

# Romans 1

Sunday 3/16/2008

We talked about how in Romans 2 the Bible says that God has written the Word of God in the tables of our hearts. Now we have come through it, and we are going to look at it today as we go a little farther. We are going to put some more pieces to the puzzle on the concept of how God looks and deals with our conscience and how He really deals with us in those things.

Last week we dealt with Paul's declaration. We took it and put it into our own mindset from a practical aspect. Romans 1:15 talked about Paul being ready to preach to the Gentiles. That is the job we all ought to be focusing on if you are a saved person this morning. God has given you a calling, and that calling, if you are saved, is to bring forth fruit and that your fruit should remain. We went through the different aspects of preaching and how it does not necessarily mean standing behind a pulpit, but telling people the story of Christ in every given application and situation that God allows you to be in. We put it in the context that Paul was the apostle to the Gentiles, so it is him who gets this Great Commission to take the gospel of Jesus Christ, which has now come into effect after the death of Christ, and take it to the Gentile nation.

Romans 1:16, what a great verse last week: "Not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ, but the power of God unto salvation." We looked at that and talked about how you and I should not be ashamed of what God has given us.

## I. The Righteousness of God Revealed: From Faith to Faith

Today we are going to look at the next section, which is down in Romans 1:17-20. I told you this Thursday night in Bible study when I gave you one of the greatest keys to unlock the scriptures. Then I told you Sunday we are going to look at another one. In Romans 1, coming down through this passage, I do not know of another passage in the Bible in my own personal life that has unlocked more information and given me more insight into the scriptures than what I am about to show you this morning.

In the time we have this morning, I will not be able to do this justice; there is too much here for mortal man to put into an hour. If I would have had my way of doing this, we would have taken probably a week to go through this and lay out all of the details. But we do not have that luxury, so we are going to try to do what we can today, and the Holy Spirit of God will have to make up the difference and put it into your hearts the way that it needs to be put in there.

Simply put, this is a tremendous passage. If you pay attention and have some inkling of the Word of God this morning, you are going to go out of here a little richer. If you are just a young Christian and are still contemplating learning the scriptures, I believe it will be a great challenge to you to show you why you need to study the scriptures, what the scriptures have for you, and then give you that motivation.

I know in my own life when I heard these things as a young Christian, people take two different approaches to it, and you see it all the time. You will have people that come to Thursday night Bible study or maybe even Sunday morning, and they hear things they do not understand, and

they take the position, "Well, I did not really like it because I did not really care for it because they did not understand it all." Then you get the other person—this is how I was—once I heard things that I did not understand, but they blew my mind. I was not going to rest until I knew those things myself. It is just a different approach. You come to the things of the Bible; you can either blow it off and say, "Well, I did not understand it, so whatever," or you can say, "You know what? I did not understand it, but by the grace of God, I am going to understand it," and you get in that book and let somebody help you get it together.

We are going to begin reading here in Romans 1:17. In fact, I want to read Romans 1:16 so we get a little context here, but we are going to start the message here in just a second in Romans 1:17. Here is what he said:

*Romans 1:16-20*

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

*For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

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

*Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.*

*For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

Now, Romans 1:17 is where we are going to pick it up today, and it says that the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith. I want to talk about that so you have an understanding. If you are taking notes on the book of Romans, you want to understand this little thing because I do not know how many times I have been asked, "What does the Bible mean here when it says 'from faith to faith'?"

Basically, what he is talking about is how the glory of God was revealed from faith to faith. The first faith would be the Old Testament; the second faith would be the New Testament. In the Bible, you are going to find, in fact, if you look down there, Romans 1:17 says, "For it is written," and what is written there is, "The just shall live by faith." That is a quotation from Habakkuk 2:4 in the Old Testament. What he is showing here is this: the glory of God, the gospel of Christ, the good news of Christ, was revealed—and we talked about how this was in the Old Testament a couple of weeks ago—was revealed from faith to faith: faith in the Old Testament and now faith in the New Testament.

There is a difference between faith or how God looks at faith in the Old Testament and how He does in the New Testament. Faith is an operation wherever you go in the Bible. For a man to find a relationship with God, you have to have two working ingredients all the way through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

The first one has to be grace. If God does not provide grace, nobody is going to find God or get saved. Grace is the absolute essential if we are ever going to find God, have a relationship with God, or certainly get salvation. The Bible says all the way back in the Old Testament, in Genesis 6, that Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Grace is an operation all the way through your Bible.

The second ingredient, and this ingredient that is talking about here, is faith. Wherever you are at in the Old Testament or the New Testament, a man has to exercise faith through God's grace to have any kind of relationship with God. That is what he is saying here, and that is why he is going back to Habakkuk 2 to show you and I that the just shall live by faith. By the way, just as a side note, this was the great verse that Martin Luther found when he was looking, caught in the quagmire of the Roman Catholic Church and all of the work system. This verse, when he began to read Romans, was the verse that God's Spirit used to bring Martin Luther to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was caught up in a system of works, but he read a verse in the Bible that said, "The just shall live by faith." What a great verse that is.

The difference between faith in the Old Testament and faith in the New Testament is simply this: In the Old Testament, they had to exercise faith in whatever God told them to do with any given situation. Noah had grace from God, but he had to exercise faith to believe what God said in building an ark to save him from the flood. Noah could have had all the grace that God wanted to give him. He could have stood there and said, "Well, I believe God and have faith in God," but if he never would have built that ark, he would have drowned just like everybody else. So in the Old Testament, we see that faith is based on a man exercising that faith in whatever God tells him to do.

When He dealt with Abraham sometime later, He brought him out on a starry night and showed him the stars up there. God and Abraham were kind of having a little star party out there, and He was showing him all those stars. The Bible says that God and him were having a conversation, and God looked down at Abraham and said, "Abraham, someday your seed is going to be like the stars of heaven." I bet they were just popping out everywhere. This looked like it probably, I have been out sometimes when it has been so dark and the stars have been so bright that it literally cast a shadow on the earth without any other impending light coming in. I bet it was an incredible view. He said to Abraham, "Someday your seed is going to be like the stars of heaven." And Abraham said, "I believe that, Lord." God said, "You what?" He said, "I believe that." He said, "You really mean, here you are ninety-some years old, and you believe that someday your stars are going to be like that? You really believe that story?" He looks up at God and said, "Lord, if You tell me it is true, I will believe it." At that point, the Bible says that Abraham's faith in what God told him about the stars was counted unto him for righteousness.

In the Old Testament, God told them different things to do, and they had to exercise faith in what God told them. That is faith in the Old Testament. Now God is not going to tell you to build a boat. He is not going to tell you that your seed is going to populate all of eternity. The New Testament faith is based on God telling you to believe in the death of His Son on Calvary's cross. When it talks "faith to faith," that is what it is talking about. The power of God, the glory of God, was revealed from faith to faith. The Old Testament faith was based on what God told him to do

in any given situation that He told him. The New Testament faith is you exercising faith in one thing, and that is Christ's death on the cross and the price that He paid. Of course, in the Old Testament, Christ had not died, so they could not exercise faith in that. So they had to exercise faith in what God simply told them to do in any given situation. That is what it is talking about when it says "from faith to faith."

## II. The Wrath of God and the Gentile Mindset

Then he says this in Romans 1:18, and this is another great concept. This concept I am about to get into now is, if other than probably here, it would open up some real can of worms. But actually, maybe it will open up some here, but that is okay.

