

The Moral Condition

- A. The teachers of the day were inconsistent. They taught purity and lived immorally.
- B. Seneca taught contempt for material wealth, yet amassed over twelve million dollars in a few years from his students.
- C. As a result, the students became like their teachers.
 - 1. Romans 1:18-32 reflects the moral depravity that could be found in Rome and elsewhere in the empire.
- D. According to their own testimony, the Romans cast away everything that was good and honorable.
- E. Examples of the Moral condition within the Roman Empire.
 - 1. Crimes were multiplied.
 - 2. Vice made no attempt to hide itself.
 - 3. Lust and wickedness could be found everywhere.
 - 4. Marriage came to be a commercial transaction easily effected or easily dissolved by the dollar.
 - 5. Women began to count their age not in years, but by the number of their husbands.
 - 6. Marriage was held in such contempt that laws against celibacy had to be passed.
 - 7. Children were seen as a burden and were left to slaves for rearing or sometimes sold as slaves themselves.
- F. Naturally, Christians looked with abhorrence upon such conditions.
 - 1. They saw their religion about to be crushed by such a system and wondered about the outcome of it
 - 2. The Revelation was badly needed to assure them of victory.