

## Intro

Gal. 6:7-8-<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. <sup>8</sup> For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Judges 16:20-She said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" And he awoke from his sleep and said, "I will go out as at other times and shake myself free." **But he did not know that the LORD had departed from him.**

1 Sam. 16:14-**Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul,** and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him.

## **II. God's self-revelation in creation renders mankind inexcusable (19-20)**

### **20a**

Aleksandr Isayevich Solzhenitsyn:

"Men have forgotten God"

Over a half century ago, while I was still a child, I recall hearing a number of old people offer the following explanation for the great disasters that had befallen Russia: "Men have forgotten God; that's why all this has happened." Since then, I have spent well-nigh 50 years working on the history of our revolution; in the process I have read hundreds of books, collected hundreds of personal testimonies, and have already contributed eight volumes of my own toward the effort of clearing away the rubble left by

that upheaval. But if I were asked today to formulate as concisely as possible the main cause of the ruinous revolution that swallowed up some 60 million of our people, I could not put it more accurately than to repeat: "Men have forgotten God; that's why all this has happened."

## **20b**

Rev. 4:11- **Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things,** and because of Your will they existed, and were created.

Luke 12:48-but the one who did not know *it*, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. **From everyone who has been given much, much will be required;** and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.

### **III. Results of mankind's rejection of God (21-23)**

## **21b-22**

Ps. 14:1-**The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."** They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; There is no one who does good.

Prov. 1:7-**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;** Fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Ezek. 28:17-Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; **You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor.** I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, That they may see you.

Gen. 3:5-For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

#### **IV. God abandons mankind to passion and consequences** **(24-32)**

##### **24a**

Gen. 6:3- Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”

1 Sam. 8:7-The LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them.”

Jer. 7:16-As for you, do not pray for this people, and do not lift up cry or prayer for them, and do not intercede with Me; for I do not hear you.

Isaiah 3:4-And I will make **mere lads** their princes, And **capricious children** will rule over them.

Isaiah 3:12-O My people! Their oppressors are children, And **women** rule over them. O My people! Those who guide you lead *you* astray And confuse the direction of your paths.

##### **32**

Prov. 4:23 (KJV) - Keep thy **heart** with all diligence; for out of it are the **issues of life**.

## Good News

### 1. Nothing is Impossible for God

Gen. 18:14-Is anything too difficult for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son.

### 2. God uses the ungodly for His own purposes

Prov. 21:1-The king's heart is *like* channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes.

Isa. 45:4-For the sake of Jacob My servant, And Israel My chosen *one*, I have also called you by your name; I have given you a title of honor Though you have not known Me.

### 3. Intercessory prayer still works

Jas. 5:16-Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

1 Tim. 2:1-2-First of all, then, I urge that entreaties *and* prayers, petitions *and* thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.

### 4. Jesus Christ is still building His church

Matt. 16:18-I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this <sup>1</sup>rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

## **Conclusion**

Num. 6:24-26- <sup>24</sup> The LORD bless you, and keep you;  
<sup>25</sup> The LORD make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you;  
<sup>26</sup> The LORD lift up His countenance on you, And give you  
peace.'