



LANDER, WYOMING
church of Christ

Giving Over

Christmas is over and a new year has begun. Last Sunday in Shanghai we studied Romans 1 and I was encouraged how these verses linked to Christmas and our generous God. Verses 3 and 5 speak of the gift of Jesus and the grace He offers. Thank God!

Sadly the chapter also refers to a negative aspect of giving – how God “gave them over.” This links closely to the recent homosexual “victory” in the repealing of the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” law. Many don’t see the problem with homosexuality. God does and Romans 1 explains the levels of moral degradation in society and how He “gives over.”

Many a parent can understand this. Your child asks, begs, screams, and cries until finally you say, “Fine, have it your way.” God gives over. Verse 22 shows how people became “wise” and began worshiping creation rather than the Creator. This is institutionalized where many have replaced God with an evolutionary theory. God gave them over.

Next, since God has been removed, there is no longer absolute right and wrong. Sins such as homosexuality increase. From the highest office homosexuality is being recognized as “normal.” “Equal rights” have been demanded, cried, screamed for – even by those who profess to know God. He has given them over. Sodom fell when the homosexuals had political control. Are we entering the final stage of God giving over? Romans 1:32 says that those who do these things encourage others to do the same. What of those who oppose? Will this article be considered “hate speech”?

A new year and a new world have begun. More than ever before in our lifetimes, we need to be near to God. He will never give over any who are part of Him.

- Triston Jacobsohn, 2011