

# CHRISTIAN HERALD

WASHINGTON

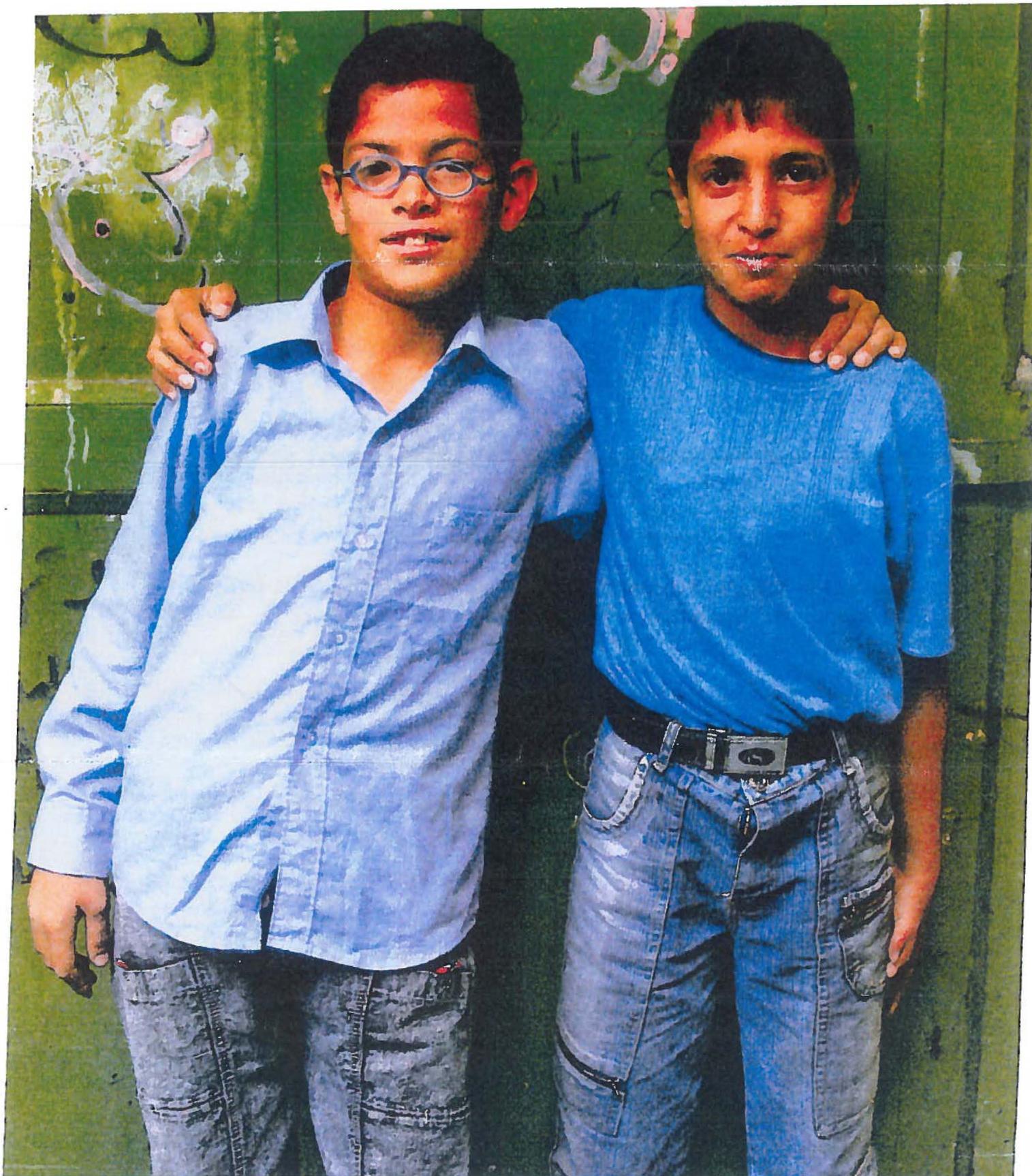
PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

