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# ***THE BOOK OF ROMANS: When God Acts Against Sin***

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*New Hope Community Church  
Dr. Jack Bracy, March 5, 2017*

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.”  
*Romans 1:18–23, ESV*

God Is Acting Against Sin in All Forms

## **God’s Response to Sin Is Grace and Wrath**

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.” *John 3:17–18, ESV*

“but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.” *Romans 2:8, ESV*

“God Must Act Justly and Judge Sin,  
Otherwise God Would Not Be God”

“In Saving Us from His Own Wrath, God Has Done What We Could Not Do, And He Has Done What We Didn’t Deserve”

## **God’s Punishment**

“Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.” *Romans 1:24–32, ESV*

## The Gay Response to The Church and Any Passages on Homosexuality

Innateness – Insignificance – Intolerance

Conditions May Be Involuntary,  
But Acts Are Chosen

Believers Either Stand with The Word  
or Stand with The World

**Attitudes to Hold While You Stand**

2 Wrongs Don't Make a Right

Hold Convictions, Not Prejudices

Don't Be Ignorant – Always Love & Care

### **I Am Without Excuse**

“Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that **God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance**? But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. He will render to each one according to his works: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality.” **Romans 2:1–11, ESV**

1. I Stand Condemned – I Am a Sinner
2. If I Choose to Trust in My Own Righteousness, I Will Receive Wrath and Fury
3. God's Kindness Is Meant to Lead Me to Repentance