486 for detailed comment.

1. *What is mankind's sin that God is angry with?*

Mankind's sin that God is angry with is specifically with respect to ***“men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness”*** Romans 1:18 in that they charge His Book the 1611 Holy Bible with error. 19th century preacher Thomas DeWitt Talmage provided a succinct response.

Note the following from www.timefortruth.co.uk/why-av-only/ 'O Biblios' – *The Book* p 112.

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“The Defects of the KJV”

10.1 “Urgent Reasons” for Overthrowing the AV1611

Our critic charges the Holy Bible with so many *“defects”* that in his opinion it must be replaced as a matter of urgency. I begin therefore with a quote from a sermon published in 1880 by Thomas DeWitt Talmage, 1832-1902, a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, of whom Fuller [*A Treasury of Evangelical Writings* David Otis Fuller, D.D.] p 390, writes *“He attracted large crowds whenever he preached...Three times his churches were demolished by fire. Around the world, over three thousand newspapers carried his sermons. He lectured on an average of fifty times a year.”* Talmage writes [*The Last Grenade* Dr Peter S. Ruckman] p 293:

“Now let us divide off...Let those people who do not believe the Bible and who are critical of this and that part of it, go clear over to the other side. Let them stand behind the devil's guns...Give us the out-and-out opposition of infidelity rather than the work of these hybrid theologians, these mongrel ecclesiastics, these half-evoluted people who BELIEVE the Bible and do NOT believe it. I TAKE UP THE KING JAMES TRANSLATION; I CONSIDER IT TO BE A PERFECT BIBLE” (Vol. 4, p 187; Vol. 18, p 255).

“The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD” Jeremiah 23:28.

2. *How can God be a God of wrath and a God of love?*

God does so in and through the Lord Jesus Christ.

“For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life” Romans 5:10.

3. How has God made Himself known (Romans 1:18-20)?

God has done so by means of:

“the things that are made”

“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” Romans 1:20.

“their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing”

“For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another” Romans 2:14-15.

“his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things”

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high” Hebrews 1:1-3.

4. When did God make Himself known (Romans 1:20)?

Romans 1:20 states ***“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”***

God’s initial revelation of Himself was ***“from the creation of the world”*** not after it ***“so that they are without excuse”*** who deny ***“that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear”*** Hebrews 11:3 by resorting to imaginary random evolution being one of the ***“oppositions of science falsely so called”*** 1 Timothy 6:20. See:



www.chick.com/reading/tracts/0055/0055_01.asp

5. What are God’s invisible attributes or qualities* (Romans 1:20)? *These are ***“the invisible things of him”*** not simply qualities but of His very self ***“the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy”*** Isaiah 57:15.

These things are ***“his eternal power and Godhead.”*** Isaiah describes the first of these things in that God Himself is not subject to any weakening, wearing out, infirmity or limitation. Note the cross reference of ***“the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth”*** with Romans 1:20 ***“the creation of the world”*** and Hebrews 11:3 ***“that the worlds were framed by the word of God.”***

“Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding” Isaiah 40:28.

See attached study ***“The Godhead”*** with respect to ***“Godhead”*** showing that God is Three *whole* Persons by which man has this witness within himself according to Romans 1:20 in that he is also three *whole* persons being ***“whole spirit and soul and body”*** 1 Thessalonians 5:23.

6. *Why are men without excuse (Romans 1:21)?*

Men are without excuse because like Cain **“when they knew God”** Romans 1:21 they wilfully and **“wickedly departed from my God”** 2 Samuel 22:22, Psalm 18:21, like Cain did. God punished Cain but never commanded Cain to depart from God. Cain, like other men, did so on his own initiative. Romans 1:21 simply describes the outcomes. **“And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden”** Genesis 4:16.

7. *What reasons does Paul give for God judging people (Romans 1:18-23)?*

See *Question 1* and remarks on Romans 1:18. Men continued in direct disobedience to God:

“when they knew God, they glorified him not as God” Romans 1:21

By contrast Paul states **“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God”** 1 Corinthians 10:31.

“neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations” Romans 1:21

By contrast Paul states **“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you”** 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

“Professing themselves to be wise they became fools” Romans 1:22

By contrast Paul states **“Which things also we speak, not in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual”** 1 Corinthians 2:13.

See *Question 4* and remarks on Romans 1:20, 1 Timothy 6:20, Hebrews 11:3 with respect to Romans 1:23 and its warning on the evolutionary tree of **“the oppositions of science falsely so called”** 1 Timothy 6:20. God’s answer to evolution is the End Times monstrosities of Revelation 9:7-8 **“And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.”**

8. *How does God judge mankind (Romans 1:24-32)?*

God’s judgement of men is stage-wise, with respect to the *heart*, the *affections* and the *mind*.

“God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts” Romans 1:24.

“God gave them up unto vile affections” Romans 1:26.

“God gave them over to a reprobate mind” Romans 1:28.

The judgement is stage-wise because the Lord urges repentance at each stage, though it be spurned. **“For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not”** Isaiah 30:15 **“but his hand is stretched out still”** Isaiah 5:25, 9:12, 17, 21, 10:4.

9. *What do men exchange* (Romans 1:23, 25)?* *Nothing is exchanged. Men **“changed the glory of the uncorruptible God”** Romans 1:23 by worshipping evolution and **“changed the truth of God into a lie”** Romans 1:25 by accusing the 1611 Holy Bible of error. See *Questions 1, 4, 7*.

a. *What is given up?*

See remarks under *. Nothing is given up but God’s judgement follows. See *b.* below.

b. *What is received?*

See *Questions 4, 7* with respect to Romans 1:23 and Revelation 9:7-8 for what men receive for disobedience to 1 Corinthians 2:13.

See *Question 1* with respect to Romans 1:25 and note *the judgement of God in type on the church for departing from “the king’s word”* 2 Samuel 24:4. **“In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes”** Judges 21:25.

“The Godhead”

Introduction

The word **“Godhead”** occurs *three* times in scripture; Acts 17:29, Romans 1:20, Colossians 2:9. Each occurrence of the word **“Godhead”** has a special significance with respect to the word itself. 1 John 5:7 identifies the three Persons of the **“Godhead.”**

“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one” 1 John 5:7.

Fundamentalists have disputed 1 John 5:7 but Gail Riplinger, *New Age Bible Versions* p 381, states that *The testimony of early writers, the great mass of Old Latin and Vulgate manuscripts, the necessities of Greek syntax and the cry of the priesthood of believers all mandate its inclusion in the text...*

Versions: Old Syriac A.D. 170, Old Latin A.D. 200, Vulgate: 4th and 5th century, Italic: 4th and 5th century.

Writers: Tatian A.D. 150, Tertullian A.D. 200, Cyprian A.D. 225, Athanasius A.D. 350, Priscillian A.D. 350, Vadmarium A.D. 380, Cassian A.D. 435, Jerome A.D. 450, Cassiodorus A.D. 480, Vigilus A.D. 484, Victor-Vita A.D. 489, Fulgentius A.D. 533, PS Athanasius A.D. 550.

Writings: Liber Apologeticus A.D. 350, Council of Carthage A.D. 415.

See also www.timefortruth.co.uk/bible-studies/alan-oreillys-studies.php 1 John 4, 5.

Considering the three references in scripture to the term **“Godhead”** in turn:

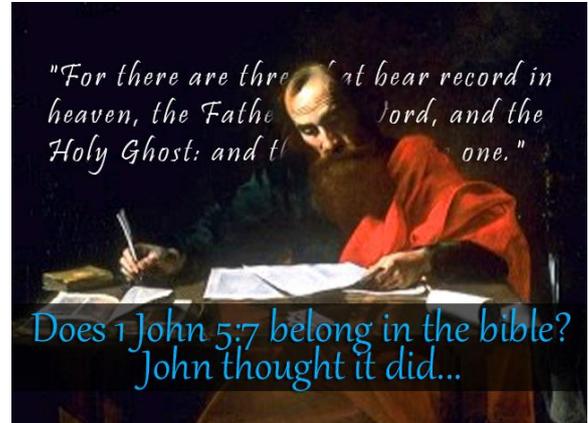
Acts 17:29

Acts 17:29 is significant as *the first mention* of the word **“Godhead”** in scripture.

“Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device” Acts 17:29.

Paul's statement condemns idolatry but it also shows that *even idolatrous heathen* (apart from **“certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks”** Acts 17:18, who may be found in various academic circles today) had a better understanding of **“the true God and eternal life”** 1 John 5:20 than modern version editors and Bible critics like James White and Robert A. Joyner. Acts 17:29 shows that they knew that they needed three materials; gold, silver, stone to represent **“THE UNKNOWN GOD”** Acts 17:23 *even in idolatry*. Note then Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians. **“Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble”** 1 Corinthians 3:12.

Noting again that **“we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone”** because these substances do not live and God is **“the living God”** Deuteronomy 5:26, Joshua 3:10, 1 Samuel 17:26, 36, 2 Kings 19:4, 16, Psalm 42:2, 84:2, Isaiah 37:4, 17, Jeremiah 10:10, 23:36, Daniel 6:20, 26, Hosea 1:10, Matthew 16:16, 26:63, John 6:69, Acts 14:15, Romans 9:26, 2 Corinthians 3:3, 6:16, 1 Timothy 3:15, 4:10, 6:17, Hebrews 3:12, 9:14, 10:31, 12:22, Revelation 7:2; 30 references in all, these substances are nevertheless a reminder of **“the Godhead.”** See the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1513:



1 John 5:7 and the Record in Heaven
www.defendproclaimthefaitth.org/1_john_57_and_the_record_in_heaven.html

- **“Gold”** is a reminder of **“the Father”** 1 John 5:7 in that gold was used extensively in the construction of the tabernacle and in the making of the priestly garments. **“All the gold that was occupied for the work in all the work of the holy place, even the gold of the offering, was twenty and nine talents, and seven hundred and thirty shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary”** Exodus 38:24 with Exodus 25, 26, 36, 37. **“And these are the garments which they shall make; a breastplate, and an ephod, and a robe, and a brodered coat, a mitre, and a girdle: and they shall make holy garments for Aaron thy brother, and his sons, that he may minister unto me in the priest’s office”** Exodus 28:4 with Exodus 28, 39.
- **“Silver”** is a reminder of **“the Word”** 1 John 5:7 because silver is the price of redemption, Exodus 30:13-15, Numbers 3:47-49 and **“the Word”** John 1:1, 2, 14 is the Lord Jesus Christ **“In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins”** Colossians 1:14.
- **“Precious stones”** are a reminder of **“the Holy Ghost”** 1 John 5:7 because **“the Spirit is life because of righteousness”** Romans 8:10 and **“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ”** 1 Peter 2:5 **“And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him”** Malachi 3:17.

As indicated even unsaved idolatrous heathen (apart from **“certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks”** Acts 17:18, who may be found in various academic circles today) understood **“the Godhead”** Acts 17:29 better than those who changed **“Godhead”** into **“Deity”** etc. and those who approved of or even condoned that change.

Romans 1:20

“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” Romans 1:20.

Romans 1:20 associates God’s **“eternal power”** with the Godhead. *All three Persons of the Godhead manifest this eternal power.*

“God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God” Psalm 62:11.

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” Matthew 28:18.

“Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost” Romans 15:13.

Colossians 2:9

“For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily” Colossians 2:9.

Colossians 2:9 associates **“fulness”** with the Godhead. *All three Persons of the Godhead manifest this fulness.* In addition to Colossians 2:9 note:

“Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there” Psalm 139:7-8.

“Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD” Jeremiah 23:24.

Conclusion

The word **“Godhead”** confirms Three Persons, Acts 17:29, **“the power of God”** Luke 22:69, Romans 1:20 and **“the fulness of God”** Ephesians 3:19, Colossians 2:9 as **“a threefold cord”** Ecclesiastes 4:12 **“and these three are one”** 1 John 5:7.