*Romans 1:18*

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

This is a great concept that traditionally Gentiles cannot get. For the most part, we are all Gentiles here. You and I as Gentiles, we all have the same basic fundamental problems of human nature as it pertains to the Gentiles. This is a great concept that you have here. This is a mindset that Gentiles get. Every time you find this thing working through it, it is always connected with Gentiles.

Most churches are destroyed today as far as teaching anything about the Bible. The reason why that is goes all the way back to about 1900 when a number of things began to unfold itself that in time was going to destroy Bible Christianity. One of them was a thing called neo-orthodoxy. Neo-orthodoxy had to do with a group of churches that all came out of the Roman Catholic Church for the most part during the Reformation. Neo-orthodoxy had to do with the Methodist, the Presbyterian, the Lutherans, the Episcopalian, and the Church of England, the Anglican Church. Those churches make up today what we call the neo-orthodox. Of course, the Roman Catholic Church would be part of that too to a certain degree.

As time went on, these churches began to take a very liberal approach to God and the Bible. If you know anything about church history, you know by this time, 1900, they had put away the King James Bible, and now they were into the RSV of 1881 and a little bit later on the ASV of 1901, and then everything else that came down the line from that point on.

Neo-orthodoxy was a movement to get away from the hard-line teaching about sin, judgment, and hell. It moves into what we commonly call back in the 60s, 70s, and 80s, the social gospel. The gospel now is not about the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ for men and women who are dying and going to hell. The social gospel does not believe there is a hell. The social gospel does not make anybody a sinner. The guy that is a social gospel preacher—and this would be all your neo-orthodox today—the guy that is a social gospel mentality preacher, he is going to tell you that God is not a God of anger, He is not a God of judgment or wrath, He is only a God of love. They go around preaching what we call a social gospel: "Help your fellow man."

I am all for helping the fellow man. But to them, it runs like this: I think that we as a church ought to help our own people first, and then as we can, we help anybody else that we can that needs it. But I am against, totally against, just helping somebody get their bellies full of food or help them with this or help them with that when at the end of the day we supply their physical needs but we do not give them the gospel of Jesus Christ. My philosophy is, you may have a blown-up car, you may have a house burned down, you may have no food, you may have no place to sleep tonight. What good do I do you if I take care of all those things and then allow you to die and go to hell because I was focused on your physical needs and not your spiritual needs? Bible Christianity needs to be both. You ever notice that Jesus did meet the social needs that He needed, but He never missed an opportunity to give them their spiritual needs?

The social gospel runs like this: "God is love. Those that dwell in love dwell in God, and the God of love dwells in them." See how nice that sounds? That is the greatest concept of what the social gospel is. God is a God of love. He loves everybody. So the next step is then we are all God's children, which we are not. The Bible teaches very clearly and plainly, because you were born onto planet earth, it does not make you a child of God. You may be God's creation. But the Bible is very clear that there are two families in this world. You learn that in the first lesson of discipleship, do you not? Certainly you do because it is an important lesson.

What you have now is the fact that the social gospel believes that God is love, and if you love everybody, then my goodness, God has to be in you because God is a God of love. That is why most of them are pacifists. That is why most of them want to meet man's needs but never want to deal with man's sin, because if you are all God's child and God is love and there is no judgment of God, then there cannot be any hell and there cannot be any sinners. I have been in the ministry for probably almost 36 years, and in the last five, six, seven, eight years of my life, it is really getting harder to find sinners. I guarantee you I could find a brontosaurus in Central Park quicker than I could find a sinner in New York City. They are not around anymore, and it is because of the mindset of the social gospel that nobody is a sinner.

Added to that then comes the New Age movement and then the movement of unity. In those mindsets, there is no heaven, there is no hell, there is no God. God is what every man, you know what? You find a Gentile term when it comes to God, and you find it in all of the social things that they want to tie to the Bible, but they want to stay away from the Bible, and it is "your higher power." You ever hear that? If you ever go to Alcoholics Anonymous, they are going to talk about, "You cannot do this on your own." They will say, "You cannot do it on your own. You cannot make this thing on your own. You have to call on your higher power." You know why they say that? Because they will never say God, and they will certainly never say Jesus Christ, because they want to divide themselves in the social mentality of the gospel, in the social gospel. Your higher power is whatever you deem it to be. You could be a witch doing human sacrifices, and that was your higher power. That is where they are at. In other words, in the social mindset, there are no absolutes.

I was teaching in a college a number of years ago. They used to invite me in. I used to do a program called "The Gospel of the Stars," and somebody would always get me in. I was at Malone College back in Canton, Ohio, and they basically turned 80 students over to me, and you

could say whatever you wanted to say. So I am going down through and talking about how the Bible is the Word of God and the absolute in life, and I am tying the whole thing in, showing them how the gospel is portrayed through the stars and all that. These kids, they are into it. Everybody was writing things down, and they were getting into it, but I could see the college professor was sitting in the back, and he was sweating bullets. He hated what I was saying. I made a statement, and I said, it was kind of like the climax, and I said, "The Word of God in your life and my life is the absolute that you and I need in my life." In the back, I heard him bang a book down, and he said, "There is no such thing as an absolute." Of course, that is what they are teaching. I threw up one of those Nehemiah prayers in the middle of it, and I came back and I said, "Oh, really? Well, that sounded like a pretty absolute statement." There is an absolute, you bet there is. But in the world, we do not want that because when you understand, the Gentiles today do not want to deal with the fact that the wrath of God is already on unsaved people and on this planet right now.

You know why the homosexual community and the lesbian community use a rainbow? Consider that. First of all, the rainbow is found in your Bible when God makes a covenant with somebody. Second of all, the reason why God uses the rainbow is because you have the colors of the rainbow, which is very beautiful, and they are all colors, different colors that they all blend together and go together within that rainbow. The reason why they pick the rainbow is because their sexual orientation, whatever it may be, and all the differences that they have and the perversion that they have, they want you to believe and me to believe that under the sign of the rainbow, we are all the same. The fact that I may prefer my wife and you may prefer, if you are a woman, another woman, another man, another man, or wherever it goes from there, that it is okay. It is okay. Under the big banner of the rainbow, we are all God's children. Well, no, we are not. I do not know if you know it or not, but they picked a great deal because every time you find the rainbow, it is just after God either before or right after He came down and kicked the snot out of somebody. But that is where the social mindset is today.

It is something that you are going to find in dealing with it as you come down through. One of the great things that you will learn about Gentiles from Romans 1, and we will get into these in segments as we go through, is whenever they dump God, they always replace God with something else. Some of you that are going to be good at working in counseling and working with people, you are going to find, and I tell you about these, over the years I have cataloged all the personality quirks that people have, and I have a little book full of them so I do not ever forget them. But I always put them into little syndromes. A while back, in one of the Dirty Harry movies, he made a classic statement, and he said somebody was a legend in their own mind. I have a syndrome that Gentiles get into that is what I call their "legend in their own mind syndrome." That syndrome simply is that we think we have a relationship with God when we really do not. That is what Gentiles do.

### III. The Gentile's "Legend in Their Own Mind" Syndrome

When Gentiles lose God or the concept of God, the first thing they do is get into religion. They get some form of religion that in their mind they believe they have this great relationship with

God. We talked about it Thursday night a little bit, and I told you, "The reason why people do not like the Bible is because the Bible is the great reality check in our lives." We sit here, you and me, and we think we love God. If I would ask you one on one or in a crowd this size, I would say, "Do you all love God?" Or if you came in to see me with a counseling scenario, and I would say to you, "Do you really love God?" I always usually ask people this, I would say, "Rate yourself to me on a scale of one to ten, where do you think you are at in your own personal relationship with God?" Many, many times you will have people that will say, "Well, I would say I am a seven or eight." Sometimes you get people who are honest, and you say, "Bob, I am not even on that scale, I am so low." And sometimes you find people that stand up there and look at you, blink at you like a frog in a hailstorm, and they say, "Oh, I am a ten or an eleven."

