

## God is . . .

The Creator, Sovereign and Judge

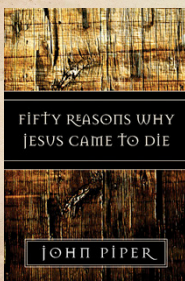
- He **Made** all reality as we know it
- He **Sustains** all reality as we know it
- He **Relates** to all reality as we know it

## So what?..

Wake up!

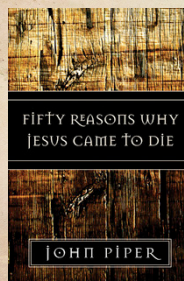
What does that mean for us?

## We glorify what we enjoy most . . .



God's law demanded, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might" (Deuteronomy 6:5). But we have all loved other things more. This is what sin is—dishonoring God by preferring other things over him, and acting on those preferences. Therefore, the Bible says, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). We glorify what we enjoy most. And it isn't God.

## Failure to love is not trivial—it is treason



Therefore sin is not small, because it is not against a small Sovereign. The seriousness of an insult rises with the dignity of the one insulted. The Creator of the universe is infinitely worthy of respect and admiration and loyalty. Therefore, failure to love him is not trivial—it is treason. It defames God and destroys human happiness.

## Man desired another and said, "no"

### Romans 1:21-23

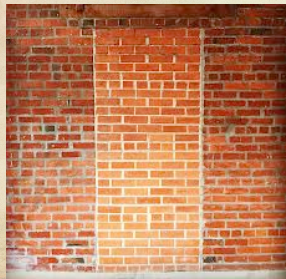
For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became **futile in their thinking** . . . And exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

## ... It is not ...

- They said "no" to reality
- They said "no" to God
- They wanted independence, but there is no independence . . . just lies
- RATHER . . .



## What's behind the other door?



RATHER . . . It IS . . .

- They said "no" to reality
- They said "no" to God
- They wanted independence, but there is no independence . . . just lies

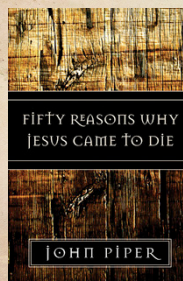


Not two ways . . .

- They said "no" to reality
- They said "no" to God
- They wanted independence, but there is no independence . . . just lies



## Failure to love is not trivial—it is treason



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Man is now dead, in darkness and despair

- 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. – ROMANS 1:21-23

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- In God is:
  - LIFE
  - LIGHT
  - HAPPINESS
- When Man said “no”, he said “no” to:
  - LIFE
  - LIGHT
  - HAPPINESS
- Now man has:
  - DEATH
  - DARKNESS
  - DESPAIR

REMEMBER . . . It IS . . .

- They said “no” to reality
- They said “no” to God
- They wanted independence, but there is no independence . . . just lies
- THEY GOT WHAT THEY WANTED . . . ONLY THEY DIDN'T COUNT THE COST**



**DEATH**

TRULY, MAN IS LOST . . .

“None is righteous, no, not one;  
 11 no one understands;  
 no one seeks for God.  
 12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”  
 13 “Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive.”  
 “The venom of asps is under their lips.”  
 14 “Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.”  
 15 “Their feet are swift to shed blood;  
 16 in their paths are ruin and misery,  
 17 and the way of peace they have not known.”  
 18 “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”  
 ROMANS 3:10B-18

5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.  
 6 For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; **indeed, it cannot.**  
 8 Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. – ROMANS 8:5-8

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.  
 1 Corinthians 2:14

1 And **you were dead** in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.  
 EPH. 2:1-3

**But why?**  
 Is God cruel?

Man desired another and said, “no”

*Romans 1:21-23*

For although they knew God, **they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him**, but they became futile in their thinking . . . And exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

**Worship**  
 we were made to

It's not as though we have stopped being who we were made to be . . .



**This is It**

