

“When We Exchange the Truth For a Lie” (Part 3)

Romans 1:28-32 & John 15:5-11

- Romans 1:28 “Given up to a debased mind”: In totally rejecting God (His grace, His design, His Word, His gospel, His love) they find God in totality to be worthless and fully reject all that is good, holy, and righteous.
- Romans 1:32 “Approve of evil”: To justify our own evil and sin is wicked, but to encourage others to join you in death is the pinnacle of “being given over by God.”

“No one is given up by God against their will. This is what they want. There is no one kicking and screaming into this condition saying, “I don’t want this for my life.” No one is given up by God that wants to see God, know God, worship God, and delight in God.”

- The 4 battlefields of putting our sin to death (Colossians 3:5) and abhorring evil (Romans 12:9).
 - *Killing Discontentment with Contentment.*
 - *Killing Impatience with Patience.*
 - *Killing Envy/Covetousness:* This is an unloving attitude towards someone based on what they have. This person is unsatisfied with what they currently have. Envy seeks its own good and disregards the needs of those whom they are called to love. They believe God owes them something. Envy is never satisfied and leads to more sin (1 Peter 2:1; Titus 3:3; 1 Timothy 6:4-5; Romans 11:35).
 - *Genuine Thankfulness:* It is God’s will to be thankful in all circumstances because of the sufficiency of Christ (1 Thessalonians 5:18). God is good and merciful to His children so we should thank Him for who He is and what He has done and what He will do (Psalm 107:1-2 & 8-9). The peace of God is directly tied to our thankfulness (Colossians 3:15; Philippians 4:6-7). A lack of thankfulness will lead us to more sin (Romans 1:21).
 - *Killing Pride:* Pride is demonstrated in gossip (unintentional conversation about things that have not been proven to be true), self-flattery, and self-promotion. Pride is the desire to elevate ourselves by looking as good as possible and make others look as poorly as possible. God and others are seldomly spoken highly of and we are constantly drawing attention to our importance. We grieve the Holy Spirit when we tear others down (Ephesians 4:29-30) and do not share the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). We want to naturally be in control. The most valuable people are those we can’t control and those who love our souls.
 - *Humble Servanthood:* We kill pride when we willingly and joyfully submit to biblical teaching from eldership (Hebrews 13:17). We kill pride when we look for opportunities to build up and honor those who serve in the body of Christ (Romans 12:10; 1 Corinthians 12:25-26). We kill our pride when we serve one another (Galatians 5:13), do good to our enemies (Romans 12:14 & 20), and obey God’s Word (John 14:15). Greatness in God’s economy is found in taking the lowest position you can and still do your calling with excellence (Philippians 2:3-5; Mark 10:43-45).
- The attitudes of those who kill their sin: 1) I’m a servant of Jesus Christ and I am not my own (1:1 & 6). 2) Since I have the Holy Spirit I can walk in obedience to God’s Word (1:5). 3) Prayer is a means to strength and change in my life (1:9-10). 4) God has given me community to help me battle my sin (1:11-12). 5) I am under an obligation to share the gospel (1:14-15). 6) God has given me faith and righteousness as a means to put my sin to death (1:16-17).

Worship: Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery (Matt Boswell)
Holy, Holy, Holy (Various Artists)

He Will Hold Me Fast (Norton Hall Band)

Closing Song: My Worth Is Not In What I Own (The Getty’s)