

ROMANS

1:18-32

Romans 1:18-32 (The dissent and descent of man)

Taught by Simeon Forder on Sunday morning, 6th February 2023 @ Deal Christian Fellowship

Reading: Romans 1:16-32

Introduction

Last week we began a journey through this incredible book of the Bible, Romans; a letter written from the apostle Paul to the Christians in Rome. At 16 chapters long, it is jointly Paul's longest letter, and it covers much ground - so we're only getting started.

Chapter overview of Romans

- **Chapters 1-8:** Christian doctrine
 - Sin (1-3), Salvation (4-5), Sanctification (6-8)
- **Chapters 9-11:** Israel
 - Israel - Past (9), Present (10), Future (11)
- **Chapters 12-16:** Practical Christian living
 - Practical Christianity

Having begun this letter in usual style by talking of God's grace and peace, Paul encouraged these Christians by saying how their faith was spoken of throughout the whole world, how he prayed for them without ceasing, and how he longed to come to them in person; to be a blessing to them, to be encouraged by them - and how he was willing to preach the gospel in Rome. A gospel that he was not ashamed of, because it was and is gospel that can save anyone. Not by doing good works, but by faith in Jesus Christ.

We pick up our study then half way through the first chapter, and we'll see Paul demonstrate through this and subsequent chapters how unrighteous we are. That our problem is sin. Indeed, as we'll read in chapter 3, not one of us is righteous. And in doing so, he'll show that the gospel is for everyone because everyone needs the gospel! That's the purpose of what we read here, starting in verse 18:

Romans 1:18

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

God's wrath is not the same as man's wrath. For we show our wrath or anger whenever we are stuck in traffic, when someone ate the last kit-kat in the cupboard, or when we have a slow internet connection, right? But God's wrath, His anger, is completely justified - because it is revealed to be against all *ungodliness* and *unrighteousness* of men. And as we will read in chapter 2 next week, there is no partiality with God. His wrath isn't revealed against *some* ungodliness, and *some* unrighteousness. Not against some people who sin and not others. But against *all*. And note that carefully - His wrath isn't revealed against the things you don't like in this world. His wrath is revealed against *all* of us, for as we'll read in chapter 3 - *all* have sinned and fallen short of *His* standard, which is holiness.

The word *ungodliness* is a good summary of the first four of the 10 commandments - that is, those commandments that deal with our relationship with God. While the word *unrighteousness* is a good summary of the last 6 commandments - that is those that deal with our relationships with other humans. So God's wrath is revealed in against those who violate his standards, who suppress - or hold back - the truth in unrighteousness.

So why is it that anyone wants to suppress the truth? Well, as we read in verse 28 of this chapter, those whom God is speaking of here did not *like* to retain God in their knowledge. So this is an intentional denial of God's existence, His authority as creator, and the conscience that He has given them. Sinners do not want to be accountable. And that is the way it has always been since the fall of man. We read in Genesis chapter 3 how Adam & Eve sinned, yet when God spoke to them, Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the serpent. They didn't want to take personal responsibility for their sin. Neither did those who Paul is writing about here... *or anyone* - including us.

Charles Spurgeon made this insightful comment:

The only real argument against the Bible is an unholy life. When a man argues against the Word of God, follow him home, and see if you cannot discover the reason of his enmity to the Word of the Lord. It lies in some sort of sin.

Charles Spurgeon

Like someone in the public spotlight who has done wrong may want to suppress the truth coming out in the media, so Paul says those who have sinned in full view of God want to suppress the truth that they have offended Him and violated His standards. But of course, that's crazy to even attempt, for God knows everything we have ever done, everything we are doing, and everything we will ever do. It's madness to presume we can hide our sin.

Romans 1:19

because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

So God has made His existence clear to them. And to us. And the conscience is one of those ways. The word conscience coming from two words - con: *with* and science: *knowledge* - so the implication is that when you do something against your conscience, you do it with the knowledge that it is wrong. If you like, it is God's moral compass that He has put in each of us.

Indeed, whoever thought... "adultery was the right thing to do", "murder was the right thing to do", "theft was the right thing to do"?