The truth of the matter is, if you want to know whether you really love God or not, do not rely on your own brain to figure it out for you. Get into the Bible where it gives you some absolute definite about whether you love Him or not. The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 8:3:

*1 Corinthians 8:3*

*But if any man love God, the same is known of him.*

You realize that if you love God, you do not have to go around telling everybody about it. You do not have to get your 25-pound King James Bible and carry it around to show everybody. You do not have to get a big cross to hang around your neck or something like that. It just shows. You know why it shows? Because there are certain things that identify with people that are in love. Of course, Gentiles are famous for that. Gentiles like to replace God. I do not appreciate what I am saying because I am a Gentile, but this is true: when it comes to the Jews and the Gentiles, the Gentiles are much dumber than the Jews are. I think that is part of the reason why Gentiles do not like Jews. Jews are much smarter.

You ever notice that when God wanted to fool the Gentiles, He replaced their Bible with 5,000 translations? You ever notice that He never did that to the Jews? The Jews had the same old Masoretic text that they use today as the same one they used all down through history. The devil never came to them and gave them another version of the Old Testament. You know why? Because he knew they were smarter than that. They knew, they may not obey them and they may not ever fulfill it, but they knew what the oracles of God were. Gentiles do not. Gentiles do not have a clue. They think every translation out there must be God's Word. Then when you read five of them and it does not even say the same thing, and three or four verses are not even found in these, they are in these, they just say, "Well, gee, I just really love God."

Over my years, when I start to really nail somebody down and really nail their hide to the wall, the only defense they have to throw back at me is, "Well, you do not have very much love in your heart, do you?" That is a defense because they cannot equate love with truth, not in the world we live in today. I am going to tell you something else, and note this: whenever a Jew got messed up, he got what messed him up from the Gentiles. You ever notice back there in the Old Testament, one of the things that God told them is not to marry from the other nations, not to have anything to do with the other nations? He even goes so far as this, and you social gospel people are not going to like this: He goes so far to tell them that when you go in and take that

city that is run by the Gentiles, He says, "Here is what I want you to do. You kill every man, you kill every woman, you kill every child, you kill every animal, you kill every beast, you wipe them out totally and completely." How is that for a God of love? He had a purpose and a reason behind doing that, which we do not have time to get into this morning. I guarantee you, every time the Jew got his sights off of God, of the Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, every time he got into Baal worship, every time he got into all the goofy stuff that was going on, he got it from a Gentile. God knew, and the devil knew, that if he wanted to mess up the nation of Israel, he had to do it through Gentiles, because Gentiles are goofy.

We are goofy. We actually believe God wrote more than one Bible, and they do not match. We actually believe that you have got to know Greek and Hebrew to understand the Bible, and then God, which would take you five lifetimes to get them both down. There is probably less than one millionth of a percent of men and women in this world that can speak those two languages. Then we are stupid enough to think that someday God is going to judge us to the judgment seat of Christ by a book that we did not even have the ability to read and understand anyhow. But that is how goofy Gentiles are. Gentiles are goofy. I am a Gentile, or I was. When you get saved, you are no longer a Gentile. You understand that. Now you are a Christian, because in the body of Christ, there is neither Jew nor Gentile.

In America, you see the full effect of Gentiles. I can go back and show you why Europe is amoral and apostasy, but we do not have time. Let us just deal with our own. The bottom line is this: when this country lost God and dumped God, Gentiles in particular, this is what happened. Once you dump God as a Gentile, then you begin to replace God with something. The Bible says in Romans 1:22 that the problem with Gentiles is they profess themselves to be wise. As in professor, they profess themselves to be wise, but they become fools. Because what they profess in is not God. I guarantee you, across this city and across this country, in 95% of the pulpits, are men standing up professing to be wise, and in reality, when it comes to the Word of God, they are fools. You know why? Because they have got the "legend in their own mind syndrome."

I guarantee you that many of God's people think they have a relationship with God, think that God goes along with the goofy stuff that they do, think that God says, "Well, it is okay to go out and carouse and drink and do this and do that," think it is okay to hang out with their friends. They actually think that God is okay with that, and all the other things that go along with that. They actually think that that is okay in God's mind, because from reality, when he gets into the Bible, that is not the way it works. Somebody says, "Well, I love God." The Bible says, "If any man loves Me, he will keep My commandments." Where is that? He says, "Well, I love Him." The Bible says, "If anybody loves Me, he will keep My words." Where is that? See how the Bible just makes it so exact? The Bible does not leave you any room to wiggle. Gentiles, we all like wiggle room.

Gentiles today, when Isaiah prophesied this all the way back in Isaiah 5:20, he said that Gentiles would at some point begin to call evil good and good evil. That is America. That is some of God's people. What a hundred years ago would have blushed a child of God and brought him to the altar, where he would have fallen on his face before God and wept and asked for God's forgiveness for his godless, sinless lifestyle, God's people just yawn today. You know why?

Because you are a legend in your own mind. You have been caught up in the trap that the evil that you do, you think is good. The good that God wants you to do, you look at as evil. Isaiah 59:14 tells you why that is, because the Bible says that truth is fallen in the streets. That is a true statement.

*Proverbs 28:5*

*Evil men understand not judgment: but they that seek the LORD understand all things.*

This is why you have America the way it is today, which is run by unsaved Gentiles or Gentiles that are part of this neo-orthodoxy mindset. Every Gentile goes to church. Let me tell you something. Next Sunday, churches will be packed. Do you ever wonder why Gentiles traditionally will not go to church on any other days but Easter and Christmas? Do you ever analyze the psychology behind that? I will tell you why. Godless Christians and people who profess to be Christians but are not, they cannot stay and go into church on any other two days but those two days. But next week, it will be packed. Christmas, it will be packed. You know why? Because God's people and a lot of Gentiles love going to church on a day that He is dead. They love going to church on Christmas when He is a nice, little, sweet baby. Who does not love a baby? They are flocked there because they have the little nativity scene, the little angels with a little Mary and a little Joseph and all those things, and a little baby Jesus, and sometimes they even have real little nativity with real animals. Every little baby. People want to stand around and they say, "Oh, this is such a nice time."

I think we ought to have Revelation 19 day. Fair is fair. If you are going to have Him when He is a baby at the first coming of Christ, let us have Him with the eyes of a burning fire. Let us have Him with a sharp, diligent sword coming at Him. When Jesus smites the nations. That is why I always, a good pastor is like a quarterback, and he has a role to read the plays. Every Sunday morning is a different play. Different people, different circumstances. You have got to read them. I have always enjoyed Easter and Christmas because they come expecting one thing, and they always go home with something else. My standard Easter message is not about Him piercing His hands and the lily of the valley. A good one would be "A Letter from Hell." That is a great Easter message. I mean, they went in thinking they are going to get all teary-eyed and weep. I am here sitting down there, and somebody is telling the story as he walked down the road with his back, and he stumbled, and everybody just visualizes for a moment. They just, in their own mind, they are seeing Him walk by, and they are following along, and then they see a sign over here in one of the little stores, "Coors Light." I am going to go over here and have one of these now.

