God Gave Them Up
Romans 1:24-27

1. **Our Idolatry Is Punished** Romans 1:24-25
   James 1:13-14, Ezekiel 36:26-27, Rom. 6:4, 2 Cor. 5:17, 1 Cor. 6:18, 1 Thess. 4:4-5, Acts 26:18

2. **Given Over To Our Sin** Romans 1:26-27
   Matt. 19:4-5, Lev. 20:13, Genesis 19:4-5, 1 Cor. 6:9-11

God's Common Grace Restrains
The Sinfulness of Man Through Several Means

The Direct Intervention of God

God is not only transcendent (that is far above us in His perfection), but He is also imminent (that is near to us His creation). God is not as the deists believe, that is setting the world into motion and having nothing to do with us. Instead, God is active in every detail of human life and is powerful enough to work His sovereign will within all human history (see Ephesians 1:11).

Genesis 20:6

6 Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her.

Natural Law (God's Laws Written on Our Hearts) & Our Conscience

God has written His laws on the hearts of all mankind and has given man a conscience. Though man is born a sinner, their sinful hearts are restrained through the knowledge of right and wrong written on our hearts. Also, God has given man a conscience by which we feel guilt and shame when we break God's laws. These two things restrain us from acting on sins that are within our own hearts.

Romans 2:14–15

14 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. 15 They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

The Church

God uses His Church to be a light in the darkness, to proclaim truth and expose lies, to make known both God's judgment and His grace. Through the beacon of truth that God has made His Church, societies are restrained from all manner of evil. The church is the salt of society to preserve what is good and true.

Matthew 5:13–14

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

The Government

God has given the government the power of the sword, that is capital punishment, to restrain evil in society. The rightful role of government in society is to warn its citizens to not violate the natural law of God where it relates to how we treat one another, the second table of the law. When society violates these laws, to not murder, to not lie, to steal, and others, man should fear the authority God has given its government to punish evil.

Romans 13:4

for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.