

Do You Have Selective Hearing?
Romans 1:18-20

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1. I don't think that all people are deaf, but I do think many have selective hearing.
2. In this section of Romans, Paul is talking about man's selective hearing in relationship to God.
 - a. Up to this point Paul has been expressing his personal feelings about the believers at Rome (v. 8) and his desire to see them (v. 11).
 - b. Verses 18-20 begin this doctrinal section.
 - c. These verses tell us that God has revealed himself to man from both within and without; and because of man's response to these revelations, he will be held accountable in the future, and even now experiences the wrath of God.
3. Let's unpack these thoughts this morning.
 - I. God Has Revealed Himself To Mankind Internally. Romans 1:19, "since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them."
 - A. The phrase, "what may be known" is better translated, "what is knowable."
 - II. God Has Revealed Himself to Mankind Externally. Romans 1:20, "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 men are without excuse."
 - A. God has created everything that exists from nothing for our enjoyment.
 - B. Paul says that this creation reveals two things about God.
 - III. Man is to Respond to Revealed Truth. Romans 1:18, "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness,"
 - A. Paul says these people "suppress the truth."
 - B. There are two consequences to man's suppression of the truth. Romans 1:20, "men are without excuse."
 1. People will be without an excuse (v. 20b.)
 2. The second consequence is the wrath of God talked about in verse 18a.