June 2013 Number 496

Rev. Laddie J. Benton Pastor

JUNE NEWSLETTER



**From the Pastor's Desk**  
**Teaching Elder Laddie J. Benton**

**WE ARE A TEMPLE FOR THE SPIRIT**

*One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus.*  
(John 1: 40-42a – New Revised Standard Version)

**MEN OF THE CHURCH WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

Dear members and friends of Washington Presbyterian Church (USA),

On June 16, 2013, many churches will celebrate *Father's Day*. This is a special day reserved to honor all fathers within the church and the community at large. *Father's Day* is a national day of celebration and recognition of fathers that transcends race, culture, and religion. *Father's Day* is the third Sunday in June of each year.

The Presbyterian Church (USA) lists the third Sunday of June as *Men of the Church; Father's Day*. It was an intentional act of the General Assembly to recognize contributions of men, but not limit it to those men who have children, and to be inclusive of single men, step-parents and men who are unable to be with their children on this day.

Regardless of their family situation, all men of the church have been called by God to share their time, talents, spirit and energies, fulfilling their call to be disciples of Christ. On June 16, 2013, congregations are invited to celebrate *Men of the Church Sunday*.

This can be a day of thanksgiving and new beginnings, as all congregations recognize, rejoice and renew their commitment to provide vital ministries with men. This will provide men with the opportunities to perform their unique ministries in the home, church, and community.

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.* (Psalm 100: 1-2).

Your Brother in Christ,

  
Teaching Elder Laddie J. Benton, Pastor

**STAND UP FOR JESUS!**  
**STAND UP FOR WPC!**

## SICK, SHUT-INS AND BEREAVED FAMILIES

Harold and Pauline Jackson, Margie Walker, Joan Marshall,, Faith Morrison, Nathan and Marquis Phelps, Jean Rudolph, Alfreda Richardson, Faith Morrison, Teondre' Morrison-Cooper, Aaron Randall, Stephen Randall, Joseph Cooper, Claudette Carter (Alberta's daughter), John Haynes, Viola Jefferson, Freida Carter, Vivian M. Key, Loretta and Ronald Settle (NC), Amber Carter, Lilliam Rivera, Jordan Johnson, Justin Johnson, Kevin Herring, Larry Riden, Melba Stamm (Keith's mother), Bobby Scott (Oliver's Brother), Annie Fisher (an Amish friend), Oliver Carter, Hazel Black, Jocelyn Mann, Demerik Weglinski-Benton, Julius Weglinski-Benton, Denise Phelps, Shelley Burdine, Denise Wilson, Nathan Donaldson, Mrs. Bennie Blue (Sharon's friend), LaKeshia Green and family, Ollie Burgess, Carole Harner, Joan Reppert, and Andrew Rushton, Joyce Beckett, Sally Kahl (April's friend), Valery Phelps, Ann Conboy, Henry Langston, Dean Reifsnnyder, Ethel Kinkaid, and Robert Weller.

### PRAY FOR THE BEREAVED

The Che' A Morrison II family in San Diego, CA; and the family of Sally Waters, and the Cooper family.

### SCRIPTURES

June 2	Psalm 34:1-10	1 Kings 18:20-21	Galatians 1:1-12
June 9	Psalm 96:1-9	1 Kings 18:30-39	Galatians 1:11-
June 16	Psalm 68:1-6	1 Kings 17:8-24	Galatians 2:15-21
June 23	Psalm 43:1-5	1 Kings 21:1-10	Galatians 3:23-29
June 30	Psalm 43:1-10	2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14	Galatians 5:1,13-25

### STANDING COMMITTEES

**BIBLE STUDY Wednesday 9:30 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.**

**Christian Concerns**—April Coleman  
**Christian Education**—Alexis Green  
**Evangelism**—Yvonne Lewis  
**Finance**—Toni Brooks  
**Property**—Stephen Greer  
**Stewardship**—Sharon Davis/Yvonne Lewis  
**Worship Committee**—Pauline Johnson/Alexis Green