I think we ought to have a Second Coming Day. I think you ought to preach about a man that was burning in an aircraft and could not get out, and he was yelling at the top of his lungs, "Cut off my legs! Cut off my legs! Cut off my legs!" But that does not go over good today. We do not like to think about men burning in hell, do we? We do not like to think about that, even though it is a reality. We do not like to think about that. The Bible says evil men understand not judgment. This is why man cannot understand, as the Bible already said, Gentiles, that the wrath of God abides on unsaved people in this country and other countries that reject the Word of God.

Men who hold the truth in unrighteousness. That is us. If you are in a pulpit today, you do not dare, and you are a national pastor, you do not ever get up in the pulpit and say that AIDS is God's judgment on a sinful nation. You do not say that. You do not get up and say 9/11 was God's judgment on a nation. You do not ever go to the place where you talk about hurricanes, or now you used to have hurricanes where all named women, now you have him-icanes. A couple of years ago, I mean it was last year, I do not remember when it was, New Orleans got flooded out. Everybody got all, you know, around national disaster, president gets all, you know what? Let me tell you something, and you probably do not know this, the most demonic organization in this world that infiltrates and destroys almost 99% of Bible Christianity is located down in New Orleans. But you see, when you look at that from a Gentile standpoint, it is "Oh my!" But we look at it from God's standpoint, another whole world.

*John 3:36*

*He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

If you are lost here this morning without Christ, you are as good as in hell right now with a door shut, the lock rusted up, and the key thrown away. Unless something breaks that chain in your life, the wrath of God already abides on you. You say, "Well, I am successful." Well, you may be successful, "I got a lot of money, I can buy my way out of anything." Yes, but you will not buy your way out of that one. But Gentiles are screwy. They do not get it.

Last week the news media, and I love the news media, I think it is just, I do not have those little things you put on your TV that you shoot people and you play golf and you bowl, whatever those things are called. I do not have those, so I have to watch the news. One is cheaper, two is definitely more exciting. How about the flap this week over Obama's pastor, Jeremiah Wright? I loved it, absolutely loved it. They had him on a deal there where he talked about, and this is Gentile mindset, this is Gentile mindset. He had him on a thing on Handy and Cone where Handy had interviewed him a year ago or whatever, and he could not get a word in. This guy kept putting back, "What about liberation theology? Have you read this guy's book on liberation theology?" Of course, Handy had not, he was not prepared for that. But the bottom line is, you know what liberation theology is? First of all, you know where it comes from? It comes from an archbishop down in El Salvador by the name of Archbishop Romero, who was part of the communist movement over the El Salvador government.

You know what liberation theology is? This is Gentiles. Remember a couple of weeks ago somebody asked a question about the three races there, and I showed you how Japheth was a conqueror and a murderer. You know what Gentiles do with the gospel? They make it into liberation theology. You know what liberation theology is? If the government goes against the teachings of Christ, then you have a responsibility as a Christian to take up arms and overthrow that government. That is what this man is preaching down there. Liberation theology started with Archbishop Romero, who stood up there, and he was a Jesuit by the way, and he stood up there and he said, "We are going to overthrow this country because Jesus was not the Savior of the

world. Jesus was not the man, God's gift to mankind. Jesus was a revolutionist." That is where they form it from. That is where Gentiles go.

Right now America has rejected the Word of God and gotten rid of His Word. I will tell you what, one of the greatest verses in America, facing America, is also a great verse for any child of God that forgets who God is. In Job 9:4, because it is so true, it says:

*Job 9:4*

*He is wise in heart, and mighty in strength: who hath hardened himself against him, and hath prospered?*

The answer to that is nobody. No nation, no individual, nobody. We always like to use the expression, and moms and dads should never use it with kids unless they have to. Husbands and wives should never use it together back and forth. It is a terrible thing. You should not tell it to your friends, or if you are dating, you should not tell it to your girlfriend or your boyfriend. But for God to use it, it is really a good one. You know what it is? "My way or the highway." That is God's stand. Straight is the gate, narrow is the way. His way or the highway. It is a very narrow highway.

#### IV. God's Revelation Through Creation

Then we come to Romans 1:19-20. Probably the greatest single place in all the Bible to open up the Scriptures. These are key. I have learned more from these two verses about my Bible, about God, and God opening up my understanding than any other single place or passage in the Word of God. This is an absolute necessity in time if you are ever going to. I can think about six or seven places that are on the magnitude scale of this that are just incredible.

Here is what he says starting in Romans 1:19:

*Romans 1:19-20*

*Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.*

*For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

You know what that verse says? God says He made the physical things: heaven, earth, man, you, everything is down here. That you might understand the things that you cannot see: heaven, hell, life, death, eternity. They are clearly seen and understood by the things that God made.

You know what God did sometime before Genesis 1:1, and I do not know where it is, probably back there in Proverbs 8 someplace. God walked out on the banister of the third heaven and looked down through the expanse of eternity, and He is talking to His Son and the Spirit of God, and who else was there, maybe the angels, I do not know. He simply said this, "I am going to make a creation. And this creation is going to be grand. It is going to be spectacular." He was talking about what He was going to do, and somebody said, "Well, Lord, that is incredible. But

you know what? What kind of pattern are You going to use?" He said, "What do you mean?" He says, "Well, You do not do anything without a pattern or a plan. The main concept of You is consistency. What plan, what pattern are You going to use in making all this?" God thought for a minute. God does not have to think for a minute, but if I just told you the way God does it, it would not be as exciting as the way I am telling it. God thought for a minute, and He said, "Oh, I know. I know what the pattern will be. It will be a perfect pattern." Somebody said, "Well, what is that?" He says, "It will be Me."

God is a Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. So everything physically that God made will have three parts to it. Three is the order of the universe. You ever notice that when you are living down here, you have got three things: the air, the land, and the sea? You ever notice music has three parts? You ever notice that you can be married as a husband and wife, but you are not considered a family until the third part shows up? Three is the number of the order in the Bible and the completion in the Bible. Everything. Your body is built in the system of three. When God made man, He made him a body, soul, and spirit, three. Wherever you go, three heavens, the ark had three levels. The Tabernacle in the Old Testament had three sections to it. Everything falls down. In the Old Testament, you have a new heavens, new earth, and a new Jerusalem. In Revelation, you have the Jew, you have the Gentile, and you have the body of Christ. Everything breaks down into a system of three.

What God does with that, and when He takes that, He says, "All right, now I am going to understand, or I am going to be shown to you, and you are going to be able to understand Him if you look at the things that I made, because everything I made reveals who I am." This comes back to that concept of God dealing with a man, a Gentile man, on his conscience.

I read a great book a number of years ago. It was probably 20 or 25 years ago, but it was an incredible book. I do not have a copy of it, but it was a book that I had borrowed from somebody, and I sure made my notes out of it. The title was something like this: "The Imprint of the Godhead on the Physical Universe." It was an incredible book. If you can grasp what I am going to get into now in this section here of Romans 1:19-20, if you can grasp the truth of what I am going to give you today, it will really help you in a number of ways. First of all, it will help you not only understand how God approaches and deals with Gentiles, which you and I are part of that, even though if we are saved, we are not physically part of it anymore, spiritually, it will help you better understand that concept. But it will also give you understanding why that as you deal with people, you have an insight into people that goes beyond where those people are. They are all in their little "legend in their own mind syndrome." You will understand better why in this world there is no such thing as an atheist.

The word atheist comes from a couple of Latin Greek words: "a" meaning "no," or "not," like "no millennium." Theist, atheist, "theist" comes from the Greek word "theos," which is the Greek word for God. We get our word theology from it. So when a man is an atheist, they do not believe they are against the knowledge of theos, theistic, theology, God. So an atheist is someone that claims that there is no God. We will be back to him in a moment.

