

SERMON THEMES & BIBLE TEXTS

God's Anger Hands Them Over

to

Sexual Immorality,

Homosexuality,

and to

Worthless Immoral Minds!

OR

**WHAT GOD HAS TO SAY ABOUT
PROBLEMS IN OUR SOCIETY TODAY!**

Romans 1:18-32

The anger of God is being revealed from heaven against all the ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who suppress the truth by their wrongdoing. What can be known about God is clear to them, because God has made it clear to them. For since the creation of the world, they have seen the unseen things of God. From the things He created, they can tell that He has *everlasting power* and *is God*. Therefore, they have no excuse, since they knew God but did not honor Him as God, nor did they thank Him. Instead, their thoughts became total nonsense, and their ignorant hearts were darkened.

While claiming to be wise, they became fools; they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for the likeness of an image of mortals, and of birds, and of four-footed animals, and of crawling creatures. And so, as they followed the lusts of their hearts, **God handed them over** to live immorally by dishonoring their bodies with one another. He did this because they traded the truth of God for this lie, namely, **they worshiped and served what was created instead of the Creator**, who is blessed forever. Amen!

A. That is why **God handed them over** to shameful lusts. Their women have even exchanged natural relations for the unnatural. And men likewise have given up the natural relations with a woman and burned with lust for one another, men doing shameful acts with men and suffering in themselves the punishment they deserve for their perversion.

B. And since they regarded it as worthless to hold on to the true knowledge of God, **God handed them over** to the control of a mind that is worthless, to live immorally. Their lives are full of all kinds of unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, malice. They are full of envy, murder, quarreling, deceit, viciousness, gossip. They slander and are hated by God. They are haughty, proud, boastful. They invent new evils. They disobey parents. They are foolish. They break their promises. They are loveless and show no mercy. **Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve to die, they not only continue to do them but approve of others who do them.**

Isaiah 1:2-7:

Hear, heaven, and listen, earth!

The LORD is speaking:

I raised children
and gave them a high position,
but they rebelled against Me.
An ox knows his owner,
and a donkey his master's crib,
but Israel does not know Me;
My people do not understand.

O sinful nation,
people with a heavy load of guilt,
offspring doing evil,
children corrupting yourselves,
you have forsaken the LORD,
despised the Holy One of Israel,
and turned back to strange ways.

Why will you be beaten still more?
Why must you continue to go astray?
The whole head is sick,
and the whole heart is ill.
From the sole of the foot to the head
there is nothing healthy in you,
only open cuts, bruises, and fresh wounds.
They have had no compress or bandage,
nor have they been softened with oil.

Your country is a barren waste,
your cities are burned down.
Before your eyes, foreigners devour
what grows on your ground.
So it is a barren waste,
a country destroyed by foreigners.

[After this reading, is there anyone present who doesn't see the hand of God's judgment upon America and the rest of the world at this time?]