

I

No Excuses!

ROMANS 1:19–23

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools,²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

READ | ROMANS 1:19–23

THINK ABOUT

From Genesis until today, humanity has made excuses for its rebellion against God. We are constantly replacing God's glory with things that are made by human hands. From the worship of our jobs, money, families, relationships, religious activities, reputation, leisure, pleasures, and most of all ourselves, we are people who have become simple-minded and pursuers of that which is futile. We all have been guilty of worshiping the gift above the Giver. God has given us much evidence on a daily basis that He is ever-present. We have no excuse for neglecting worshiping Him daily. Everything from our spouses, children, abilities, material possessions, food, to all of creation point to the divine nature of God.

APPLY

Evaluate in your life areas that you have been neglecting to give God the glory He demands. Ask these questions, because they will reveal what is going on in your heart: Where does my money go? What do I spend most of my time doing? Where does my mind drift to when I have idle time? The answers to these questions will reveal to you the desires of your heart. Make a conscious effort this week to see God in everything! Stop making excuses for why you don't give God everything, and realize He is the owner of everything.

ASK

What excuses do you make for not serving and worshiping God?

What are some areas in your life in which you are living in disobedience?

PRAY

Praise God for His grace, mercy, and pursuit of you.

Pray that He will open your eyes to the blind spots in your life and make you sensitive about justifying your sins.

SING

[“O Praise the Name” — Hillsong Worship](#)

THE BIG IDEA

God has revealed Himself and truth to all our hearts. As such, all humankind stands condemned before God and are equally in need of Christ and the salvation He offers. Those who reject Christ's free offer of eternal life will have no excuse.

KEY POINTS

God has revealed to mankind all we need to know about Him (vv. 19–20a).

There is no excuse for those who choose to reject God (v. 20b).

Knowledge of God does not always result in a relationship with God (vv. 21–22).

They trade the incorruptible glory of God for all forms of corruption (v. 23).

LIFE APPLICATION

Those who choose to reject God do so to their peril.

A person's rejection of God today could lead to his rejection for eternity.

To reject the revealed truth of God equates one to a fool.

DISCUSSION

What are some examples of corruptible things for which we trade God's glory today?

Does human knowledge usually lead us toward God or away from Him?

Why do "smart people" often seem to choose the corruptible things of the world above Christ?

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