

# *God Gave Them Up*

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**Romans 1:24** Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

## I. Wherefore...

- A. Because they had abandoned God, then dishonored God, became vain in their minds and hearts, and then professed themselves wise.
- B. God withdraws from them that they may dishonor themselves and be proven to be fools.
- C. This is the well-traveled, broad road to hell and destruction that the human race has followed since the first sin committed by a man.

**Genesis 6:3** And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.

- D. Watch yourself because there is a point where God stops dealing with you about your sin and foolishness.
- E. Our world celebrates this with all their “coming out.”
  - 1. They “come out” as sodomites.
  - 2. They “come out” as transgender.
  - 3. They “come out” as atheists or agnostics.
  - 4. What are they saying by this other than they do not feel any restraint or condemnation for it anymore?
- F. Woe unto those people who celebrate the fact that God’s Spirit does not bother them anymore about their uncleanness, vile affections, and mind operates without any influence from God!

## II. God also gave them up...

- A. They gave God up and so He eventually gave them up.
- B. They turned loose of God and then turned away from Him.
- C. So God turns loose of them and turns away from them.
- D. It is not that God drives them to uncleanness, vile affections, and a reprobate mind, but it is more than just abstention; God positively withdraws his hand.
- E. This speaks of a force removed.
  - 1. As a doctor who simply puts away his instruments and retires from a patient who repeatedly ignores his instructions and refuses his treatments.
  - 2. This leaves the patient to suffer the full force of his disease or injury unchecked until it cripples him for life or kills him.
  - 3. It is like cutting the chain that holds the ship to its mooring, to let it go where the wind and the current take it with no control or direction.
  - 4. It is like knocking the scotch out from under the wheel of a truck parked on an incline, so that it rolls down the hill freely until it crashes.

## III. ...to uncleanness.

- A. There is the holy and there is the profane.
- B. There is the clean and the unclean.
- C. The holy and the clean are given up by those who are under the control of their lusts.

- D. The idea of anything holy is meaningless to a person who is living unbridled according to his lusts.
- E. The idea of uncleanness has no significance to a person who has nothing to aspire to except the gratification of his lusts.
- F. Everything becomes common and nothing is special, or sacred, or holy, or pure.

Titus 1:15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

Titus 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

- G. Humans become animals and animals become humans.

Psalm 49:20 Man that is in honour, and understandeth not, is like the beasts that perish.

- H. They would as soon kiss a dog as a baby.
- I. They will share their bed, their spoon, their plate with a dog who just licked his hind end.
- J. They lose all their common sense about defilement, pollution, and contamination of what goes in their mouth, their ears, and their mind and their soul.
- K. There is nothing to restrain them anymore from uncleanness in body, mind, heart, and spirit.
- L. Just as an animal will lick up the dirt with the food, they devour whatever is before them without any concern about it at all.
- M. They will listen to whatever the world or the vile people around them say, and they will watch whatever is before their eyes.

Romans 1:32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

- IV. ...through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:
  - A. God gave them up “TO” uncleanness, “THROUGH” the lust of their own hearts.
  - B. Lusts are like the current of the river that carry you eventually to the vast abyss of the sea.
  - C. When God gives someone up to uncleanness through the lust of their heart it is the last and only hope for their soul.
  - D. When a person has reached a certain degree of corruption he can only be cured by the excess of his own corruption.
    - 1. It is the only means left of producing what all else has failed to effect in this hardened heart.
  - E. At a certain point the father of the prodigal will let him go and even give him the share of his goods, and pray and hope that he comes to himself before he dies.
  - F. The lusts of the heart left without any checks will degrade a person and leave him in dishonor, like the prodigal in the pig pen, with no friends and nothing to eat but the slop they fed the hogs.
  - G. This is what happens to man who dishonors and degrades God and lives according to his lusts; he reaps what he sows.
  - H. This is not a study in what has happened in some past generation – it is the road map for every person who turns away from God.
  - I. We all know people, and have family and loved ones, who are some point along this road right now.
  - J. Just because God has given them up to uncleanness and vile affections and even a reprobate mind, does not mean that God has given up on their soul.