Paul will go on to say in chapter 2...

Romans 2:14-15

for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them)

God has also made His existence clear to all mankind through His creation. We read in verse 20:

Romans 1:20

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

Paul could not make it clearer, that as humans we know that you cannot have order without someone who has set things in order. You cannot have design without a designer. You cannot have creation without a creator. Paul isn't saying everyone knows the gospel automatically - but he is saying that we are all without excuse when it comes to acknowledging God for who He is: our Creator. Indeed, we only need look at creation to see the wondrous works of God.

However, there are many who suggest that all we see is the result of a cosmic accident. But argue as they might, Darwin's theory of evolution is built on a calamitous mistake as Darwin built his theory on the idea of a simple cell. Something which does not exist, for no cell is simple at all! For a start, the DNA that contains the genetic code for our bodies contains millions of pieces of information and is processed by the body in a such a compact and efficient way that it puts the very best supercomputers to shame. And if we look at the complexity of the eye, or the brain we are left in no doubt that this could not happen by accident.

There are many well meaning atheists who struggle to understand what they see as problems with faith, but the reality is that more faith is required to believe in evolution than intelligent design. Sir Isaac Newton said:

Atheism is so senseless. When I look at the solar system, I see the earth at the right distance from the sun to receive the proper amounts of heat and light. This did not happen by chance.

Sir Isaac Newton

Considering the stars, it's reported that Napoleon, the French Emperor, once pointed to them and said to a group of his admirals: *"Sirs, if you're going to get rid of God, you must get rid of those."*

That should remind us of what we read in Psalms where King David wrote::

Psalm 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.

The intricacy and complexity we see from the smallest cell to the whole universe should leave us in no doubt that there is a Creator. There is no other way to honestly explain how everything came to be. But of course, that presents the uncomfortable idea that we might be accountable to Him.

Gerard Chrispin puts it like this in his Bible Panorama...

Sinful man is under God's condemnation and God has revealed that He is wrathful towards this. Man everywhere is without excuse, because even without the gospel, God is discernible in the wonderful things He has made in nature. No one can say from a sincere heart that there is no God.

Gerard Chrispin

The Bible Panorama, Gerard Chrispin, Romans Chapter 1 v18-20 comment p.478

Now, we could easily remain here and spend an evening, a day, a month or even far longer looking at the evidence for creation - or intelligent design as it is called by some - but, I'm only briefly going to touch on these things, as what Paul is talking about here is not the intellect, but the heart. And he continues in verse 21...

Romans 1:21

because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

In other words, when people don't *want* to believe there is a God, they'll deny He exists, deny that we have a Creator, and thus remove the risk that they might be accountable to Him. Fooling themselves, they turn off the light, and find themselves in darkness. And in this and subsequent verses we see the real descent of man.

Peter also speaks of this as wilful ignorance:

2 Peter 3:5-7

For this they wilfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

Paul continues in verse 22:

Romans 1:22-23

Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

Not only does believing anything other than that *God created the world* require wilful ignorance of the evidence *for* creation, it also requires believing *foolish* ideas. Specifically, the foolish idea of evolution. Sadly, we and our children are now taught from a young age that evolution is fact, but the reality is that it is not only scientifically unprovable, but scientifically impossible. And so to suggest that it is proven fact is laughable at best, and deceptive at worst.

But of course, if there is no God, there is no accountability, no sin, and we can do whatever we want. You can see why it is a popular thing to accept and promote.

The next verse says...

Romans 1:24

Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonour their bodies among themselves,

This is the first of 3 times in 5 verses that Paul says that God gave them up or over to something. That is, God literally handing them over to what they want to do. Handing them over to the master they choose, as cruel as that master might be. In the end, there are really two kinds of people. Those who say to God "have *Your way*". Or those to whom God says "have *your way*". But having our own way is not as great as we first think it will be.

As we turn our backs on our Creator, who made us for Himself and His purposes, we struggle to know who we are. Without worshipping the One we were created to worship, we now worship whatever poor substitute we can find. Including ourselves, our bodies, and sexual gratification.