Then you have another group of people which are called agnostics. Again, the word "against" or "no," and the word "gnostic." Gnostic is where we get our word "knowledge" from. A gnostic back in the Middle Ages or in the early centuries was a knower, was a seer. It was a man who had a higher understanding of the things in life than the average person, so they called them gnostics. Gnostic is where we get our word "knowledge." So where an atheist is someone that rejects God, an agnostic is someone who is against or rejects the knowledge of what God says.

You are going to find in dealing with people, especially today, that there are people who say, "Well, I am an atheist." And somebody else says, "I am an agnostic." Now you need to understand how this thing works because when somebody tells you that, your first inkling is going to be, and I have people call me this, "How do I deal with an atheist?" Well, that is not the question. In fact, there is not a question. There is a statement. It is not "How do I deal with an atheist?" That is not how you approach it. You approach it from the fact there is no such thing as an atheist. The moment you give an atheist credibility by saying he is one of them, then you lose the opportunity to reach him. Because in reality, from the God standpoint, I do not care what a man says. A man can say, "I do not believe in God," all day long. The Bible says that God was the true light, the light of every man. He knows there is a God. He chooses, he chooses to reject that God. The moment you give him credibility of being someone that can be totally void of God and God's Spirit, you have lost the argument.

When a guy would say to me, "Well, I am an atheist," I say, "You cannot be." And he would say, "Why not?" I said, "Because there is no such thing." Being an atheist was like when somebody said one time, "Can I walk your dog for you?" And I said, "Absolutely." And I said, "Only one needs to be walked." And he said, "Which one now?" I said, "It is the big yellow-brown-black one down there that is big and small and has got a tail and got..." And he says, "Well, there is no dog like that." And I said, "Yes, I know." "Well, how am I going to walk him?" "You cannot." There is no such thing as an atheist. It is made up, contrived, because if a man wants to reject God, there is not a person on this planet that can say down in the bottom of their heart, "There is no such thing as God." You know how you get to that point of being an atheist as you claim to be? You educate yourself out of it. But you know what? You can educate yourself out of the knowledge of God. You can educate yourself out of the belief in God, but you cannot educate yourself out of the Holy Spirit of God. Somebody gets up and says, "Well, I am an atheist." Deep inside, the Holy Spirit of God is saying, "No, you are not. No, you are not." "I am an atheist." That is the guy saying, "I am an atheist." A little bit later on, he said, "I am a G.D. atheist." And I said, "Well, gee, that is kind of inconsistent. If you do not believe in God, why would you use the name of a God you do not believe in putting words in your language?" See how it works? You just have to be smarter than they are.

Man says, "I do not believe in God. I do not believe in Christ." I said, "My Bible says, 'Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.'" You know how I know that God is true and Christ is true? Did you ever hear a man cussing Buddha's name? You ever hit your finger with a hammer and say, "Confucius!?" Ever have somebody pull out in front of you and you wind down the window and give them the old friendly hand gesture and say, "Shamaka Ramadutti!?" No. Why is it always

God's name? Why is it always Christ? Why is it the great words that unsaved people use have to do with God, Christ, damn, and hell? I will tell you why, because the wrath of God is already on them. I do not use words like that. You know why? I use words like "Praise the Lord," "Praise the illusion." I use words like "Bless God." You know why? Because I am saved. When I am saved, I talk like where I am going. I am a new creature in Christ Jesus. All things are passed away. So my vocabulary changes, and now I talk. When I hit my finger, it is "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." You know why? That is where I am going. I am saved. Glory to God. When an unsaved man goes through life, he talks about the judgment in his life even if he does not believe it. Gentiles are screwy. I am telling you. God is going to say, "I am an atheist." And he will string off a real cuss word that talks about God, Jesus Christ, and all these things and all the derivatives of it, and then still look at you and say, "I am an atheist." Nut.

## V. God's Revelation Through the Natural World

Now I want to show you how this thing works, and it is quite incredible. Psalms 19:1-6. If you want to turn to it and follow along, it might be beneficial to you. Keep in mind, Romans 1:19-20 said, "The invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen and understood by the things that God made, even his eternal power and Godhead." Look at Psalms 19. This is why there is no such thing as an atheist, folks. They may tell you that. When you know what I am about to give you, you can deal with them better. But this is stuff you have to understand and know about what is going on. This is why Romans 1 is so vitally important because we are to bear fruit among the Gentiles.

*Psalms 19:1-6*

*The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.*

*Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.*

*There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.*

*Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,*

*Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.*

*His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.*

When you come and look at God's creation, you are going to find that there are three things that God reveals Himself through. The first thing God reveals Himself through is the Bible. That is the first thing. The second thing you are going to find in this passage here is God reveals Himself through the heavens. "The heavens declare the glory of God." In a few moments, we are going to look and see how God reveals Himself through the earth and through the animals. I guess if you wanted a fourth one, which is absolutely true but it does not fit where we are going, the fourth one would be Christ.

Look there at Psalms 19:2. It says, "The heavens declare the glory of God. Day unto day uttereth speech. Night unto night sheweth knowledge." Psalms 19:3, "No speech, nor language where their voice is not heard." There is no language barrier with the message that God puts out. "Their line," what do you mean by that? When your girls get together and you say, "Well, I went out with so and so last night, boy, did he give me a line." It is what you say. "Their line is gone out to the ends of the earth." It says down there in Psalms 19:4, "In them," in the heavens, "hath he set a tabernacle for the sun." Then look at Psalms 19:5, "Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber." He makes the sun there a picture of Jesus Christ, my Bridegroom coming out of His chamber to come back for me.

God built into His creation everything about Him. When God deals with a man's conscience, Gentile, He not only takes what we have seen so far, He not only takes that man's conscience on which is written the Word of God, He also takes the creation that He made. God uses through His Spirit that witness to declare Himself to men and women on this planet.

Back about the time of Columbus, and Columbus is about 1492, a little bit later on by the time the pilgrims got here and they began to move in westward. The pilgrims came here with what we commonly know as the Geneva Bible, which was the forerunner of the King James Bible. They came over in about 1620; the King James Bible was not out in production at that point. But it was the King James Bible that then later replaced the Geneva Bible. When they came down here, one of their goals was to be missionaries to the Indians. They looked at it as the fact that it is a new world, we are going to escape the oppression of Europe, which was terribly oppressive to them as Bible believers. So they came to this country and they said, "We are going to found a country that is based on the Word of God, how we want to do it, and then we are going to reach out to these Indians and we are going to try to win them to Christ, and we are going to put the whole aspect of the Great Commission to work on our lives."

When they got here, they found some interesting things. They found in many of the Indian tribes, you know what they found? They found that they had a profound reverence for a great white father. If you take that concept "great white father" and you put it in Matthew 17 and Revelation 1, you have the concept of God in your Bible. Not only did they have a great reverence for a great white father, which they knew created everything, it was in charge of everything, they gave reverence to a great spirit. How in the world did the Indians, and I am not saying that all of them were this way, you have good and bad just like you have people in the world today that hear the gospel every day. But God revealed Himself to them through His creation that some of them understood that there was a great white father who operated by a great spirit, and they had enough conscience in them that when they went out on a hunt and they took the little bows and arrows and they pulled that thing back and they hit that deer and the deer fell down, the first thing they did was take their bow and their arrows and lay it down by that deer and get down and thank the great spirit and the great white father for bringing them food to their table to feed their family. And they called them heathen. Well, some of you will go out here this afternoon and you will chow down, and you will not even thank God for what He gave you. And they are heathen! That is what the Bible does for you.

