

## THE STUDY OF GOD IN A NUTSHELL

### THE STUDY OF GOD #17

Today we will finish up this series entitled – The Study of God. I want to finish this series by taking this course of study and putting it into a nutshell. I believe that nutshell is found in Romans 1. Paul begins this letter by revealing the love of God as found in the Gospel message and then detailing very meticulously the guilt of all mankind. Today we will study what I believe to be “The Study of God in a Nutshell.” We begin with:

1. **The Gospel – Rom. 1:16** -. Everything that flows from the nature of God has to do with salvation. There is nothing more important for humanity than the Gospel. When God purposed to create the universe and humanity, the Gospel became the central message. The manner in which God has chosen to reveal Himself to humanity extends into the Gospel message.
2. **The Gospel reveals the righteousness of God – vs. 17** -. The Gospel springs from the goodness and righteousness of God. God has granted grace, mercy and forgiveness to every sinner who will receive it on God’s terms. God’s righteousness cannot be attained by humans; it can be granted by God through salvation in Jesus Christ. God has revealed His righteousness through the Gospel.
3. **The wrath of God – vs. 18** -. God’s righteousness is revealed through the Gospel and His wrath is revealed by means of rejecting the Gospel. This rejection is not by means of ignorance; it is accomplished by means of willfully suppressing the truth and choosing a life of sin over repentance. Evolution is a great example. Evolution is not a viable scientific theory about the origin of the universe; it is an attempt to explain away God so that man can live in sinful freedom. Unsaved man suppresses the truth of God so that he can put that knowledge away from him, which clears the path for sin to run unhindered. In our day, many sins are being recategorized today as no longer wrong; when that happens, the freedom to engage in that sin is opened wide.
4. **God has revealed Himself through His Creation – vs. 19-20** -. The invisible things of God are His attributes. Paul tells us that they are “clearly see” and “understood” by the “things that are made”. If man is honest and not trying to suppress the truth, he will have to come to the conclusion that God exists.

In order for this Creation to exist, the Creator has to be several things – timeless, space less, immaterial, personal, powerful, and intelligent. By virtue of what we see in the universe, God holds every person responsible in seeking Him out through the things that He has revealed about Himself.

5. **God's justification in condemning lost sinners – vs. 21-28.** In the upcoming verses, Paul will lay out why God is completely just in condemning lost sinners who reject His offer of salvation. We will see that unsaved people down through the ages have known who and what the true God is and have willfully made decisions to change, minimize and even eliminate Him from their minds. Things are no different today – vs. 21-28 -.
  
6. **What else can God do – vs. 29-32?** As the chapter ends, Paul continues to lay out the sad state of lost people. Through this list, we will see that despite God's efforts to reveal Himself and His offer of salvation, most people are so full of the wrong things that there isn't much else that God can do for them. Many unsaved people cannot be reasoned with, are not open to the truth, love their sin, don't want to hear anything negative and do not want to be ruled by God. With nothing to work with and no way into the heart, what can God do? Notice what else God is up against – vs. 29-32 -.