### LECTIONARY READINGS

Luke 7:1-10  
Luke 7:11-17  
Luke 7:36-8:3  
Luke:8:26-39  
Luke 9:51-62

### SESSION

**Pastor**—Rev. Laddie J. Benton  
**Clerk of Session**—Oliver Carter  
**Church Treasurer**—Toni Brooks  
**Benevolence Treasurer**—Oliver Carter  
**Club Fund Treasurer**—Winnie J Burden

### ORGANIZATION

**Men's Fellowship**—Oliver Carter  
**Pastor's Aid**—Toni Brooks/Winnie Burden  
**Personnel**—Stephen Greer  
**Presbyterian Women**—Alexis Green/LaKeshia Green  
**Sunday School**—Sharon Davis

### CHOIR REHEARSAL

**Senior Choir** Thursday 1:00 P. M.—Director—Mrs. Janet Arms  
**Youth Choir** (after Sunday Church Service)—Director—William Kinkaid

WEB PAGE FOR WPC; [WPC1823.ORG](http://WPC1823.ORG)

**Washington Presbyterian Church Will Accept Donations  
From Anyone Who Would Like To Help With Our Missions.**

# June 2013

\* Denotes Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						June 1 Julius Benton *
2  Communion Sunday Service	3	4	5 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study - 6:30 PM	6 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	7  World Day of Prayer	8 Lyrick Phelps *
9 Jaylin Key *  Sunday Service	10 Marjorie Walker *	11  Worship Committee Meets – 9:00 AM	12 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study - 6:30 PM	13 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	14  Flag Day (USA)	15
16 Winnie Burden *  Father's Day Sunday Service Joash Chest	17  Session Meets 7:30 PM	18 Paulette Amprey *	19 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study - 6:30 PM  Jaylci Porcher *	20 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	21 Linda Benton *  First Day of Summer	22
23  Sunday Service	24 Pauline Johnson *  St. Jean Baptiste Day (Quebec)	25	26 Bible Study – 9:30 AM Bible Study - 6:30 PM	27 Senior Choir Rehearsal 1:00 PM	28	29 Sherry Brooks *
30  Sunday Service						



# GRILLED SUMMER VEGETABLES

SERVES 4

CARB COUNT

15g

DIABETIC EXCHANGES

½ starch    0 fruit    0 milk  
2 vegetable    0 protein    ½ fat

This colorful dish takes full advantage of summer's bounty of squash, peppers, and eggplants. Brushed with vinaigrette and grilled, the vegetables take on a pleasing smokiness that makes them a fine accompaniment for grilled chicken or salmon.

Prepare a fire in a charcoal grill or preheat a gas grill or broiler. Position the cooking rack 4–6 inches from the heat source.

In a small bowl, combine the broth, vinegar, olive oil, garlic, salt, and pepper. Brush half of the broth mixture over the eggplants, bell peppers, squash, and onion. Place the vegetables on the grill rack or broiler pan. Grill or broil until the vegetables begin to brown, about 6 minutes. Turn the vegetables over and brush with the remaining broth mixture. Continue cooking until the vegetables are lightly browned and tender-crisp, about 5 minutes longer. Transfer to a platter and top with the basil.

- ¼ cup fat-free, no-salt-added chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 2 Asian eggplants, halved lengthwise
- 2 red or yellow bell peppers, or 1 of each, cut lengthwise into quarters and seeded
- 2 zucchini or yellow crookneck squash, or 1 of each, halved lengthwise
- 1 small red onion, cut into slices ¼ inch thick
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil or chives

## NUTRIENT ANALYSIS FOR ONE SERVING

<b>Calories</b> 88	<b>Carbohydrates</b> 15 g	<b>Total Fat</b> 3 g
<b>Protein</b> 4 g	<b>Fiber</b> 5 g	<b>Saturated Fat</b> 0 g
<b>Sodium</b> 165 mg	<b>Sugars</b> 8 g	<b>Monounsaturated Fat</b> 2 g
<b>Cholesterol</b> 0 mg		<b>Polyunsaturated Fat</b> 0 g

## **HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD!**

How great is our Creator and Redeemer... and do we think about it? God's accuracy may be observed in the hatching of eggs... for example: the eggs of the potato bug hatch in 7 days; those of the canary in 14 days; those of the barnyard hen in 21 days; the eggs of ducks and geese hatch in 28 days; those of the mallard in 35 days; the eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days. Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!