In the 1700s, as a white man pushed westward, he met some tribes, and those tribes asked that white man, who had never seen white men, never heard of white men, but when they saw them, they asked if they had any news of the Son of the Great White Father. How in the world do you not get it all in the history books? You do not get any of it in the history books. The Nez Perce Indian tribe from Washington state and Oregon, when they heard that the white man was here, they walked two thousand miles to ask them if they had the book the Great White Father had given us that talked about His Son. You do not get it from history. You get it from John 1:9 that He was the true Light, the Light of every man that comes into the world.

If you are in a place out in a country someplace and you look up at the stars right now, you can see five thousand stars. From the city, you probably cannot see a thousand. But I have been some places out there when I have been just lost. The Milky Way looks like somebody took a paintbrush and painted a white stripe down the sky. It is incredible. I have watched this thing. I am an astronomer. I take pictures. Most of you that little bookmark we gave you of a horse head and an ambulance, I took that picture. I have always been in astronomy since I was young, and I love showing people things through my telescope. I used to set up down here in the corner of Nolan Road and 40 Highway. I used to set up a TV monitor and put a big, the thing was humongous. You could see it walking down the street, and put a big shine out and put the moon on that big TV screen. I would say, "Come, let your children drive the telescope," it was all computer, and they would pack up there and come over, and I would let those kids sit down. I have been to star parties where we showed people that did not own a telescope, they would look in there, and they would see those galaxies, and they would see those nebulas, and they would see those belts on Jupiter and the poles on Mars, and they would see all those things. Never in one time in my life did anybody ever look up and say, "Wow, is not evolution great?" Not one time. I got a lot of "Wow," "Goozee," "Ah," "Whoa, whoa, that is neat." Never, never one time was, "Is not evolution great?"

When you look at that creation, you know what it tells you? This tells you somebody is real big, and you are real small. Did you ever notice the four things man is mystified with? I hate to give you this because this is a great sermon. Four things. You buy the tape like everybody else. You are going to get this, you pay three bucks for it like everybody else does. But this shows you, did you ever notice the four things that man is mystified with? They are all things that dwarf him.

1. The first things are mountains. You ever lived out where the mountains are, and you could just walk out in the morning and you see the Rockies, the Grand Tetons, and the snow-capped, or I remember one time I was in South Africa, and we were down there in Serengeti and down there in the plains, and we got up there, and it was kind of misty when we got there in the morning because it was early, and you could hear the all night, hear the lions going, and the giraffes and the monkeys. I will never forget, the mist cleared off, and there, I am honest to goodness, from my point of vantage point, from one end to the other going up was that great mountain, Kilimanjaro. I mean snow-capped, I mean that thing, I just stood there, and I could have stayed there and looked at that thing all day. You know why? Because deep down in my heart, God used that as He will with any man to tell you that that mountain just did not come because of time and evolution.

2. You ever been by the ocean? The ocean, you can sit by the ocean for hours. The ocean just comes and it goes and it rolls in and it rolls out. You cannot see the end of it. You cannot see anything around it. If you are out in the middle ocean, there is no perspective anywhere. It is like being in outer space. Man looks at that ocean with all of its attributes, and he sits there and he ponders. How do the tides work? How does the moon pull and change this and that?
3. I will tell you the next thing man looks into all the time, and that is fire. You ever been around a campfire when that thing is just burning and blazing, and you look down at those embers, and you are transfixed on that fire.
4. The last thing man looks at and wonders about is the heavens and the stars in those heavens. Those are the four things that man is transfixed on in his life. Nobody looks at that creation and thinks, "Ah, evolution did this." I will tell you why that is because we already saw back here where it says that it is a bridegroom.

*Malachi 4:2*

*But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.*

An interesting fact in Malachi 4:2 is it is not spelled S-O-N, it is spelled S-U-N. That verse along with some other verses shows you very clearly that when God wanted to reveal Himself and let you know and we know the things that we could not understand and see, He did it by the things that He created. You know why? Because the sun is our greatest witness of what God is. You know that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, He is a Trinity. You know there are three types of rays which come from the sun: X-ray, gamma, and beta. You know that the three types of rays which come from the sun match up to the three persons of the Holy Trinity of God.

*1.) The first one is X-rays. X-rays are invisible; you cannot see them. The Bible says God is a Spirit; He is invisible.*

*2.) The second kind of rays is light rays; that is the type of Christ. You can see light rays.*

*3.) But the third type of rays is heat rays. You cannot see them, but you feel them, a type of the Holy Spirit of God.*

When God fixed that thing, He fixed that thing. The thing about that sun in the sky is a picture of Him. You want to understand what God is? Understand what that is. That is what God uses.

*Job 25:5*

*Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not; yea, the stars are not pure in his sight.*

You know the moon does not shine by its own light? The moon reflects the light of the sun. As a Christian, and the moon is a type of a Christian, you do not shine by your own light. You reflect the light from the sun. You want to go a little bit farther? The sun rules the day, second coming of Christ. The moon rules the night, church age. Right now the Bible says that we are in the church age. It is the great nighttime. The only light that this world has when you go out at night is the light of the moon. The only light this world has right now is the light that shines through you

from the Day Star which lights this night. You want to understand God? Understand those things. Those are the things that God reveals to a man or a woman when they begin to follow that thing through. The moon follows the sun just as the body of Christ should follow Christ. The sun and the moon have their orbits and their rotation against the world. The world rotates against the sun. That is exactly what you and I should be. The world should go this way, we should go this way.

A couple of weeks ago they had a great scientific event. It was called a lunar eclipse. Really one of the nicest ones I have seen for a long time. I wanted to get some pictures of it, but I was sick that night, really sick, and all I could do was go out and get back in as quick as I could, but I saw it. It was a really good one. I am not much on a lunar eclipse, but that was a good one.

Everybody was talking about it. On the radio, on the science channel. All the astronomy clubs had parties. Everybody got up and they say in this. They are saying now a lunar eclipse happens when the earth passes between the plane from the sun and blocks out the light, and then the moon is, the moon then because of the earth coming between it blocks out its light, and that is an eclipse. That is the standard scientific jargon on it.

You want to know what it really is? That sun is a type of Christ. That moon is a type of you and me. You and I are supposed to have a light that shines in the darkness. But you know what? Unfortunately, any time the world comes in between you, the sun, and you, the moon, your light is going to go out. You have a picture of an out-of-fellowship Christian. That moon shines so bright up and out sometimes when the moon was so bright that it was unbelievable. It cast a shadow, and then some nights you go out, and you cannot see the light. You know why? Because the clouds of this world have obscured that light that comes through the moon from the sun. In some of your lives today, I guarantee you, the clouds of this whole world have come into your life, and your sunlight is not shining from the sun through you like it needs to. You are not lighting the night.

*1 Corinthians 15:41-42*

*There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.*

*So also the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:*

You see that thing? You go out on a starry night, and you see some really bright stars. You see some kind of bright stars, almost bright stars, and really faint stars. You know what he says? He says there is one glory of the sun. That is Christ. Another glory of the moon. That is the church. Then he breaks it down individually. And another glory of the stars. Then he says this: "As one star differeth from another star in glory, so also is the resurrection of the dead." That is a jealousy to Christ. Some of you are going to be so bright it is going to block out the sun. Some of you are going to be kind of bright. Some of you are going to be not so bright. Some of you are not going to shine at all. Why? Because you did not grasp the concept and do with your life down here what God called you to do. Incredible.

