

## The Ridiculousness of This World

I've often been accused (and rightfully so) of thinking too much. Today is certainly no different. One of my favorite movies of all time is "Little Big Man" starring Dustin Hoffman. In the movie, Jack Crabb (Hoffman) is kidnapped by and raised with Indians. About halfway through the movie, an event took place in which Little Big Man, as he was called by the Indians, says: "There was no describing how I felt ... The world was too ridiculous to even bother to live in."

Sometimes I feel much the same way. Not that I'm contemplating ending my own life, but I am contemplating the ridiculousness of this blue globe upon which we live. I shouldn't be surprised. This sort of abuse of our world has been going on for thousands of years.

In Romans 1, Paul describes the world of the Roman. Paul is sitting in Corinth, arguably the second most sinful city in the known world at that time, describing to the people of Rome the ridiculousness of their current existence. All of the things going on are in direct opposition to what God intended. It had happened in **Genesis 6:5** when Moses wrote:

***"The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled."***

It had happened at Sodom and Gomorrah in **Genesis 18 and 19**, when Abraham bargained with God, only to be unable to find ten righteous people in those sinful towns. It had happened with the Hebrews that Moses led out of Egyptian bondage. They lost confidence in Jehovah God to save them, so they turned to idols. **Exodus 32** uses the words "revelry" and "dancing" and "running wild" to describe the people God expected to revere Him. There are LOTS of other examples of the ridiculousness of the world.

In **Romans 1:18-25**, Paul says this:

***"The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 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 people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen."***

This describes the world today, and these actions are as displeasing in 2017 as they were in the First Century. God hasn't changed in order to accept our lifestyle, we have changed our lifestyle and then **WE** have attempted to change God. As the scripture tells us in **Hebrews 13:8**:

***“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”***

And as the hymn we often sing says:

*“Great is Thy faithfulness,” O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.”*

Thomas O. Chisholm (1923)

The world is often too ridiculous for words. But THE Word expects us to change it back. We can never accept those who ***“call evil good and good evil.”*** (Isaiah 5:20) We must, As Paul tells us in **Romans 12:21**, ***“overcome evil with good.”***

---Johnny Stephens