



WHEN GOD BECOMES THE GAME CHANGER

Matthew 6:13; Romans 1:16-32, 5:1-5

BIG IDEA: Sin creates a gory world, but we are called to experience God doing glorious things in spite of it.

Matthew 6:13 (NKJV), . . . For **YOURS** is the **KINGDOM** and the **POWER** and the **GLORY** forever. Amen.

- ❖ God's Kingdom reminds us to live under His **AUTHORITY**.
- ❖ God's Power reminds us He always has the **ABILITY** needed.
- ❖ God's Glory reminds us of our need for His **ANOINTING**.

What Causes God's Glory to Be Suppressed?

Romans 1:16-20, ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, **because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes:** first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. ¹⁷ **For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed . . .**

God's Wrath Against Sinful Humanity

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the **godlessness** and **wickedness** of people, who **SUPPRESS THE TRUTH** by their wickedness, ¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his **eternal power** and **divine nature**—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Romans 1:21-23, ²¹ For although they knew God, they neither **glorified** him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became **futile** and their **foolish** hearts were **darkened**. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the **glory** of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

- ❖ God's truth is suppressed by people desiring their truth to reign instead of God's truth.

How Sinful Ways Strengthen Their Hold Upon Environments

Stage 1 - Sinful yet natural lust. (Romans 1:24-25)

Romans 1:24-25, ²⁴Therefore God gave them over in **the sinful desires of their hearts** to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged **the truth** about God for **a lie**, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

Stage 2 - Sinful perverted lust. (Romans 1:26-27)

Romans 1:26-27, ²⁶**Because of this**, God gave them over to **shameful lusts**. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

Stage 3 - Unbridled lust. (Romans 1:28-32)

Romans 1:28-32, ²⁸**Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them** over to a **depraved mind**, so that they do what ought not to be done. ²⁹**They have become filled** with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; ³¹they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. ³²Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things **but also approve of those who practice them**.

Romans 2:4, Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that **God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?**

What Causes God's Glory to be Released?

Romans 5:1-5, ¹Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have **gained access by faith** into this grace in which we now stand. **And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.** ³Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and **character, hope.** ⁵**And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.**

Questions:

- 1) What did you hear from the Holy Spirit?
- 2) What will you do because of it?
- 3) How can we pray for you?