We read...

Romans 1:25

who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

If you're not sure if this worship of the creature is the case, turn on your TV. From reality TV shows, to movies, to panel discussions, awards ceremonies and more we see mankind glorifying itself. Celebrities are idolised. Bands, singers, actors, entertainers, and sports teams are worshipped. And it's not limited to those things of course... we lift up on high those with the most power, the most money, the most followers on Twitter, the most likes on Instagram, or most views on TikTok.

We may think we've moved past the worship of Aphrodite and temple prostitutes and such, but consider the worship of sex in the pornography industry - how frighteningly large that is (and what horrible practices it drives such as human trafficking and exploitation of women). So-called men's and women's magazines are so sexualised they would have been considered pornography just a short time ago, and magazines for our teenagers are not far behind.

The gym has become the church where people go to worship and serve their own body and that of others. And then throughout the world and throughout ages we see the worship of eagles, or cows, or cats, Sphinx's and bulls. There were also the Greek gods - a number of whom were half man, half animal.

Man is desperate to worship... to worship anything but the God who made them. And have bought into the lie that created things will satisfy them more than their Creator.

Romans 1:26

For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

This is the second mention we have of God letting mankind have his own way. But also the third mention of an exchange. First (in v23) man changed the glory of God into corruptible man - and birds, and four footed animals and creeping things. That is, man moved from worshipping God, to worshipping idols. Second (in v25), man exchanged the truth of God for a lie - that is, to appease their conscience it was easier to believe the lie that there is no God (and everything came to be by chance) than to acknowledge the truth. And now third (here in v26), having moved from idolatry to wilful ignorance, mankind now moves to immorality - exchanging all that God had given them for His purposes, for the pursuit of of their own wants and lusts. We read on:

Romans 1:27

Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

Now, these two verses are obviously speaking of homosexuality, and very clearly the Bible does not approve of the act nor the lustful thoughts leading to it, no matter how some would try and twist it. Indeed, let me be clear that the Bible - here and elsewhere - calls the practice of homosexuality, sin. Just as it does the practice of adultery or fornication. God cares what we do with our bodies - what we do with them is not a trivial matter to Him.

"But I was born that way" is the argument of many who practice homosexuality. Well, in a way, they're right. For we're all born with the tendency and desire to sin. Anyone who has ever raised a child can tell you that you don't need to teach them to do wrong - they do it naturally! But that neither justifies their behaviour nor means we are to affirm our children in doing wrong. We don't sin because we don't want to do it, but because it appeals to us. Because we want to do it.

So, you might ask, is it wrong to be same sex attracted? No. Attraction to sin is what we all wrestle with - it is the battle of flesh vs the Spirit, which Paul will get to later in this letter. But as with all attractions that lead to sin, we are to take those thoughts captive to the obedience of Christ. Now it should be said, and we each should note, that we each wrestle with different things. While one man or woman may wrestle with same sex attraction, another may wrestle with the desire to commit adultery, and another may have a wretched temper that they struggle to keep under control.

In God's eyes, all sin is inexcusable. But our lives can be changed. There is hope. And that hope is in Christ alone, who not only paid for our sin, but (if we are Christians) lives in us that we may be separated unto Him in all we do. We read in Paul's first letter to the church in Corinth, from where he is now writing to the church in Rome:

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

And such were some of you. Whatever your sin. Whatever you struggle with, there is forgiveness and newness of life in Jesus Christ. And that's good news, for by the time we get to the end of this chapter, we will each be implicated in our own sin against God.

Now, at this point I want to note that out of at least 26 sins listed in this chapter, homosexuality gets a mention just twice. So we are not to get this out of perspective and think it is the only thing God cares about - that would be ignorant of all else the Bible teaches.

But, in a culture that not only accepts but celebrates homosexuality, I think it helpful for us to consider how we respond to the acceptance of this sin in the world around us. And in short, we should respond just as we should regarding *any* other sin.

