

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

Romans 1:16-32

Sunday, June 26, 2016

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. Give Paul’s reason for not being ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Can you adopt that same reason for not being ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ?

The gospel is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes. Yes.

2. How did Paul prove people need the gospel?

Paul showed what life is like without the power of God in a person's life. Paul listed the consequences of not believing in and obeying God according to the knowledge of God that God has given in creation (and later in the law of God that God gave to the Jews). The power of God in the gospel can change a believer's life here and for eternity.

3. Toward whom does God express His wrath?

Against all godlessness and wickedness of people. Against those who suppress the truth by their wickedness.

4. What might some of the consequences be in a culture or country where almost all of the leaders are godless and wicked?

All of the evils that Paul listed and more will be increasingly permitted and promoted, especially as new ways of doing evil are invented by godless and wicked people. Former laws against evil practices will be ignored or repealed, and evil practices will increase.

5. What might you say to someone who said, "To sin is natural"?

God created us to live naturally without sin and the Bible reveals how we are to live naturally as created by God. By way of contrast, the Bible also reveals unnatural ways to live that the Bible calls sin and God says He will judge. Through faith in Jesus Christ God gives believers the power to live naturally (and more and more naturally) and Jesus Christ frees believers from slavery to unnatural ways of living and the devil's power.

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