

## **A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED PAUL'S LETTER TO THE CHURCH IN ROME**

### **THERE IS NO EXCUSE**

Romans 1:18-20 "The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 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 people are without excuse."

Theologians speak about the natural knowledge and revealed knowledge of God in answer to the question how do people know God exists. In answer to those who question how God can expect every human being to know of His existence and His will, Romans 1:19 says, "What may be known about God is plain to them because God has made it plain to them." His creation reveals to human beings His existence and qualities.

In addition to God's creation making man aware of God's existence Romans 2:14-15 says all human beings are aware of God's existence through their conscience, "(Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.)"

Verse 20 says because God's creation reveals His existence as does the human conscience, "human beings are without excuse." For a person to declare themselves an atheist they must ignore creation's message and their very own conscience. They ignore the truth that "God has made plain to them."

By God's grace He has also given you the Holy Scriptures to make you wise unto your salvation as St. Paul writes in 2 Timothy 2:15-17 ". . .from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

God has revealed Himself to you through His creation, your conscience, and the Holy Scriptures and by the power of His Spirit working through His Word faith to accept Him as your God and the salvation won for you by His Son Jesus.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, open my heart to believe what nature, my conscience and the Holy Scriptures teach me about You, my Heavenly Father, and Jesus His Son that I may have the assurance of forgiveness, life, and Salvation. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest— to both great and small—  
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree  
And wither and perish— but naught changes Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.  
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