Want to talk about the constellations? There are 88 of them. 12 of them fit into what we call the Zodiac. The Zodiac is what we nominally know in the world today as where your horoscope is.

The horoscope really tells you a horror story about what is going to happen to you in your life. You are going to pretend for a minute there is any credibility in horoscopes. Nothing whatsoever. You do not design your life by the stars. You design your life around a book. Let us be clear on that. People like to say when they meet in a bar or they meet someplace or anywhere. Not to be a bar. I just like bars. Not to be anyplace. You meet somebody and they say, "Hi, my name is Bob." "Hi, my name is Sue." "How are you?" "I am fine." "Oh, that rhymed. Sue, how are you?" "Yes, well, I am quite clever." "You know what? I never believed in God in heaven and all that spirit stuff before, but tonight I do." "Why is that, Bob?" "Because I have seen my first angel."

You have 12 constellations. It does not take an idiot to figure out you have 12 tribes of Israel. Did you ever study the 12 tribes and see how they lay out the gospel? Leo, that is a lion. Virgo, that is a virgin. Serpens. Orion, that is the mighty hunter Nimrod. Draco, the dragon, crooked serpent. Isaiah 27. Argo, the Ark. The Euphrates, the river. Pegasus. Andromeda. And Perseus. There is one. Here you have a guy over here named Perseus. Then you have a woman over here called Andromeda. Andromeda and Perseus are up there right over here. The story is that the great dragon is after Andromeda. Andromeda is going to be taken by the great dragon. And Perseus comes and rescues her. Hello! Andromeda comes out of another constellation. You know what that constellation is called? It is called Pegasus. You know what Pegasus is? The winged horse. You know why? Because when Perseus comes to get Andromeda, they get on the winged horse. And off they go. Revelation 19. It will not beat the book. It will not beat it at all.

You know what Job said in Job 12:7-8? God says, "The things that I made clearly reveal the things you cannot see. Even His eternal power and Godhead."

*Job 12:7-9*

*But ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee:*

*Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.*

*Who knoweth not in all these that the hand of the LORD hath wrought this?*

You know what he just told you? He says the hand of God made all those things. When you ask them, they will teach you about God. I wish I had a month to give this stuff to you.

You want to study unclean spirits? Somebody asked me one time, "What is a demon? What is a devil?" You want to understand it in the Bible? Study birds. Ezekiel 31, Daniel 4, Matthew 13, Revelation 18, study birds. God shows you what you cannot see but what He made. Somebody asked me one time, "Well, you know there was a man in the New Testament. He had 12,000 demons in him. How does one man have 12,000 demons?" The answer to that is to study flies in your Bible. Ecclesiastes 10, Matthew 12:27. That is how you learn it. It is a pattern.

Job 39:1-30 talks about wild goats, wild asses, unicorns, peacocks, ostriches, hawks, grasshoppers, the horse, and the eagle. They all mean something. They all mean something.

*2 Peter 2:22*

*But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.*

It says, "The unsaved man returned to his as a dog, returned to his vomit, so does an unsaved man." I do not mean to be gross, but you are going to hear worse than this on television this afternoon. If you have a little baby on the way home, you probably handle worse. But that is a true statement. You want to study an unsaved person? Study a dog.

I am a dog lover. I love dogs. The more I am around people, the more I love dogs anyhow. But I love dogs. Some of you all love your dogs. We talk about our dogs. When I go away, I take care of my dogs better than most parents take care of their kids. My dogs listen better, by the way, too. But I am going to tell you something. I am a dog lover. When I am sitting down there at night, chilling back after my last appointment, and I am just trying to freshen out, they are all with me. I have three labs: a black one, a yellow one, and a brown one. The brown one goes about 120 pounds. The yellow one goes about 90, and the black one goes about 80. When I come down steps, they have one goal. It is a game we play: "Everybody get as close to Bob as we can." Nothing in this world, and sitting there and watching the big brown one on his back with his head in my lap, the little white one on the floor, sound asleep with a head to the left with both four legs straight up in here, and Tinker, the black one over here, just doing her own thing. I love them.

Nothing worse than this. Two of my dogs, really, they cut their own toenails. They chew their toenails off, and they are manicured perfectly. Saves me some bucks. I appreciate that. Extra treats. But I am sitting there, but I have got to tell you, they like to lick you. They like to kiss you. But at the end of the day, dogs are some of the dirtiest animals you ever had in your life. I say that fully knowing how much I love them, because that verse is true. I do not mean to be gross, but do you know if a dog throws up, you know he will go eat his own vomit? I appreciate that, because in my house, I never have to bother cleaning it up. When I am getting sick, I say, "I will be back in a little bit," come back, the dog has taken care of it. I appreciate that. Dogs do some gross things. I do not mean to be gross, but you know dogs eat their own droppings? I do not understand. I asked a vet one time. You know this is true. It drives me nuts. I mean, I will have three of them go out, and I have a police officer. "Stop!" I try to work the angles out where I am standing between them. So when this one goes, the little white one, she is right over there at lunchtime. That is the way it is.

I talked to a vet one time. I had a German shepherd, and he was terrible at it. The first thing the vet told me was, "You know why they do that?" And I said, "No." He says, "Because they have vitamin deficiency in their body that they are trying to replace." Whoa. Once I heard that, the first thing I did on the way home was buy me some vitamins. I do not want that problem. I stopped off at Walgreens and got me some vitamins. That is not going to happen. I got her some, too. I said, "Hey, honey, come on. We will share these together, okay?" No. I am an idiot, okay? I know that. Here is my mindset. I think I am going to say, "Okay, I am going to fix this dog, German Shepherd." So I got me a can of red, hot, black pepper. And I say to myself, I say it in the hand, he could not understand me. I said it to myself, "I am going to break you with this." So I let him go out there, got him away, went off that thing, and I put that red pepper every place on

there. I mean, it was so thick. And I said, "Now, I am going to break you with that right now once in a row." Open that door and say, "Come and dine, the Master calls, come and dine." He ran over there. He liked it better with the pepper on than he did before. I do not know what to tell you. It just did not work.

But you never notice how that is like an unsaved man. An unsaved man, he will go to the place where he will go out and get drunk, come home so he is so drunk, he will throw up. See, that is what it really means when it says he turned into his vomit. It does not mean as an unsaved man you go out and vomit. It means that every time you go out, if I went out one time and did something that absolutely made me go home and just puke my guts up, I do not think I would do it the next day again. Why do they? Why do they? Why is it time after time after time? I said to a guy one time who was lost, "Why do you do that?" He says, "Because it is such a great time." You want to study unsaved people? Study dogs.

*Proverbs 26:11*

*As a dog returneth to his vomit, so a fool returneth to his folly.*

It says an unsaved woman is like a sow. This is why people do not like the Bible. Do not get mad at me. I did not say that. God said it. I would not call anybody that, but God did. Just as the dog returned to his vomit, a sow returned to her mire. It is just one of those things where that is how God looked at it.

*Proverbs 11:22*

*As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout, so is a fair woman which is without discretion.*

That is a great verse. That verse will help you so you do not marry an unsaved woman no matter how good she looks. It is not "playboy" according to God. It is "pig boy." You see an unsaved woman with no discretion, unsaved, and she is all gussied up. The Bible said, do not get mad at me. The Bible said, the world looks at it and says, "Whoa, that is what I am talking about." God looks at it and says, "What is the matter with you, Bob? Do not you know that is just a gold-studded pig? That is a pig that likes to wallow in the mire, that puts some gold on her so you think she was beautiful." Do not get mad at me. If you are mad at me and you are unsaved, I have a great deal for you. Get saved, you will not have to worry about it anymore.

