

Outline for "Successful Rebels: Getting What We Demanded from God!"

TRANSITION from Romans 1:16-17 ... "FOR" at the beginning of verse 18 ...

- Contrasts the **faith versus unfaith** positions between ... The righteous who live by faith: The people who honor God as God by believing and obeying him and who are thankful to him. AND the unrighteous who suppress the truth and degenerate further and further from God and reality.

1) **STATEMENT:** Paul states that the wrath of God is revealed from heaven, 1:18.

2) **EXPLANATION:** Paul explains the progression of the psyche of those who are under the revealed wrath of God, 1:19-23.

[The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against those who do not honor (or glorify) God as God or give him thanks.]

- The truth of God is plain to them so they are without excuse.
- They knew God but did not honor (glorify) him as God and give him thanks.
- Their thinking became useless.
- Their foolish hearts were darkened.
- Becoming fools they traded off the glory of the immortal God.

Successful rebels: See C.S. Lewis quote.



Anarchy is one of popular society's new, edgy, popular misconceptions. "Yeah, cool, anarchy!" But no one truly wants to live in a completely disruptive world, void of any sense and order. It's just another pretend concept of our disillusioned minds as we have left the glory of God for the darkness of sin.

3) **JUDGMENT:** Paul pronounces and describes the judgment of these "successful rebels" (C.S. Lewis), 1:24-32.

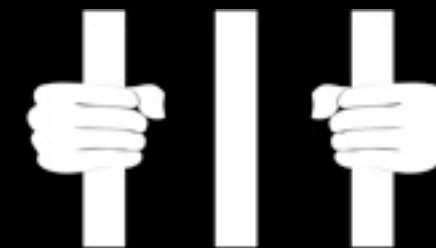
[What is the judgment but that God lets them go their own way, just as he did in the garden of Eden? God could have zapped Adam and Eve and started over when they stepped away from believing him and became wise in their own eyes. It would have been much easier for a "do-over" then but that was not his plan. He was neither unsurprised nor unprepared for the rebellion. He "gave them up" to the direction they had chosen.]

[The judgment is that God gave them up to themselves.]

- A. **God gave them up to** the lust of their hearts to impurity as they exchanged the truth about God for a lie, 1:24-25.
- B. **God gave them up to** dishonorable passions as they exchanged natural relations for the unnatural, 1:26-27.
- C. **God gave them up to** a debased mind to do what ought not to be done, 1:28-32.

D. The consequences of "having it our way."

- 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.
- They **know better** but give approval to all the above.



Freedom from God granted!