

Introduction:**Text: Romans 1:18-32****A. The THEOLOGY of Thankfulness**

1. God **revealed** Himself through His creation (Rom. 1:18-20; Ps.19:1; Gen.1:1).
2. God is worthy of thanksgiving for **creating** all things (Rev. 4:11).
3. Christ is worthy of our thankfulness for **redeeming** us with His blood (Rev. 5:9).
4. Practical application: We thank God for many **reasons**, but the two highest reasons are:
 - a. He created us (Rev. 4:11) and He redeemed us (Rev. 5:9).
 - b. Our thanksgiving to God for being our Creator and Redeemer must be above and beyond all other **blessings**.

B. The TRAGEDY of Unthankfulness

1. Unthankfulness to God leads to practical **atheism** (Rom. 1:21-22; Ps. 14:1a).
2. Tragic **consequences** to practical atheists:
 - a. Their **thinking** becomes futile (Rom. 1:21).
 - b. Their **hearts** become darkened (Rom. 1:21).
 - c. They become **fools**, although they claim to be wise (Rom. 1:22).
 - d. Their **lifestyles** become wicked and offensive to God (Rom. 1:18, 24-25, 28, 32).

C. The TRIUMPH of Thankfulness to God (Rom. 11:33-36)

1. This doxology or praise to God is our **weapon** against secular, God-denying, and tragic lifestyle described in Rom. 1:18-32, which is also being practiced in secular societies today.
2. We can **protect** ourselves from the tragedy of unthankfulness by triumphant thankfulness to God.
3. Examples of triumphant thankfulness (Phil. 4:4-7; 1 Thess. 5:16-18).

Conclusion:**Read: Romans 1:18-32**

1. What is revealed about God through His creation (vv. 18-20)?
2. What are the tragic consequences of knowing God, but not glorifying and thanking Him as God (vv. 21-22, 24-32)?
3. Knowing God but not thanking Him as God is practical atheism, which is a problem with many professing Christians today. How can we avoid become practical atheists?

Read: Romans 11:33-36

4. How can we rise triumphant with this doxology or praise and thanksgiving to God?

Read: Philippians 4:4-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

5. How can we practice triumphant thankfulness, or thankful attitude to God, in our good times, and hard times in life? **Share. Discuss. Pray.**

6. For further study (now or later), refer to the Pastor's Corner article, entitled "Reasons to Thank God"

PRAY!