Responding to the acceptance of sin

1. We are not to be surprised
2. We are not to compromise on what the Bible says about how we act
3. We are not to compromise on how the Bible says we should respond

First, **we are not to be surprised** - our generation is not the first to deal with this or any other sin. Indeed, Paul was writing to Christians in Rome, which was not only the seat of government, but the scene of much wickedness. As mentioned last week, Paul wrote this letter in around 57-58AD, which would place this at the time of the Emperor Nero's reign. Even just a quick look at the details of his life shows that he murdered his own mother, was implicated in the murder of one of his 3 wives, and he married two men - one who acted as his husband, Nero himself as the bride, and the other took the place of his wife, wearing the regalia that was customary for Roman empresses. Furthermore, Corinth, the very place Paul was writing this letter from, was described as the homosexual capital of the Roman Empire. And indeed Jesus in Luke 17 warned how the world would act near His return - saying it would be just like Sodom & Gomorrah where homosexuality was more than commonplace. We are not alone in history.

So then, does that mean we just accept it is the way it is and dismiss it? No, we're to understand how it is - but **we are also not to compromise on what the Bible says about how we act.**

Therefore we are not to take part in, or affirm or encourage any sin whatsoever. We must not make the mistake in thinking that because our culture is ok with this sin, that the Bible or God is. Because the Bible isn't. And God is not ok with it. Here, Paul is not singling this out as the only sin, but he is clearly saying it is sin.

Therefore, we cannot and will not marry a same sex couple in this church, nor give our blessing - formal or informal - to anyone entering into a same sex relationship. And lastly, we would, in the event of a member of this church entering into a same sex relationship, call to their attention what the Bible says on the subject. Just as we should, if someone were to have an intimate heterosexual relationship outside marriage, or enter into a marriage with an unbeliever.

And third, let's note that **we are not to compromise on how the Bible says we should respond**. That is just as on one hand we are not to affirm someone in their sin, we are neither to revile them - to criticise in an abusive or angrily insulting manner. We can't go round calling people names. We are not to be unkind, nor unloving, or unforgiving. We must not gossip, backbite or show any violence or maliciousness. Doing so would be to be completely ignorant of all that Paul will next say in this chapter and only seek to demonstrate our own sinful nature.

I think it is fair to say that this is a subject we should take great care in. Always remembering that we are to hold fast to the truth, to speak it in love, and to show grace - knowing that our own sin was enough for Jesus to be nailed to the cross in our place.

As for the penalty Paul mentions here, there is much we could discuss, because the ramifications of living outside of God's will are always more than we anticipate. Satan never wants us to know what our sin will cost us. But as openly reported in mainstream media, sexually transmitted diseases disproportionality affect the homosexual community, especially men - we saw that recently with the cases of Monkeypox in the UK. We shouldn't conclude that this is God pouring out His judgement on them - for that will come later to *all* who have sinned in *any* way - but it is just one effect of stepping outside of God's plan for our lives in this way. Just like broken homes and lives follow adultery.

Now, moving on to these closing verses, I'm sure we'll each be implicated by something. Indeed, this will put all of us in a dilemma - for it reveals the condition of the human heart. We read:

Romans 1:28

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

This gets to the heart of the world's acceptance of sin - they did not *like* to retain God in their knowledge. Like fingers going in the ears, or taking the batteries out of the smoke detector - the world does not want to know God, because it means God knows them and all they have done. And so we read for the third time that God gives world over to do what they want to do, we read...

Romans 1:29-31

being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;

This is quite some list - and that's not a good thing. Rather, it goes to show the depth which mankind has sunk to. In some ways, there is little needed to clarify in what Paul, and indeed the Bible, is calling sin here - and we've already covered how we should respond to sin around us as Christians. Yet we should give these things some thoughts, as it's easy to skip over such detail thinking that it couldn't possibly be speaking of us.

First noted is **unrighteousness** - being evidenced in the breakdown of our relationships to our fellow man through injustice and wrong character, and includes so much of what follows on this list, including **sexual immortality**, which Paul lists second here, being all sexual activity outside of a marriage relationship between a man and a woman. So that includes incest, adultery, casual sex, bestiality, one-night-stands, sex as an unmarried couple - even if you're in love, even if you're engaged. Because God has designed that level of intimacy to be in the covenant of marriage.

