

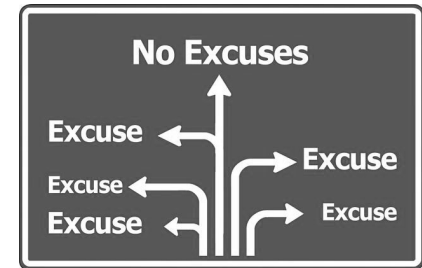
REASONS FOR THE WRATH OF GOD

ROMANS 1:22 — RATIONALIZATION

“Professing to be wise, they became fools” (Ro.1:22)

■ “Professing” [G5335, *phaskō*] Asserting, w/o evidence, their own imaginative opinion

- Vincent (Gk. *phasko* from *phemi*) ‘used of unfounded assertion’
- Asserting, without evidence, their own imaginative opinion
- They force their own opinion from their darkened hearts
- Mere assertion of wisdom w/o evidence is an empty illusion
- Imagination and opinion are not evidence
- The knowledge of God (revelation) gives God glory, which man rejects

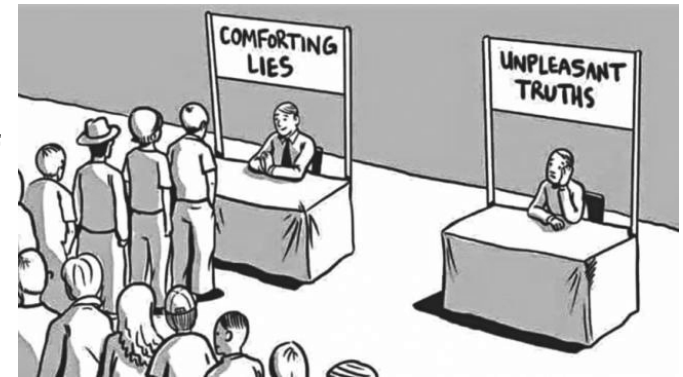


■ “to be wise” [Gk. *einai sophos* (G4680)] Refusing to glorify God makes them wise in their own minds

- “He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the LORD” (Pr.17:15)
- Their refusal to glorify God became vain laboring of the mind
 - The mind works hard to NOT give glory to God
- Complete rejection of the truth makes us foolish
- Unbelievers are fools thinking they are safe and wise
- Spurgeon - “The way to be a fool is to pretend to be wise”
- When God is omitted, man’s darkened mind speaks foolishness

■ “they became fools” [G3471, *mōrainō*] **The result of life w/o God**

- [*mōrainō* from *mōros*, root to our English word moron]
- Despite the evidence, man chooses to deny the undeniable
- Thoughts of God, man, and the universe becomes nonsense
- **Proverbs 26:12** speaks of “a man wise in his own conceits”
- Once we reject truth (revelation), we will fall for anything foolish
- Rejecting the light of God's knowledge they become fools. Men turn from revelation to philosophy.
- “Always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (2Tm.3:7)



REASONS FOR THE WRATH OF GOD

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ROMANS 1:22 — RATIONALIZATION

■ “to be wise” [Gk. *einai sophos* (G4680)] Refusing to glorify God makes them wise in their own minds

- “²⁰Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! ²¹Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!” (Is.5:20-21)
- Speaking of Babylon, “For you have trusted in your wickedness; You have said, 'No one sees me'; Your wisdom and your knowledge have warped you; And you have said in your heart, 'I am, and there is no one else besides me.’” (Is.47:10)

■ “they became fools” [G3471, *mōrainō*] The result of life without God

- Rejecting the light of God's knowledge turns us into fools
- “The fear of the Lord is the beginning” of both knowledge and wisdom (Pr.1:7;9:10)
- “And David's heart condemned him after he had numbered the people. So David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done; but now, I pray, O LORD, take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly.” (2Sm.24:10)
- David knew it was wrong to take a census, but he suppressed that knowledge
- “¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.” (Ja.3:13-14)
- The “age of reason” in fact gave birth to the “age of fools”!
 - The brilliant philosopher Voltaire, asserted within 50 years the Bible would be forgotten, and Christianity gone (1700's).
 - 20 years after his death (1778) the Geneva Bible Society purchased his home for printing Bibles
- R. A. Torrey, “Professing themselves to be wise, they became philosophers? No, Foolosophers”.
 - Frog + Princess = Handsome prince (this is called a “fairy tale”)
 - Frog + 10 billion years = Handsome prince (this is called “science”)
- Evolution over time, a “big bang” very quickly, and theistic evolution all came from “scientists”.