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Rom. 1:21-32-²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. ²⁴ Therefore **God gave them over** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. ²⁵ For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason **God gave them over** to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,²⁷ and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. ²⁸ And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, **God gave them over** to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; *they are* gossips,³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,³¹ without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; ³² and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

Prov. 29:1-A man who **hardens his neck** after much reproof Will suddenly be broken beyond remedy.

22

Hos. 11:1-When **Israel** was a youth I loved him, And out of Egypt I called **My son**.

Jer. 31:9-20-⁹ “With weeping they will come, And by supplication I will lead them; I will make them walk by streams of waters, On a straight path in which they will not stumble; **For I am a father to Israel**, And Ephraim is **My firstborn**.” ¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, And declare in the coastlands afar off, And say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him And keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.” ¹¹ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob And redeemed him from the hand of him who was stronger than he. ¹² “They will come and shout for joy on the height of Zion, And they will be radiant over the bounty of the Lord—Over the grain and the new wine and the oil, And over the young of the flock and the herd; And their life will be like a watered garden, And they will never languish again. ¹³ “Then the virgin will rejoice in the dance, And the young men and the old, together, For I will turn their mourning into joy And will comfort them and give them joy for their sorrow. ¹⁴ “I will fill the soul of the priests with abundance, And My people will be satisfied with My goodness,” declares the Lord. ¹⁵ Thus says the Lord, “A voice is heard in Ramah, Lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; She refuses to be comforted for her children, Because they are no more.” ¹⁶ Thus says the Lord, “Restrain your voice from weeping And your eyes from tears; For your work will be rewarded,” declares the Lord, “And they will return from the land of the enemy. ¹⁷ “There is hope for your

future,” declares the Lord, “And your children will return to their own territory. ¹⁸“I have surely heard Ephraim grieving, ‘You have chastised me, and I was chastised, Like an untrained calf; Bring me back that I may be restored, For You are the Lord my God. ¹⁹‘For after I turned back, I repented; And after I was instructed, I smote on my thigh; I was ashamed and also humiliated Because I bore the reproach of my youth.’ ²⁰“Is **Ephraim My dear son**? Is he a delightful child? Indeed, as often as I have spoken against him, I certainly still remember him; Therefore, My heart yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him,” declares the Lord.

23

Exod. 1:22-Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, “Every son who is born you are to **cast into the Nile**, and every daughter you are to keep alive.”

24

Gen. 17:10-This is **My covenant**, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: **every male among you shall be circumcised.**

Rom. 4:9-12-⁹ Is this blessing then on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say, “Faith was credited to Abraham as righteousness.” ¹⁰ How then was it credited? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? **Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised;** ¹¹ and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, so that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be credited to them, ¹² and the father of circumcision to those who

not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised.

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While most interpret Zipporah's words of contempt as recorded in these verses as being directed at Moses, Allen offers compelling evidence that these words were actually directed against Yahweh. Ronald B. Allen, "The 'Bloody Bridegroom' in Exodus 4:24-26," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 153 (July-September 1996): 259-69.

26

Heb. 12:5-13-⁵ and you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons, "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, Nor faint when you are reproved by Him; ⁶For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives." ⁷It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. ¹¹All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. ¹²Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that

are feeble, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

28

Matt. 4:4- But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’”

Deut. 8:3-He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord.

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Heb. 11:28-29-²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the firstborn would not touch them. ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as

though they were passing through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned.

Conclusion

Num. 6:24-26-²⁴ The Lord bless you and keep you;

²⁵ The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;

²⁶ The Lord lift up His countenance on you and give you peace.'