

Crossroads Baptist Church
March 5, 2006 10:00
Romans 1: 18-23
Romans #7

“The Downward Progression of Man”

Or we might should call it the regression of man

Many believe man is getting better, but not so according to the Word of God.

Jerry Vines said this.

“I once was a tadpole, beginning to begin. Then I was a frog with my tail tucked in. Then I became a monkey in a Tree, but now look at me, I'm a Professor with a PhD.”

Look at how the Bible describes the downward slopping of man:

1. Knew God

History did not begin with man worshipping idols and evolving to worship one God. Instead, man started worshipping one God, but the rejected the truth.

How did they know God. Because God chose to reveal Himself.

God's invisible nature is revealed through visible nature, but not is a way to excuse the worship of the natural order of things.

God is not in nature nor a part of nature, but nature reveals God.

2. Glorified Him not as God

Didn't give him the rightful place in their life

Didn't suggest that God was dead, but simply didn't give him the honor due Him.

3. Ungrateful

Ingratitude is one of the worse sins

Was willing to use the gifts of God but not be thankful or acknowledge the source of the gifts.

They were not atheists, but were just unthankful.

4. Became vain in their imaginations

They begin to turn inward.

The first item on the substitute list for God is man – self.

Genesis 3:5 “You shall be as god.” Instead man in God's image, man makes god in his own image.

Left with emptiness and void

1965 – Saturday Evening Post – British scientist said, “It seems pretty certain to me that life resulted from purely chemical events. What's more, I feel certain that within a decade or two we ourselves will be able to create life. I no longer find it necessary to believe in God.”

Fool has said, There is no God.

5. Foolish heart darkened

Light begins to go out and will show up in their understanding

6. professing themselves wise became fools

Wise – cultured, learned

Fool - moron

7. Changed to idolatry

Left without a God and fulfilling the desire to worship something, he will get a false god.

But nature can not satisfy man's need. It has a voice but no heart. It can't forgive, love or mentions nothing of the Savior.

The wrath of god is being revealed until we see salvation.

The OT prophets did not see the wrath of God only for a terrible day ahead. They saw it continually in action. It would reach a peak of terror and destruction on the Day of the Lord.

Ezekiel 18:14 “The soul that sins shall die.”

Jesus spoke more of hell than heaven.