

# WE NEED A LITTLE CHRISTMAS Bill Bush | 11.07.2021

## BIG IDEA | We need a SAVIOR, not a SEASON!

## Romans 1:18 (NLT)

<sup>18</sup> But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness.

## ANGER: punishment from a judge!

Charge 1: GODLESSNESS: We live like God does not exist.

#### Romans 1:19-23 (NLT)

<sup>19</sup> They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. <sup>20</sup> For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

<sup>21</sup> Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. <sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. <sup>23</sup> And instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people and birds and animals and reptiles.

#### The pathway to living like God does not exist:

- REPRESS
- REJECT
- REPLACE

#### Charge 2: WICKEDNESS: We live like we are God.

#### Romans 1:24-32 (NLT)

<sup>24</sup> So God abandoned them to do whatever shameful things their hearts desired. As a result, they did vile and degrading things with each other's bodies. <sup>25</sup> They traded the

truth about God for a lie. So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself, who is worthy of eternal praise! Amen. <sup>26</sup> That is why God abandoned them to their shameful desires. Even the women turned against the natural way to have sex and instead indulged in sex with each other. <sup>27</sup> And the men, instead of having normal sexual relations with women, burned with lust for each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and as a result of this sin, they suffered within themselves the penalty they deserved.

<sup>28</sup> Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking and let them do things that should never be done. <sup>29</sup> Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip. <sup>30</sup> They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, and boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, and they disobey their parents. <sup>31</sup> They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, and have no mercy. <sup>32</sup> They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

# 3 ways of living like we are God:

- IMMORAL PASSIONS
- INDECENT PERVERSIONS
- IRRATIONAL PRACTICES

# Romans 2:1 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup>You may think you can condemn such people, but you are just as bad, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are condemning yourself, for you who judge others do these very same things.

#### HIS CASE IS *CLOSED*, BUT HIS ARMS ARE *STILL OPEN!*

#### Romans 1:16-17 (NLT)

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. <sup>17</sup> This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life."