God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant. The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made. God planned that this animal would have a huge body, too large to live on two legs. For this reason He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily. The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first. A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first. How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!

God's wisdom is revealed in His arrangement of sections and segments, as well as in the number of grains. Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind; each orange has an even number of segments; each ear of corn has an even number of rows; each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains; every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number.

The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather. All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks, and the Lord specified thirty fold, sixty fold, and a hundred fold – all even numbers.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day. Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed.

The lives of each of you may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if you will only entrust Him with your life. If you try to regulate your own life, it will only be a mess and a failure. Only the One who made the brain and the heart can successfully guide them to a profitable end.

**May God Bless You In Ways You Never Even Dreamed!**

## SHORTCOMINGS

O Living God,

I bless thee

that I see the words of my heart as well as the best of it,  
that I can sorrow for those sins that carry me from thee,  
that it is thy deep and clear mercy to threaten punishment  
so that I may return, pray, live.

My sin is to look on my faults and be discouraged,  
or to look on my good and be puffed up.

I fall short of thy glory every day by spending hours unprofitably,  
by thinking that the things I do are good,  
when they are not done to thy end,  
nor spring from the rules of thy Word.

My sin is to fear what never will be;

I forget to submit to thy will, and fail to be quiet there.

But Scripture teaches me that thy active will  
reveals a steadfast purpose on my behalf,  
and this quietens my soul, and makes me love thee.

Keep me always in the understanding  
that saints mourn more for sin than other men,  
for when they see how great is thy wrath against sin,  
and how Christ's death alone pacifies that wrath,  
that makes them mourn the more.

Help me to see that although I am in the wilderness  
it is not all briars and barrenness.

I have bread from heaven, streams from the rock,  
light by day, fire by night,  
thy dwelling place and thy mercy seat.

I am sometimes discouraged by the way,  
but though winding and trying it is safe and short;

Death dismays me, but my great high priest stands in its waters,  
and will open me a passage,  
and beyond is a better country.

While I live let my life be exemplary,

When I die may my end be peace. Amen.

## THOUGHTS TO PONDER

Verse of the Month

**I shall be Satisfied. Psalm 17:15**

**He shall...be satisfied. Isaiah 53:11**

O day of wondrous promise, The Bridegroom and the bride,  
Are seen in glory ever; forever satisfied.

\*\*\*The words in red are Scripture—the words in black are the footnotes.

### **SINFULNESS OF MAN Romans 1-7**

**1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—**

<sup>1:1</sup> Paul humbly calls himself a servant of Jesus Christ and an apostle (“one who is sent”). For a Roman citizen—which Paul was—to choose to be a servant was unthinkable. But Paul chose to be completely dependent on and obedient to his beloved Master. Our willingness to serve and obey Jesus Christ enables us to be useful and usable servants to do work for him—work that really matters. NIVLASB

**2 the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures**

<sup>1:2</sup> Some of the prophecies predicting the Good News regarding Jesus Christ are Genesis 12:3; Psalms 16:10; 40:6-10; 118:22; Isaiah 11:1; Zechariah 9:9-11; Malachi 4:1-6. NIVLASB

**3 regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.**

<sup>1:3-4</sup> Paul calls Jesus a descendant of King David to emphasize that Jesus truly had fulfilled the Old Testament Scriptures predicting that the Messiah would come from David’s line. With this statement of faith, Paul declares his agreement with the teaching of all Scriptures and of the apostles. NIVLASB