In Matthew 23, false religious vipers are called, and it ties to Genesis 3, as the serpent. In 1 Corinthians 9:9-10, he said, a Christian is likened to an ox. A Christian couple are likened to two oxen yoked together. In the Old Testament, they use oxen. You know why? You know what an ox is? Oxen are not born. Oxen are born one way, then they have to get an operation that makes them a new creature, then they become an ox. You were not born a child of God. Once you got the operation of God made without hands, it made you a new creature in Christ Jesus. That is why you are likened to oxen. You know, in the Old Testament, it was a violation of law to plow with an ox tied to an ass. You know why that is? Because an ass in the Bible is a picture of an unsaved man. That is what the Bible says over in 1 Corinthians 9, as a Christian, you should not yoke yourself getting married to an unsaved person. That is how you learn these things.

Prayer warriors in the Bible are likened to eagles flying high, Isaiah 40:31. They see everything around them. Christ is called a Lamb. He is called a Lamb at the first coming of Christ. He is called a Lion at the second coming. It is all right there. It is all perfect for you. You could not miss it.

I talked about the fact that an unsaved man is likened to an ass. Of course, in the Gospels, somebody tell me what today is. I will help you. Give you a key. What is today? Palm Sunday. You know what happened on Palm Sunday? On Palm Sunday, that is when He entered into Jerusalem. They put down the palm leaves. Did you ever study that story? In that story, when you put it all together, the Bible says that He tells them there is an ass over here and there is an ass's colt. Jesus tells them to bring both of them. He rides the ass's colt, but He does not ride the ass. You know why? There is a reason for it that lays out one of the greatest concepts that you are ever going to find out about how God is working with people. It is that simple.

Matthew 4:19. You want to be a soul winner? You want to know what the key to soul winning is? You study the things that God did and He made, and you learn how to do the things you cannot see. You do not have to get a program. You do not have to go buy a book. Did you ever find it strange that God said to them in Matthew 4:19, "I am going to make you fishers of men?" Did you ever wonder why the first three or four disciples that He called were commercial fishermen? Did you ever see in the Bible how they fish? Did you ever see in the Bible what happens when they do not fish the right way? You want to learn how to be a soul winner? Learn how to fish! You do not have to go buy somebody's book. You do not have to go to somebody's soul winning seminar. He shows you the things you cannot see by the things that He made. Just that simple.

## VI. The Unsaved Gentile: Without Excuse

The masses of the Gentile nations are lost. They are in darkness today. Yet the Bible says, because of what I just showed you, they are without excuse. The witness of God and His creation and who He is has been sealed in His creation. His Holy Spirit of God works with the conscience of man, so when a man is faced with those things, he wonders about those things. He wonders why the birds fly south every fall. He wonders why they get back up. He looks at that little beetle called the bombardier beetle. Its only way of escape is it has two little pods on the back of its thorax. That is what they call bugs, his lower body thorax. You know what he does? When he is going to be attacked, one little pouch back there has some kind of mixture in it. The other one has another kind. When he squirts those out together, it ignites, and it sends him off, rocket-propelled. I would not mind having something like that myself every once in a while. Now you think that is by evolution? We realize that if he just got a little more of one and not enough of another, it would be a gigantic little explosion there. God does those things. He puts His hand and seals His hand and His fingerprints on His creation.

When an unsaved Gentile without Christ, who has seared his conscience with a hot iron (1 Timothy 4:2), and he says to you, "Well, what about all the heathen that have not heard?" You are in a better position to give him an answer. A guy said to me one time after I was witnessing, he heard me, and he came over and said, "I got a question for you." He says, "Where do the heathen go?" I said, "Oh, they go to Sears. They go to Penney's. They go to Walmart." You see, we like to

think there is a difference between the heathen over here than the heathen right here. There is no difference. You know why? Because God has revealed Himself to both. That is why you have some of those Indian tribes that knew about the great white father, the great spirit, and looked for a book from His Son, and then you had some of them that did human sacrifice. That is why today you have some who find God in our country and some who find God in this city, and the other ones are just sacrificing their whole families. It is the same system. You have got to understand that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all, and He is the true Light, the Light of every man. But what a man does with that light after God lights him is no different in Africa, or the Aborigines, or down in the Congo, as it is in Kansas City. God reveals Himself in His entirety, and the fact that you and I cannot fully understand it certainly does not mean that that is the way it works. He does it to His own pleasure the way He does it through His natural creation, which is His revelation about Himself. You want to find out about the things that you cannot see? Study the things that God made.

You always want to remember that at one time, every one of those nations knew God and had His light, and every one of those nations turned their back on Him and rejected the light and His revelation, and God took away His truth from them. You need to know that. There has never been a nation on this planet that did not have a complete understanding and revelation of God at one point or the other. You say, "Well, I do not want to look at Europe." Europe is atheistic and amoral and completely no concept of God, but 400 years ago, they were the nation that God, the continent that God used to spur the great, under Martin Luther, the great gospel going to the world through the Reformation.

America was built, its foundation, its founding fathers built the King James 1611 into its foundation of the Constitution. When they first got it, they sent it back because they did not have enough references to God and made him put two more references in. It was founded on the Bible. It was founded on the principle. I do not care the fact that men today legislate evil. I do not care the fact that evil is called good and good is called evil. I do not care that truth is fallen in the street. I do not care that men do not understand judgment. It is a fact this country was built on that book. It is where it is at today because it has rejected it. It is on its way, coming just like England, an absolute apostate nation with no knowledge of God and no morals. Every nation on this planet had true truth. That is why the Bible says they are without excuse. God now deals in those apostate nations on an individual basis through their conscience and their attitude of heart.

If you ever see, go back to the sun a moment. If you ever see how God fixed that thing. God fixed His atmosphere. God fixed the atmosphere. We call it refraction. Did you ever see the sun set or the sun come up? When it goes down, the sun looks 5,000 times bigger than it does when it is in the sky. You ever notice that? You ever see it go over water? Ever see it go over the landscape, and that thing, when it gets down in the sky, it looks about this big when it is up in the sky. It looks like this. In the morning, it is the same way. Now science calls that the refraction of light. When you look up in astronomy, this is true. If you want to get the clearest, steadiest view, you look when the thing is straight overhead. Because our atmosphere is clouded with all kinds of crud. In fact, they say that if you are looking straight overhead, you are looking through about 5 miles of turbulence or dirt, whatever. If you are looking down on the horizon, you are looking

through about 200 miles of it because it is all flattened down. So when you see the sun through that, that light is being refracted through all that, and it makes it appear a lot bigger than it is. That is what Mr. Wizard would tell you.

The Bible says this. God fixed that sun and the atmosphere and everything about it. Did you ever see it when it goes down? It is blood red. You ever see it when it comes up in the morning? It is blood red. God fixed it that the last thing man would see in an exaggerated form was the blood of Jesus Christ. God's Son cleansed us from all sins. At the end of the night, when the morning came, the first thing he saw in the morning was the blood of Jesus Christ. God's Son cleansed us from all sins. One at night, one in morning. First coming, second coming. The single greatest thing God ever taught me was Romans 1:19-20. God revealing Himself, His fingerprints through His physical creation, the invisible things clearly seen, understood by the key thing that God made. Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, not only as unsaved people, but as God's people, we are without excuse. We have bound every eye closed.