Next, **wickedness**, which is the quality of being evil or morally wrong. Though perhaps quality is not the right word! The implication is any depravity or malice.

Covetousness is the greedy desire to have more - and specifically, having or showing a great desire to possess something belonging to someone else.

Maliciousness is intending to do harm to others. You can start to see why God's wrath is revealed against all unrighteousness.

Full of envy, are those people whose minds are filled with thoughts and emotions of discontent or resentful longing aroused by someone else's possessions, or qualities.

While **murder**, you would think needed no clarification - yet more than just the wilful killing of another human being, it is a problem of the heart. Jesus said if we look at anyone with hate in our hearts, we are guilty of murder. That's sobering, for God's standards are not just to be applied to our actions - but our thoughts also.

Strife is contention, quarrelling, or wrangling. And **deceit** is the action or practice of deceiving someone by concealing or misrepresenting the truth.

Evil-mindedness is bad character - both depravity of the heart and life. Someone who is mischievous in the worst possible sense.

We then get to **whisperers** and **backbiters**. Both are speaking bad of someone while they are not present to defend themselves. **Whisperers** refers more to secret slander, while **backbiting** is more defaming someone openly - being talkative against someone.

Haters of God should need no explanation - though a lack of respect is implied.

We tend to think of someone being **Violent** in the physical sense, but seems to be applied here in the sense of one who is an insulter of others, violent in their words.

Proud should also be clear - which is showing one's self above others, but also despising others or even treating them with contempt.

While **Boasters** are defined as an empty pretender, to talk with excessive pride and self-satisfaction about one's achievements, possessions, or abilities.

The phrase **inventors of evil things** - refers to things that are depraved or that would cause evil or harm. Finnis Dake (in his Bible commentary) defines this as *originators of wicked, immoral, and sinful customs, rites, and fashions; inventors of the abominable religious orgies of Bacchus, and every other form of entertainment rooted in horror, cruelty and base immorality.*

Disobedient to parents speaks of those who are stubbornly or wilfully disobedient against their father and mother - directly disobeying the 5th commandment

Undiscerning, or without understanding as it is translated in the KJV, implies stupidity and foolishness. Clearly not through any cognitive limit, but through choice.

Untrustworthy isn't just someone who lets another down in a small thing, but someone who breaks covenants, who doesn't hold to promises they have made. Just think of how easily marriage and faithfulness in it is thrown to the side by many.

Unloving speaks of those that are hard hearted - not showing affection where it should be shown, whether in marriage, family or friendships.

The penultimate of these 5 U's is **unforgiving** - which we can define as unable to be appeased or placated, while **unmerciful** simply implies without mercy - or as Dake further notes, it is someone who is *pitiless; destitute of all benevolence to the needy; cruel; merciless; irreconcilable; severe; unappeasable; unforgiving; unyielding.*

Truly, the depth of sin that mankind has sunk to is awful. Yet there's one more thing on Paul's list, which we should pay attention to. We read in the final verse of this chapter:

Romans 1:32

who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

First, I'm sure we've all heard and seen how the world approves of anything, saying "You do you". And "do what makes you happy". But the Bible says "don't do you!" and rather, "do what pleases God".

We must be careful not to skip past this verse too quickly, and rather ask ourselves whether what we enjoy watching on TV or in movies, or listen to on our Spotify playlist is actually unhelpful.

I wonder, how much sin we accept and tolerate because it is portrayed so glamorously in films? Fornication is normalised. Lying becomes OK if it all works out in the end. Adultery becomes acceptable given how bad the marriage was. Murder and fights are justified given how unkind or annoying others can be. We convince ourselves that sin was justified in the context.

Likewise we accept extreme violence in computer games, because "it's just a game". And unholy, even violent sexual behaviour is normalised through it's prevalence in pornography, that far too many people, including Christians, have consumed for far too long.

