

# Romans 07 – Consequences of Rejecting God’s Truth

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Romans 1:28-32

## Prologue: State of Lost Man

- Positive feedback loop:  
Inner degradation AEB  
outer degradation
  - Natural consequence
  - You are cannot stop the downward spiral
  - Only Christ breaks this cycle: Salvation



## Prologue: Mankind Judged

- Body most obvious form of degradation (1Co 6:12-18)
- The more God’s Truth rejected, the further the descent in degradation
- Restored only by Jesus at salvation: New Man (2Co 5:17)

This does not mean one cannot change  
One can change modes; Satan does this for confusion  
Difference between modes and nature (1Co 6:6)



## Rejecting God's Truth

- The ungodly (ἀσέβεια) mind becomes a filter only allowing in that which passes its testing (assaying)
  - Ungodliness will never allow godly truth to enter; it's foolishness to the individual (Ro 2:14)
  - That which is allowed in is considered man's truth
  - Since sin is determining truth, that truth will not be God's truth; it will be untruth: unrighteousness (ἀδικία) which is why it is the object of God's wrath (Ro 1:18)

Paul follows a pattern used in Genesis; giving a general pattern then following up with specifics  
The specifics do not negate the general but fill in with more pertinent detail  
This restatement allows the author to add more detail in layers as in this case

## Mene – Tenkel – Parsin

- God Uses their history to condemn them
  - Mene, Mene – Days accurately measured (Mercy) (Da 6:1, 5, 16; 9:27)
  - Tenkel – Weighed in the balance; found unrighteous
  - Peres – Suffer God's wrath (Isa 19:11-27; He 10:26; Ro 20:11-13)
- You then use this truth as criteria to judge what is acceptable for life; it forms the pattern of your life which God will use to show you as ungodly (ἀσέβεια)

## Lost Man's Rejection of Truth

- Man tests God truth: It is unacceptable (Da 5)
- Becomes basis of one's worldview (Lk 6:37-38)
- Man's sin is his morality; become as cattle (Ex 32:1-34; Ps 73:21-24)



## Legends in their Own Minds

- Sinners test {δοκιμάζω} God's wisdom: Sin is the measure of goodness (Ro 17:7; Ac 5:9; 15:10; He 3:8; 2Co 10:12)
  - Rejects God's wisdom as worthless
- Man fails to understand that Man's wisdom is debased, empty; i.e., truth of God exchanged for lies (Ecc 1:3-11; Ro 1:20-25)
  - Evidenced: [Doing what should not be done {Knowable}]
  - Illuminates our sin: Laodicean Church (Re 3:18)

## Only Unrighteousness Allowed

- Filled {πληρώω} with worthless wisdom, the standard {δοκιμάζω} {worldview} of these four standards (Ro 6:38)
  - Unrighteousness {ἀδικία} - Thoughts, Words and Deeds
  - Wickedness {πονηρία} - Dead works: Form of godliness (2Ti 3:4-5; He 9:14)
  - Covetousness {πλεονεξία} - Driven to possess (1Jo 2:15-17)
  - Malice {κακία} - Goal of sin: Condemnation of God

## Worldview: Standards of Assay



## Self-Demotion to Brute Beasts

- Degradation: Self-demotion from being in the image of God to being in the image of a sinner; lower than man (Ps 73; Jn 8:44)
- People born as sinners evidenced by their behaviors that place themselves on the level of animals (Cattle)
- Simile: Bible teaches animals do not have morality, only man; yet, man voluntarily places himself on the level of animals when rejecting God's truth

Evolution

## Without Self-Control (Ro 5:21-24)

- Sinners completely filled (μεστός) with the following behaviors demonstrating their slavery to sin (Ro 6:16)
- Sinners have no goodness in themselves because they do not have the indwelling Holy Spirit (New Covenant)
- This list is not all inclusive but exemplary; i.e., all behaviors from the sinful heart are degrading, controlling, evil and dead works

## Filled With Sin #1

- In Greek, continuous list of direct objects flowing from rejecting God's truth (Ro 1:28)
- Jealousy (φθόνος) - Desiring what others possess (Jn 4:1-4)
- Murder (φόνος) - Ultimate act of anger (Ro 5:21-24)
- Quarreling (ἔρις) - No (true) peace; only alliances (Ro 12:18)
- Devious (δόλος) - Worldly wisdom; cunning (Pr 25:12)
- Mischievousness (κακότης) - Guides astray (Loki) (Pr 11:20)

## Without Self-Control (Ro 5:22-24)

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  - Sinners have no goodness in themselves because they do not have the indwelling Holy Spirit (New Covenant)
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## Filled With Sin #3

- Each person exhibits these in various ratios; even saved
  - Empty Braggart (άλαζών) - Empty words: powerlessness
  - Designs only Evil (έφευρέτης κακός) - Imagination (He 4:12)
  - Rebellious to Parents (άπειθής γονεύς) - Reject authority
  - Foolish (άσύνετος) - Rejects God; worships self
  - Untrustworthy (άσύνητος) - Trusts nothing (Gollum)
  - Unable to Love (άστοργος) - Only from God (1Co 13:4&8, 13)

## Lost Never Understands Mercy

- Paul's list ends on the most outwardly differentiating quality between saved (matured) and lost (1Co 6:17-20)
  - Merciless (άνελεήμων) - Just as God is the only source of love, the lost can express a type of affection but can never express biblical love, so also the lost have no capacity for mercy (Ro 9:14&23)
  - Lost holds lofty those who seek to live with mercy, but their gains do not develop mercy; only death (Ro 5:7)

## Sinners Know God's Decree

- Creation communicates God's truth which the Lost reject leaving without excuse
  - They know that they have transgressed God's justice and are deserving of death (Paul will prove this later)
  - Rather than repent, sinners continue in sin and condemn themselves by **approving** of those who have similar worldviews (Birds of a feather flock together) (Alliance)

## Fallacy of the Majority

- Blatant reliance on logical fallacy: Appeal to Majority: Something is right because everyone agrees it is right
  - Killing is wrong because we all agree it is wrong
  - Common position of the lost justifying their co-opting of biblical morality
  - Killing is wrong because it is written in our souls as image bearers of God that killing is wrong

## Epilogue: Rejection of Truth

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## Epilogue: Worldview of Sinners



## Epilogue: Man Filled with Sin

- Sin never submits to God's righteousness (Ro 7:14)
- Sin is never separated from the flesh
- The New Nature replaced the old nature (Ro 7:17)
- The New Body will replace the old body (Ro 7:4-5)
- All people universally condemned as sinners AEB by their behaviors and worldviews: Only Christ can change this by Salvation

## Many Qualities are Natural

- Many of the sins of Paul's list are touted as natural and even desirable to people
  - Proves truth of Paul's last verse; all want to *appear* right with God without being right with God
  - Calling ourselves Good means we are good {Fallacy}
- Our conscience labels us as evil {guilt} even as we try to masquerade as innocent (Ro 2:15; Ro 20:12)