

Without Excuse

Description

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2 Peter 2:1-22

Two astronauts, two perspectives. One asserted that he had seen God nowhere in the heavens. The other observed that such magnificence made it impossible for him not to believe in God.

Paul declares that people are guilty of suppressing the truth by refusing to acknowledge God's "invisible qualities . . . [that] have been clearly seen" (Romans 1:20) in creation. The natural world does not reveal all that can be known of God, yet clearly reveals enough so that those who refuse to honor God as God are without excuse.

When truth is suppressed, "godlessness" and "wickedness" result. The former refers to the wrong posture toward God; the latter to improper behavior toward other people. Greed, strife, deceit, gossip, and boastfulness are included as wickedness, and thus associated with refusing to glorify God.

The warning against judging others should give us pause for self-reflection before God (2:1-3). Those who judge others who sin also show contempt for God's mercy.

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