

STATE OF THE WORLD

Romans 1:24-32

INTRODUCTION

- A. Throughout the history of God's people, they were challenged to remember from whence they came.
 - 1. The Israelites preparing to enter Canaan. Dt.
 - 2. Joshua relinquishes his leadership. Josh. 23, 24
 - 3. Samuel relinquishes his leadership. 1 Sam. 12
 - 4. Paul wrote they [Israelites] were for example. 1 Cor. 10:6-11
 - a. V. 6, don't crave evil things.
 - b. V. 7, don't be idolaters.
 - c. V. 8, don't act immorally.
 - d. V. 9, don't "try" the Lord.
 - e. V. 10, don't grumble.
- B. We need to continually take inventory of our lives to see that we are in accordance with God. 2 Cor. 13:5

I. THE GENTILE WORLD.

- A. Sins by Category.
 - 1. Comprehensive – hate God, atheists. [Not reading God's Word, missing worship for convenience.]
 - 2. Self-serving – controlled by greed (lottery). [Jobs more important than the Lord.]
 - 3. Malicious – the desire to cause injury or distress to another (gossip, protests).
 - 4. Self-absorbed – all about self, boastful, arrogant.
 - 5. Deadly Duo – disobedient to parents, *lack of compliance to authority*.
 - 6. Final Four – unloving and uncaring.
- B. Guilt and Condemnation.
 - 1. Those who practice such things...deserving of death.
 - 2. Those who give hearty approval...encourage or applaud their efforts.
- C. Here and Now.
 - 1. The world Paul addressed almost 2000 years ago could easily be our world today.
 - a. Puffed up, 1 Timothy 6:4-5
 - b. Lovers of self, 2 Timothy 3:2-4
 - c. Foolish and disobedient, Titus 3:3
 - 2. And is it also possible that unintentionally we have aligned ourselves more with the world than we would care to admit?
 - a. When our desires are self-centered?
 - b. When we dress in the ways of the world...
 - c. When we speak the ways of the world...
 - d. When our worship is geared for pleasing us...
 - e. Have we not given "hearty approval" to the world?

II. ANSWER TO A LOST WORLD.

- A. Return to God and His Way.
 - 1. 2 Chronicles 7:14

2. Psalm 33:12, *“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, ...”*
- B. Return to the Bible.
 1. Hosea 4:6, *“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.”*
 2. Matthew 6:33, *“Seek first His kingdom, ...”*
 3. 2 Timothy 4:2-4
 4. Psalm 119
 - a. v. 89, *“Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven.”*
 - b. v. 90, *“Thy faithfulness throughout all generations; ...”*
 - c. v. 92, Obedience to God’s Law.
 - d. v. 95, Thy Word saves from the wicked.
 - e. v. 97, *“O how I love Thy law!”*
 - f. v. 98, Study makes me wiser.
 - g. vss. 99-100, Greater understanding...
 - h. v. 101, Thy Law a guide...
 - i. v. 103, *“How sweet are Thy words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth!”*
 5. Condemn godless ways.
 - a. Galatians 5:19-21
 - b. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
 6. Share promises from God.
 - a. Philippians 4:6-7, the peace of God.
 - b. Hebrews 13:5, never forsake you.
 - c. Ephesians 3:16, strengthened with power through His Spirit...
 - d. Ephesians 1:7, *“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, ...”*
- C. Share Our Hope.
 1. Proverbs 14:34, *“Righteousness exalts a nation, ...”*
 2. We are salt of the earth. Matthew 5:13
 3. We are the light of the world. Matthew 5:14, 16