Text: Romans 1:23

**Romans 1:23**

23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

Introduction:

We are seeing things today under the name of religion and church things that I never thought would ever be going on.

Churches are promoting worldly practices and entertainment such as contemporary concerts, comedians, as well as other things. Not far from here a church is sponsoring a New Years activity where contemporary singers are the main attraction.

Churches are succumbing to the pressure to allow individuals who are workers in the ministry to dress inappropriately or as they see fit.

Many who call themselves a Christian are living lives that are contrary to scripture.
The problem is not the symptom, the problem is the cause. Why is this going on today?

1. **God’s Plan**

Gen 1:26-27  And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

   A. We were made in His image.

   - Eternal
   - Holy
   - Just
   - Faithful
   - Merciful
   - Good

B. Satan attempted and is still attempting to tarnish the image of God.
1. He questioned God’s goodness.  
   (Gen 3:1)

Gen. 3:1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2. He disputed God’s Word  
   (Gen 3:4)

Gen. 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

3. He question God’s motive  
   (Gen 3:5)

Gen. 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

2. **Purpose**

   A. To glorify God

   1. 1 Chron. 16:23-36

   2. Ps 22:22-23

   3. Ps 50:14-15
3. **Problem (Rom 1:23)**

A. They held the truth in unrighteousness (Rom 1:18)

B. They knew the truth (Rom 1:19-20)

C. They failed to glorify God (Rom 1:21)

D. They were not thankful (Rom 1:21)

E. Vain in their imagination (Rom 1:21)

F. Became prideful (Rom 1:22)

G. Changed the image of God (Rom 1:23)

Man who was made in the image of God changed God into the image of man.
4. **PRODUCT (Rom 1:24-25)**

God gave them up to do as they please.

A. Is what we see going on today in the name of religion.

B. When our efforts become man centered, they cease to be God centered.

Close:

What we need today is a revival in getting to know God.

May we not change the image of God into the image of man.