

## **WHEN GOD REMOVES HIS HAND**

### **ROMANS 1:24-32**

<sup>24</sup> Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. <sup>25</sup> 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.

<sup>26</sup> For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, <sup>27</sup> 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.

<sup>28</sup> 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, <sup>29</sup> being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; <sup>32</sup> 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.

**Throughout Scripture there are references to the hand of God or the hand of the Lord. It is symbolic of:**

#### **1. God's \_\_\_\_\_**

**Nehemiah 1:10; 2:8, 18**

**<sup>10</sup> They are Your servants and Your people whom You redeemed by Your great power and by Your strong hand.**

**<sup>8</sup> and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress**

*which is by the <sup>[a]</sup>temple, for the wall of the city and for the house to which I will go.” And the king granted them to me because the good hand of my God was on me.*

*<sup>18</sup> I told them how the hand of my God had been favorable to me and also about the king’s words which he had spoken to me. Then they said, “Let us arise and build.” So they put their hands to the good work.*

2. God’s \_\_\_\_\_

*Nehemiah 2:8*

3. God’s \_\_\_\_\_

*Ezra 8:31:*

*<sup>31</sup> Then we journeyed from the river Ahava on the twelfth of the first month to go to Jerusalem; and the hand of our God was over us, and He delivered us from the hand of the enemy and the ambushes by the way.*

*Psalm 44:2*

*Isaiah 41:10*

4. God’s \_\_\_\_\_

*2 Chronicles 20:6:*

*<sup>6</sup> and he said, “O LORD, the God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against You.*

*Nehemiah 1:10*

*Psalm 118:15*

*The hand of the Lord is a result of one thing—\_\_\_\_\_*

***If a man continues to push God away there comes a time when God says, "Have It Your \_\_\_\_\_."***

***Psalm 81:11-12:***

***"But My people did not listen to My voice, And Israel did not obey Me.<sup>12</sup> "So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their heart, To walk in their own devices.***

***Hosea 4:17***

***"Ephraim (Israel) is joined to idols; Let him alone."***

***Acts 4:16:***

***"In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways;"***

### ***Three Areas Where God Could Remove His Hand:***

#### ***I THOSE WHO SAY " \_\_\_\_\_ " TO GOD FOR THE LAST TIME***

***Romans 1:19:***

***"because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them."***

***So what about those who have never heard the gospel?***

***Romans 1:20:***

***"For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse."***

***There is an \_\_\_\_\_ Witness.***

***Genesis 6:3:***

***"Then the Lord said, "my Spirit shall not strive with man forever..."***

*There is a point in time when God does remove His hand of*

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*Hebrews 3:15:*

*“TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS...”*

**II A CHURCH THAT LOSES THE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR ITS**

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*The Church exists to \_\_\_\_\_ God, to Communicate the \_\_\_\_\_ and to Make Disciples.*

*Can God remove His hand from a particular church? \_\_\_\_\_!*

*Revelation 2-3.*

*Why does God remove His hand from some churches?*

**III SOCIETY OR A NATION THAT LETS GOD KNOW HE IS NOT**

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*Notice Romans 1:28:*

*“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...”*

*“Acknowledge”—*

*In Romans 1:24-28 Paul repeats a phrase 3 times:*

*That phrase is: “God Gave Them Over.” The phrase means God \_\_\_\_\_ them.*

*Romans 1:24-25:*

*“So God let these people go their own way. They did what they wanted to do, and their filthy thoughts made them do shameful things with their bodies. They gave up the truth about God for a*

**lie, and they worshiped God's creation instead of God, Who will be praised forever. Amen." (CEV).**

**Romans 1:26:**

**"For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions."**

**Romans 1:26-28 (NLT):**

**<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.**

**The worst thing that could happen to a nation is to either \_\_\_\_\_ God or tell God He is not \_\_\_\_\_ and then removes His hand.**

**What are the consequences of God removing His hand from a society, from a nation?**

**Romans 1:28-32 (NLT):**

**<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.**