**5-6 Through him and for his name’s sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.**

<sup>1:5-6</sup> Christians have both privilege and great responsibility. Paul and the apostles received forgiveness (“grace”) as an undeserved privilege. But they also received the responsibility to share the message of God’s forgiveness with others. God also graciously forgives our sins when we believe in him as Lord. In doing this, we are committing ourselves to begin a new life. God may or may not call you to be an overseas missionary, but he does call you (and all believers) to witness to and be an example of the changed life that Jesus Christ has begun in you. NIVLASB

**7 To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>1:6-7</sup> Paul says that those who become Christians are invited by Jesus Christ to (1) become part of God’s family, and (2) be holy people (“to be saints,” set apart, dedicated for his service). What a wonderful expression of what it means to be a Christian! In being reborn into God’s family we have the greatest experience of love and the greatest inheritance. Because of all that God has done for us, we strive to be his holy people. <sup>1:7</sup> Christians in every age need to be reminded that God is the only permanent source of our security and salvation, and at the same time he is “our Father”. NIVLASB

### **GOD’S WRATH AGAINST MANKIND Romans 1:18-32**

**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,**

<sup>1:18</sup> Why is God angry at sinful people? Because they have substituted the truth about him with a fantasy of their own imagination (1:25). They have stifled the truth God naturally reveals to all people in order to believe anything that supports their own self-centered life-styles. God cannot tolerate sin because his nature is morally perfect. He cannot ignore or condone such willful rebellion. God wants to remove the sin and restore the sinner—and he is able to, as long as the sinner does not stubbornly distort or reject the truth. But his anger erupts against those who persist in sinning. Make sure you are not pursuing a fantasy rather than the true God. Don’t suppress the truth about him merely to protect your own life-style. NIVLASB

**19-20 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 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.**

<sup>1:18-20</sup> Does anyone have an excuse for not believing in God? The Bible answers an emphatic *no*. God has revealed what he is like in and through his creation. Every person, therefore, either accepts or rejects God. Don’t be fooled. When the day comes for God to judge your response to him, no excuses will be accepted. Begin today to give your devotion and worship to him.

In these verses, Paul answers a common objection: How could a loving God send anyone to hell, especially someone who has never heard about Christ? In fact, says Paul, God revealed himself plainly in the creation to *all* people. And yet people reject even this basic knowledge of God. Also, everyone has an inner sense of what God requires, but they choose not to live up to it. Put another way, people’s moral standards are always better than their behavior. If people suppress God’s truth in order to live their own way, they have no excuse. They know the truth, and they will have to endure the consequences of ignoring it.

<sup>1:20</sup> What kind of God does nature reveal? Nature show us a God of might, intelligence, and intricate detail; a God of order and beauty; a God who controls powerful forces. That is *general revelation*. Through *special* revelation (the Bible and coming of Jesus), we learn about God’s love and forgiveness, and the promise of eternal life. God has graciously given us both sources that we might fully believe in him.

God reveals his divine nature and personal qualities through creation, even though creation’s testimony has been distorted by the fall. Adam’s sin resulted in a divine curse upon the whole natural order (Genesis 3:17-19); thorns and thistles were an immediate result, and natural disasters have been common from Adam’s day to ours. In Romans 8:19-21, Paul says that nature itself is eagerly awaiting its own redemption from the effects of sin (see Revelation 22:3). NIVLASB

**21-23 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.**

1:21-23 How could intelligent people turn to idolatry? Idolatry begins when people reject what they know about God. Instead of looking to him as the Creator and sustainer of life, they see themselves as the center of the universe. They soon invent “gods” that are convenient projects of their own selfish plans and decrees. These gods may be wooden figures, but they may also be goals or things we pursue such as money, power, or comfort. They may even be misrepresentations of God himself—making God in our image, instead of the reverse. The common denominator is this—idolaters worship the things God made rather than God himself. Is there anything you feel you can’t live without? Is there any priority greater than God? Do you have a dream you would sacrifice everything to realize? Does God take first place? Do you worship God or idols of your own making?