We should be very careful about what we consume. Jon Courson comments on this, saying:

"Oh, I would never murder anyone. I would never invent an evil thing," we say. But do we enjoy watching the inventions of evil things and murder in movies? "I would never commit adultery," we say, "but I love to watch the soaps." We're guilty! You see, gang, if you are one who enjoys watching murder after murder after decapitation after adulterous affair because you've allowed your carnal appetite to be developed, you are guilty. And death will come to you. I don't mean necessarily you're going to die physically—but watch what will happen to your marriage. Watch how it will cease to be vital and warm. Watch how your kids will grow up and you'll wonder why there's darkness on their faces and posters of despair in their rooms. "Be ye holy," the Lord says to us (Leviticus 20:7)—for our choice to live either in holiness or carnality will greatly affect not only us, but also those around us.

Jon Courson

We need to be careful Christians. We are so easily influenced, and we need to protect ourselves, our spouses, our children and families and our friends. Be very careful. Don't drift toward compromise and call it tolerance. This world will approve of anything, really anything, unless it is the notion that there is a Creator God to Whom we will all give account.

I'm not going to give you a list of what films you can and can't watch. But use some wisdom and discernment this day and every day. As a single man I realised I needed to be cautious of romantic comedies, virtually all rom/com's I had seen encouraged, or implied pre-marital sex was normal.

Be careful with the music you listen to as well, for sin is normalised through the lyrics of songs we love. I remember being shocked when I realised a song I knew and had sung along to in the car many a time was talking about a guy having an affair, and concealing it from his wife. "Wouldn't hurt her if she didn't know" are the lyrics. And it took me years to notice that!

I think that this warning can be summarised in this comment from AW Tozer:

One compromise here, another there, and soon enough the so-called Christian and the man in the world look the same.

AW Tozer

The world will always encourage you towards godlessness, and try and convince you that is where freedom is. But it's not. The world is lying. Just as Satan did in the garden of Eden.

Conclusion

That's a tough second half to this chapter. There's a lot to digest. A lot to reflect on in our own lives, before we even *think* about others. So as you do think though these things - and *please* do so as you go home today - know that Paul is only getting started here. Again, this week he's been dealing with the *unrighteous* man, and next week in chapter 2 he'll deal with the *self-righteous* man who thinks he is better than others and good enough to deserve God's favour. And by the time we get to chapter 3:20 Paul will declare:

Romans 3:20

Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

That will leave us helpless before a just and holy God. And that's exactly what the intent is, that we would see our *desperate* need for a Saviour. This isn't a self help program - it is a reminder of how much help we need, for it shows the depth of sin that mankind has sunk to. But praise God that He doesn't want to leave us there. We read elsewhere in the Bible:

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

As we close, let me leave you with a final thought, that is as Christians, we can get easily fixated on sin, when we should be fixated on our loving Saviour who paid for all our sin. The problem in the world today isn't merely homosexuality, or murder or lust or adultery, or gossip or any wickedness - it's that we've turned our backs on God, and that's led to all these things we do, that are not how He designed us to live. However, just because we've turned our backs on our Creator, don't think that making Creationists is the solution.

We don't need Creationists, we need Christians. We need people that are saved by the glorious gospel of Christ. And you and I are the ones that are to share that with the whole world. So how are you going to do that this week? Whether with your kids, with your family, with your friends, or with the stranger next to you in the queue. Be ready, for this world *needs* the good news we have.

Application questions

I encourage you to consider these two questions in the week ahead:

- Do you in any way worship the creature more than the Creator?
- Are there things you watch, read or listen to that normalise or glorify sin?

If the Lord has spoken to you this morning as we've gone through this chapter; if you feel challenged, convicted or are wrestling with anything here - first, I encourage you to take it to the Lord in prayer, and to read His Word further. Do those things daily. But also, should you want Christian counsel then please see myself or any of the elders after the service - we'll gladly listen, talk, and discuss the Bible with you. We don't have all the answers, but we know God and His Word does.

For the audio recording of this Bible study, and for additional studies, please see the DCF web site:



Deal Christian Fellowship
Simply teaching the Bible, simply
<https://dcf.church>