

THE FOOLISHNESS OF MAN

(Romans 1:18-20 NIV)

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.

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.

(Romans 1:21-23 NIV)

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. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

God's Special Revelation

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The Heavens declare

(Psa 19:1b NIV) The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

The Earth is full of His Glory

(Isa 6:3 NIV) And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

Point #1:

We know enough from creation to know God exists.

No Excuse

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Law within

(Rom 2:14 NIV) (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law,

Point #2:

**God reveals himself in creation so
man is without excuse**

Point #3:

God created the scientific laws we see at work today.

Foolishness

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A Foolish Message

1 Cor 1:17-19 (NIV) For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel--not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

A Foolish Message

1 Cor 1:20-22 (NIV) Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom,

A Foolish Message

1 Cor 1:23-25 (NIV) but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

Point #4:

**Even what is foolish to God is wiser
than the wisdom of man.**

The Work of the Spirit

John 16:8 (NIV) *When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:*

Our Conscience

Romans 2:15 (NIV) “since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.)”

Four things to consider

- 1.) I don't need to go to elaborate proof to prove there is a God.
- 2.) I don't need to try to defend God or explain his actions.
- 3.) I can appeal to the persons conscience.
- 4.) I can work in cooperation with the Holy Spirit who has come to convict the world of sin righteousness and judgment.

CONCLUSION