

Fingerprints of God

Romans 1:8-25

God prospers you along the path of His will.

I. Face to Face

I give thanks to God for all of you, because it's through your conversion to Jesus Christ, that the testimony of your strong, persistent faith is spreading throughout the world. And God knows that I pray for you continually and at all times. For I passionately serve and worship Him with my spirit in the gospel of His Son.

Romans 1:8-9

My desire and constant prayer is that I would be able to come and visit you, according to the plan and timing of God. I yearn to come and be face-to-face with you and get to know you. For I long to impart to you the gift of the Spirit that will empower you to stand strong in your faith. Now, this means that when we come together and are side by side, something wonderful will be released. We can expect to be co-encouraged and co-comforted by each other's faith!

Romans 1:10-12

II. Love Obligates Me

So, my dear brothers and sisters, please don't interpret my failure to visit you as indifference, because many times I've intended to come but have not been released to do so up to now. For I long to enjoy a harvest of spiritual fruit among you, like I have experienced among the nations. Love obligates me to preach to everyone, to those who are among the elite and those who are among the outcasts, to those who are wise and educated as well as to those who are foolish and unlearned. This is why I am so excited about coming to preach the wonderful message of Jesus to you in Rome!

Romans 1:13-15

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III. Fingerprints of God

Throughout human history the fingerprints of God were upon them, yet they refused to honor Him as God or even be thankful for His kindness. Instead, they entertained corrupt and foolish thoughts about what God was like. This left them with nothing but misguided hearts, steeped in moral darkness. Although claiming to be super-intelligent, they were in fact shallow fools. For only a fool would trade the unfading splendor of the immortal God to worship the fading image of other humans, idols made to look like people, animals, birds, and even creeping reptiles!

Romans 1:21-23

God is Creator. We are dependent on Him and accountable to Him.

We turn good things into gods. God ultimately allows us to walk through the door we have chosen.

This is why God lifted off His restraining hand and let them have full expression of their sinful and shameful desires. They were given over to moral depravity, dishonoring their bodies by sexual perversion among themselves—all because they traded the truth of God for a lie. They worshiped and served the things God made rather than the God who made all things—glory and praises to Him for eternity of eternities! Amen!

Romans 1:24-25