



HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Our nation that we love dearly is spiraling out of control toward utter destruction. Truth is being suppressed. Unrighteousness and ungodliness prevail in every segment of society. Most Americans no longer honor or glorify GOD as HE deserves; and most do not even consider giving HIM thanks for life, liberty and the blessings HE bestows in HIS common grace on all mankind every day.

According to the Pew Research Center, the religious landscape of the United States continues to change at a rapid clip. In 2019, 65% of Americans described themselves as “Christians”. Of that 65%, 43% identify themselves as Protestant - a decrease of 8% since 2009. Out of that 43%, 59% identify themselves as “born again” (a decrease of 12%). If my math is correct, this means a little over 16% of the American population identifies themselves as “Born Again Believers”. In the words of the Pew Research Center: “the U.S. is steadily becoming less Christian and less religiously observant as the share of adults who are not religious grows”. In fact, those who identify themselves as atheist/agnostic/nothing-in-particular now stands at 26% -- an increase of 17% from 2009.

What is happening to America? God gives us the answer in [Romans 3:18](#)—“**THERE IS NO FEAR OF GOD BEFORE THEIR EYES**”. There is no reverence or respect for God throughout the land. [Romans Chapter 1](#) tells us that GOD has made HIS Divine presence and power known to mankind since the creation of the world. Creation reveals a supremely intelligent and all powerful Creator! Therefore, GOD tells us in [Romans 1:20](#) that people have no excuse to not recognize GOD as GOD and to honor HIM, glorify HIM and be thankful to HIM. GOD created man in HIS image to know HIM and to live in eternal fellowship with HIM. But, as GOD, HE has all the authority to be in charge of our lives! And really, Who better? HE is absolute perfect Wisdom! HE is perfect Love! HE is faithful and true! But, mankind’s problem is that we want to be in control rather than God -- so we turn away from GOD’s authority. We think we are so wise, but in reality our reasoning is foolishness when compared to the perfectly wise GOD.

So, [Romans Chapter 1](#) tells us that when a society abandons GOD, GOD will abandon that society to their own flawed, foolish and futile reasoning. The [Scripture](#) says that GOD will “give them over” to their own hearts to “follow their heart” as the Hallmark channel always advises. But, the Bible says in [Jeremiah 17:9](#) that “**the heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly perverse and corrupt, and severely, mortally sick! Who can understand it?**”. When a society chooses to abandon GOD, GOD will progressively remove HIS gracious and merciful hand that restrains us from deceiving ourselves by our heart’s own perverse and corrupt thinking! Without GOD’s intervention, we can be so self-deceived! As we continue to turn away from HIM, GOD will continue to progressively abandon us to ourselves. The result? [Romans 1:18-32](#) gives us the progression:

Stage I ([Romans 1:18-24](#)): When a society chooses to deny GOD and prefers to believe godless speculations, their reasoning becomes more and more foolish and their senses darkened to the presence of GOD. Of course, that means that they do not honor GOD or believe HE should be thanked and praised for every good and perfect thing in our lives! So the result is that GOD will “give them over” to the lusts and impurities in their own hearts. America underwent a major sexual revolution from the 1960s to the 1980s which resulted in the normalization of premarital sex, contraception, pornography, and public nudity (remember the streak?). Wicked men called it “free love” and the “golden age of porn”. The Bible calls it impurity, immodesty, uncleanness and shamelessness. This corrupt “love” comes at great cost and now permeates our society. In addition, it would lead to the rise of abortion, which would be legalized in 1973. Today, apx. 3,000 babies are aborted each day in the US.

Stage II ([Romans 1:25-27](#)): When a society continues to deny GOD, to exchange the Truth of GOD for lies, and to worship and serve the product of their own creation, GOD will “give them over” to what the Bible calls degrading passions within the human heart. The society will now choose what is unnatural over GOD’s created natural order. We see this in society’s shift of GOD’s natural order in human relationships (decline of family/degrading of fatherhood/women’s lib/children ordering the home rather than parents ordering the home/etc.). The shift is so great that Romans clearly describes the society then undergoing a homosexual revolution -- a definite rejection of GOD’s created order. In the 1980s/90s, America saw a major cultural shift in gay pride that has now progressed to the legalization of same-sex marriage in 2016. America is now dealing with Gender and Transgender issues so much so that we don’t know what to do about labeling bathrooms and children don’t know if they are a girl or a boy.

Stage III ([Romans 1:28-32](#)): A society that continues on the path of denying GOD and HIS Truth and worshipping the product of their own creation will eventually overwhelmingly choose to not acknowledge GOD any longer at all. It is at this point, that GOD will “give them over” to a reprobate mind -- which means a mind that can’t function in reason and its decisions make no sense. Since society thinks the mind of GOD is worthless and rejects HIS wisdom and way, GOD will give that society over to their own empty and worthless reasoning and way. It is at this point that things get turned upside down and society becomes filled with all [unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, hateful to God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, unloving \(unnatural family love as in parents abandoning children and vice versa\), unmerciful...](#)([Romans 1:29-31](#)) I recently heard a frustrated police officer in New York City express: “It seems like everything is upside down!” According to [Romans 1:28](#), he’s right.

It is clear to me from what I see in these verses that GOD has been lifting HIS restraining hand from America. America has progressively told GOD that she doesn’t want to believe HIS Word and follow HIS way...instead, she thinks she knows better and she wants her own way. And GOD has been slowly giving America over to her own way. But the wisdom of [Proverbs 14:12](#) tells us that “**there is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death**”. **SO, IS THERE HOPE FOR AMERICA?** That is the subject of the next blog.



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