1:21-32 Paul clearly portrays the inevitable downward spiral into sin. First, people reject God; next, they make up their own ideas of what a god could be and do; then they fall into sin—sexual sin, greed, hatred, envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice, gossip. Finally, they grow to hate God and encourage others to do so. God does not cause this steady progression toward evil. Rather, when people reject him, he allows them to live as they choose. God gives them over or permits them to experience the natural consequences of their sin. Once caught in the downward spiral, no one can pull himself or herself out. Sinners must trust Christ alone to put them on the path of escape. NIVLASB

1:23 When Paul says that men exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images of birds, animals, and reptiles, he seems to deliberately state man’s wickedness in the terms used in the Genesis narrative of Adam’s fall (see Genesis 1:20-26). When we worship the creature instead of the Creator, we lose sight of our own identity as those who are higher than the animals—made in the image of God. NIVLASB

**24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.**

1:24-32 These people chose to reject God and God allowed them to do it. God does not usually stop us from making choices that are against his will. He lets us declare our supposed independence from him, even though he knows that in time we will become slaves to our own rebellious choices—we will lose our freedom not to sin. Does life without God look like freedom to you? Look more closely. There is no worse slavery than slavery to sin. NIVLASB

**25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.**

1:25 People tend to believe lies that reinforce their own selfish, personal beliefs. Today, more than ever, we need to be careful about the input we allow to form our beliefs. With TV, music, movies, and the rest of the media often presenting sinful life-styles and unwholesome values, we find ourselves constantly bombarded by attitudes and beliefs that are totally opposed to the Bible. Be careful about what you allow to form your opinions. The Bible is the only standard of truth. Evaluate all other opinions in light of its teachings. NIVLASB

**26-27 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.**

**27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.**

1:26-27 God’s plan for natural sexual relationships is his ideal for his creation. Unfortunately, sin distorts the natural use of God’s gifts. Sin often means not only denying God, but also denying the way we are made. When people say that any sex act is acceptable as long as nobody gets hurt, they are fooling themselves. In the long run (and often in the short run), sin hurts people—individuals, families, whole societies. How sad it is that people who worship the things God made instead of the Creator so often distort and destroy the very things they claim to value.

Homosexuality was as widespread in Paul’s day as it is in ours. Many pagan practices encouraged it. God is willing to receive anyone who comes to him in faith, and Christians should love and accept others no matter what their background. Yet, homosexuality is strictly forbidden in Scripture (Leviticus 18:22). Homosexuality is considered an acceptable practice by many in our world today—even by some churches. But society does not set the standard for God’s law. Many homosexuals believe that their desires are normal and that they have a right to express them. But God does not obligate nor encourage us to fulfill all our desires (even the normal ones). Those desires that violate his laws must be controlled.

If you have these desires, you can and must resist acting upon them. Consciously avoid places or activities you know will kindle temptations of this kind. Don’t underestimate the power of Satan to tempt you, nor the potential for serious harm if you yield to these temptations. Remember, God can and will forgive sexual sins just as he forgives others sins. Surrender yourself to the grace and mercy of God, asking him to show you the way out of sin and into the light of his freedom and his love. Prayer, Bible study, and strong support in a Christian church can help you to gain strength to resist these powerful temptations. If you are already deeply involved in homosexual behavior, seek help from a trustworthy, professional, pastoral counselor. NIVLASB

**1:28-32 Furthermore, since they did not think it worth while to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Although they know God’s righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.**

1:32 How were these people aware of God’s death penalty? Human beings, created in God’s image, have a basic moral nature and a conscience. This truth is understood beyond religious circles. Psychologists, for example, say that the rare person who has no conscience has a serious personality disorder that is extremely difficult to treat. Most people instinctively know when they do wrong—but they may not care. Some people will even risk an early death for the freedom to indulge their desires now. “I know it’s wrong, but I really want it,” they say; or, “I know it’s dangerous, but it’s worth the risk.” For such people, part of the “fun” is going against God’s law, the community’s moral standards, common sense, or their own sense of right and wrong. But deep down inside they know that sin deserves the punishment of death (6:23). NIVLASB