

# *A Disapproved Mind*

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November 25, 2007

***Message Title : "A Disapproved Mind"***

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## **Rom 1:28-32**

28 And even as they did not like to **retain God in their knowledge**, God **gave them over to a reprobate mind**, to do those **things which are not convenient**;

29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

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.

## **Rom 1:28 (Young's Literal Translation)**

28 And, according as **they did not approve of having God in knowledge**, God gave them up to **a disapproved mind**, to do the things not seemly;

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## **Rom 1:28 (Easy-To-Read)**

28 People **did not think it was important** to have a true knowledge of God. So God left them and allowed them to have **their own worthless thinking**. And so they do what they should not do.

## **Rom 1:28 (Complete Jewish Bible)**

28 In other words, since **they have not considered God worth knowing**, God has given them up to **worthless ways of thinking**; so that they do improper things.

- We are our worse enemy; we live lives that are self destructive and cast the blame for our mistakes on others.
- Much of the failures and frustrations of our lives can be traced directly and specifically to the way we process information and more precisely, what and how we think about God.
- It has been the Devil's intent from the Garden to pervert our view of God and to pervert our view of him. And, he did that by causing mankind to have an improper view of himself; focusing man upon his own ego in the Garden.
- Selfish and self-centered thinking always leads a person down an ungodly slope of destruction. Because, self-centeredness denies the rights, opportunities, and respect of your fellow man and it causes you to see yourself in an improper light.

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- When we have a godly mentality, we began to see ourselves as being fellow citizens of God's kingdom and not lords and princes over each other.
- In the Book of Romans, Paul gives us a detailed account of the failures of the carnal, ungodly, unregenerate man; how he got in that state; the provision that God made for him; his present state; and his future hope.
- He exposes the origin and nature of every unholy and perverted act that mankind has perpetrated since the creation of the world. But, he never leaves us in despair, nor did he write this Epistle to sadden us with these facts. But, it warns us and gives us hope at the same time, encouraging us to live a godly and holy lifestyle.
- Today, our focus is coming from verse 29 and the selection of the choice word translated in the KJV as reprobate. My thesaurus equates reprobate with degenerate, rascal, no-good, good-for-nothing, and troublemaker. It means an immoral or a damned (condemned) soul.
- It is translated from the Greek word *adokimos*.
  - **adokimos** - pertaining to not being in accordance with what is right, appropriate, or fitting - **'not fitting, what should not be done'**
  - signifying **"not standing the test, rejected"** (a, negative, *dokimos*, "approved"), was **primarily applied to metals** (cf. Isa 1:22); it is used **always in the NT in a passive sense**,
    - ❖ **of things**, Heb 6:8, "rejected," of land that bears thorns and thistles;

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❖ **of persons**, Rom 1:28, of a "reprobate mind," a mind of which God cannot approve, and which must be rejected by Him, the effect of refusing "to have God in their knowledge";

in **1 Cor 9:27** (for which see CAST, REJECTED);

in **2 Cor 13:5,6,7**, where the RV rightly translates the adjective "reprobate" (KJV, "reprobates"), here the reference is to the great test as to whether Christ is in a person;

in **2 Tim 3:8** of those "reprobate concerning the faith," i. e., men whose moral sense is perverted and whose minds are beclouded with their own speculations;

in **Titus 1:16**, of the defiled, who are "unto every good work reprobate," i. e., if they are put to the test in regard to any good work (in contrast to their profession), they can only be rejected.

*(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright © 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers.)*

- Simply put, I love how Young has translated it; a disapproved mind. All of us at some point have had a disapproved mind.
- Therefore, it is safe to say that every reprobated mind is not final. Once that mind is turned to Jesus Christ, then the disapproved may be converted to being approved.
- That's why Paul states in the Book of Romans (12:2) that we are to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Every day we must present our minds to God for a renewing; we must wash our thinking with the water of God's word; we must ask the Holy Ghost to sanctify and to cleanse our thoughts.
- Therefore, whenever I see someone sinning or acting ungodly, I know that they have not presented their whole mind to God. God only approves of a mind that is totally dedicated to Him.
- A disapproved mind leads to disapproved activities, which ultimately leads to a life of eternity in Hell.

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- So, in my closing, I want to offer you hope. That hope is in Jesus Christ and the faith obtained from His death and resurrection.

## **1 Cor 6:9-12**

9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And **such were some of you**: but **ye are washed**, but **ye are sanctified**, but **ye are justified** in the **name of the Lord Jesus**, and **by the Spirit of our God**.

12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but **I will not be brought under the power of any**.

- God uses the Blood of Jesus to wash us from our sins; to sanctify us to Himself; and therefore, we are justified through Jesus Christ and by the works of the Holy Ghost in our Lives.
- The works of the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential to our personal salvation. Jesus paid the price for our sins, but the Holy Ghost appropriates the salvation of Jesus into our lives as we dedicate ourselves to God.
- All that are saved should be living in the 'such were some of you' generation, not the 'such are' some of you generation.
- To be entangled again with that which God has delivered you from is to be reprobate. God did not redeem you for you to be re-entangled again with the yoke of bondage of sin.

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- Therefore, don't allow anything to bring you under its power. Many of you are controlled by some things that are so insignificant and meaningless. All of this leads to reprobation, a disapproved mind.
- Therefore, set your mind on a higher thought process. Keep your mind on things that are above; things that are holy and godly.
- Paul gives us the perfect illustrations and example in **Phil 4:8-9**:

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.