



ROMANS

Being a Christian instead
of being Religious

3. The need for a Rescuer

Romans 1:18-32

1. The need for Good news about righteousness - v18

- v17,18 – “a righteousness from God is being revealed... for the wrath of God is being revealed”
- To get why the gospel is good news, we need to understand the bad news
- Yet God’s wrath flows out of his love and delight in his creation

2. The Grim Exchange v19-32

- 3 grim exchanges show that man is a mess in need of rescue - v23,25,26

a. Reality for Fiction - “suppress truth... exchange truth of God for a lie”

- Creation & Conscience speak to all people about existence of God
- The God of the Bible means we are dependant, accountable and guilty
- So we leave God out, or remake him creating our own version of reality

Consequences

- v21,28 – living in fiction leads to inability to see/think clearly

b. The Living God for Lifeless idols - “exchanged the immortal God for images”

- We all worship something – look to someone/thing to give us esteem, purpose, acceptance, happiness, hope, forgiveness, control
- Only the glorious living God can provide all these

Consequences

- When we fail our ‘idols’, they make us feel worse, with no forgiveness
- v24: We become less human – blind & deaf to other concerns/people
- v24: We become enslaved – our desires drive us to destruction

c. Glory for Shame - “exchanged natural for unnatural”

- Paul gives a grim description of a ‘Shameless’ culture
- Both sexual relationships & social relationships are harmed
- Both deeply destructive and hurtful – not what we were made for
- v32 delighting in wrong, and in urging others to do it

Consequences

- v27 – shameful behaviour brings its own problems
- v28 – we become victims of our own shameless thinking

3. The Glorious Exchange

- How does God react? 2 aspects
 - a. He lets people see consequences - “Then God gave them over”
 - b. He performs his own glorious exchange (ch 3:21-26, also 2 Cor 5:21)
 - On the cross – Jesus bears the wrath - ‘given over’ to death for us
 - Living God became lifeless so we who deserved death could live
 - Resurrection confirms the glorious exchange: Glory⇒shame⇒glory. All who trust in Jesus’ exchange will find themselves raised to glory



new life fellowship

S E R V I N G J E S U S C H R I S T T H E K I N G

www.newlifefellowship.ie - part of the reformed presbyterian church of ireland

Sunday 12th April 09

Notices

- | | | |
|----------------------|--|-----|
| Sun | Evening service at Mark & Judith’s
Sermon study on this morning’s sermon | 8pm |
| Tues | No bible study this week | |
| Wed 22 nd | Prayer time for Donegal - in Letterkenny | 8pm |
| Sat 25 th | Presbytery Youth event - Climbing Muckish (not only for young people)
Meeting at southern end at shrine at 1.30
Bring coat, appropriate footwear, and food | |
| Sun 26 th | Evening talk - What are you banking on?
Applying investment principles to our spiritual lives | 8pm |

Camp Application forms available - Remember the fellowship pays half of the cost

- Boys’ Discovery Camp - 10-12yrs - 25th July-1st Aug - (Armagh)
- Girls’ Discovery Camp - 10-12yrs - 25th July-1st Aug - (Coleraine)
- Boys’ Adventure Camp - 13-15yrs - 25th July-1st Aug - (Larne)
- Girls’ Adventure Camp - 13-15yrs - 18th-25th July - (Armagh)
- Senior Camp - 16+yrs - 4th-11th July - (Armagh)

Christianity Explored



A 6-week course designed to let you find out the facts about Jesus, or to refresh your memory, and to find answers to your questions about Jesus, the Bible or Christianity.

- You don’t need to know anything about the Bible
- You won’t be asked to read, pray or answer questions
- You will be given every opportunity to ask your own questions

If you’re interested in finding out more, or having one in your home for friends to come to - speak to Mark

Sunday 19th - Romans 2:1-16

Opening Psalm: 100

Pastor: Mark Loughridge Tel: 074 9123961 email: mark@newlifefellowship.ie

Oversight elders: William Lynch 048 7139 8002 Robert Tait 9101668 Colin Tait 9147352