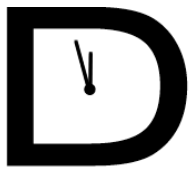


# DECISION

*Responding to the Invisible*

*Embracing God's Truth,  
Allowing it to Replace our Selfish Desires.*

*March 23, 2010*



## DECISION

# Responding to the Invisible

*Embracing God's Truth, Allowing it to Replace our Selfish Desires.*

**Romans 1:16-17** – “I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by **faith**.”

**Hebrews 11:1** – “Now **faith** is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.”

**Romans 10:10** – “For it is with your **heart** that you **believe** and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”

**Righteousness - Holy and upright living, in accordance with God's standard and character (Is.64: 6).**

If we define our righteousness according to who God is, we quickly see that *we are not righteous*.

Read Romans 1:16-23

Q. What kind of people are these verses (vv. 18-23) talking about?  
Jews? Gentiles? Religious people? Irreligious people?

**How does God reveal Himself?**

- **The Universe:**
  - Psalm 19:1-2 -“ The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.”
  - Romans 1:20 -“ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”
  - Acts 14:17 - “Yet he [God] has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”
- **What is in man:**
  - Romans 2:14-15 - “Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them”

**Why do we often miss God when He reveals Himself?**

1. **We suppress the truth** – Romans 1:18
2. **We fail to honour and give thanks to God** –Romans 1:21a
3. **We turn to our own ideas** – Romans 1:21b

## ***Breakaway Discussion***

1. In what ways do we sometimes suppress the truth of God?
2. In what ways do we fail to honour and give thanks to God?
3. In what ways do we turn to and rely on our own ideas instead of God's?