

way of seeking to be self-sufficient or autonomous. Adam and Eve chose the second way, and plunged the whole human race into the grievous state of sin and death. The underlying principle of this "original sin" is the desire of man to be his own god, to overthrow the word and law of God, and to substitute his own reason and standards.

At the time of Noah almost the entire human race rejected God and God's standards of reality, truth, and value; lived by their own self-made standards and did as they pleased; and filled the earth with corruption and violence (as recorded in Genesis 6:5-13). The Lord found it necessary to destroy all but a handful of people.

After the Flood many of Noah's descendants returned to the ways of pre-Flood mankind. They desired to establish some sort of firm memorial to their efforts that could not be destroyed or wiped from the earth, whether by a flood or some other natural calamity. They built a city and a great tower, which was to be a center of worship -- worship not of God, but of man -- man's abilities, man's power, man's glory! But God scattered these proud men over the entire earth (as recorded in Genesis 11).

In Genesis 19 we find that the men of Sodom rejected the law of God written into their nature, and claimed the right to determine on their own what was moral and what was immoral. They decided to exercise their sexual preference, which was homosexuality; and God destroyed them all with a rain of fire and brimstone!

This attitude of rejection of God and revelation, and espousal of man-centered affirmations and value judgments is illustrated very clearly in Romans 1: 18-32. There we are told that although unrighteous human beings are aware of God's existence and something of His nature, and are aware that those who practice evil things deserve God's wrath, nevertheless they suppress these truths and worship what they want to, and do what they want to, preferring to fulfill their desires and gratify their lusts. This is the very spirit of Secular Humanism, the attempt to dethrone the one true and living God, and to enthrone sinful, finite man!