

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

The Book of Romans

Lesson 9 justification or the law

Chapter 3: 1-20

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The Book of Romans is a very unique book, in the fact that it poses a question then answers that question in the following verses. Romans chapter 1, verse 1 up through Romans chapter 3 and verse 20 is God's statement as to why men need to be saved. We have seen in Romans chapter 1 that God has revealed Himself to their conscience and to their heart, His eternal power and God-head, but men choose to turn from that in the pursuit of sin. Then we saw in Romans chapter 2, that whether a man is a Jew or Gentile he is a sinner in need of a Saviour.

In the third chapter of Romans, verses 1 thru 20 the issue is a matter of authority. The Bible says in Romans 3 and verse 1, ***What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision?*** What profit is there being one of a chosen race? Is there no advantage over the gentiles, why be governed by the law, why be subjected to circumcision if the outward seal of the covenant does not give some advantage over the uncircumcised. All of the Jews privileges only seem to increase their condemnation.

Verse 2. The answer. ***Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.*** According to God, the Jew has advantages; the greatest of these advantages is that he possesses the word of God. There is no greater advantage. Deuteronomy 4:8

Verse 3-4, ***For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? ⁴ God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.*** I am on my way to heaven – whether the rest of the world believes the Bible to be the word of God or not. The Bible says the unbelief of some has no effect upon the eventual outworking of what God said.

Jeremiah preached that the Jews were going into captivity in Babylon – nobody believed him. Noah preached there was going to be a flood – nobody outside his family believed him. It rained forty days and forty nights. Everybody drowned. Lot said God is going to rain fire on Sodom and Gomorrah. The inhabitants laughed at him. God burned them to the ground. The fact that people do not believe the Bible does not make the Bible a lie.

Verse 4. The answer. ***God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar;*** If God says one thing and any man living or who has ever lived says something else, God is true and they are false, we side with God. If God says one thing and a voice in your head says something else, we side with God. Proverbs 30:5 No one will ever be able to charge God with a breach of contract. If there is anything false, it is on man's side.

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God must be right, otherwise He cannot be God. Hebrews 6:18. David found himself guilty towards God and he confessed his sin, and then pleaded for his judgment. Psalms 51. This is the only way blessings can come to a sinner.

Verse 5. ***But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man)*** Does God have the right to judge sin? This verse brings about a unique question, if man's unrighteousness brings about the righteousness of God, how can He justly punish man for his sin? Would he not be unrighteous inflicting punishment on him?

Verse 6-8 The Answer. ***God forbid: for then how shall God judge the world? 7 For if the truth of God hath more abounded through my lie unto his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner? 8 And not rather, (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil, that good may come? whose damnation is just.*** Here we have the age old argument, "if I am saved by grace and eternally secure, then I can sin as I please."

No, God forbid Surely God is righteous in judging sin; He is the only one that can judge sin. Have you ever seen the sun shining after a rain, and yet there is still a dark cloud in the sky? His grace is greater than all our sin. The reasoning of the Jew or Gentile which poses unrighteousness in man has the effect on demonstrating the righteousness of God is seriously flawed. Man has always been and will always be unrighteous, wicked, and sinful. No matter what man does he will never change, he will always be that dark cloud. God told His people that He would judge sin Deuteronomy 32:36, yet the Jew's continue to believe that when that day comes, that God will be unrighteous and not take vengeance against them because they are His chosen people.

Verse 9. ***What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;*** as we look at both sides Jew/Gentile what is the result from God's point of view? Has it proved the Jew is better than the Gentile? The religious sinner more excusable than the immoral man? No, in no wise. It has proved all are under sin. There is no appeal from this decision it is The Supreme (The Lord) decision.

Verse 10-18. The Answer. ***As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: ¹¹ There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. ¹² They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. ¹³ Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: ¹⁴ Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: ¹⁵ Their feet are swift to shed blood: ¹⁶ Destruction and misery are in their ways: ¹⁷ And the way of peace have they not known: ¹⁸ There is no fear of God before their eyes.*** The answer contains passages from the law, Psalms, Proverbs, and Isaiah painting an ugly picture of man and his self- declaration. Psalms 14:1-3; Psalms 5:9; I Kings 8:46; Genesis 6:5; Proverbs 4:17; Isaiah 9:18. There are 13 distinct features that make up the picture of man, most taken from Psalms 14.

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1. God demands righteousness that no one has. Verse 11
2. There is no one who has any sense of divine issues. Verse 11
3. There is no one who seeks after God. Verse 11
4. They are all lost having left the right way. Verse 12
5. They have all become good for nothing. Verse 12
6. There is no man that does anything good, not even one. Verse 12
7. Their throat is like an open grave. Our polluted words are like the stench of death coming as they do from a putrid heart. Verse 13
8. Our tongue is an instrument of deceit launched from the heart. Which is deceitful above all things. Jeremiah 17:9
9. Our mouth is full cursing and bitterness, for out of the heart the mouth speaketh. Verse 14
10. Our feet are swift to shed blood. Hatred in our hearts makes us murderers. Verse 15 & Proverbs 6:18 (of which the Lord hates)
11. Wherever the feet of man goes, you can trace them by ruin and distress they leave behind. Verse 16
12. The way of peace man has never walked, because he knows it not. Verse 17
13. The eyes of man are blinded to the fear of God; there is no light in them. Therefore man has walked the pathway of death. Proverbs 4:19

The preaching of justification by faith conflicted with the Jew's view that justification was by works. The Jews were sinners as all, and in their endeavors to divert attention from their own accountability, they accused all of sinful practices. Despite their talk and actions around the common people, they were guilty before God, they were without excuse.

Verse 19 ***Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*** You will never get saved until you believe that you are guilty. What does that mean? That means everybody's guilty before God. You may live in a country where sins against God are considered legal, but at your judgment the leader of that country will not sit on the judgment seat. When you stand before a Holy God to be judged by the exacting standard of His law, nobody stands a chance. That is why God provided a Saviour. Jesus Christ, who took your penalty, who bore your sin, who died in your place that you might trust Him or stand before God and try and prove you are good enough to get to heaven. Receive pardon and forgiveness? Or brag about what you did is better than what the next guy did.

Verse 20. ***Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*** If there is no justification in law keeping, the only hope you have is the pardon of sin offered through Jesus Christ. Look at Romans 3:28, ***Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.*** In Galatians 3:10-11 and James 2:10 is an interesting point, no one was

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justified by keeping the law. Since all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, means no one could keep the whole law. Romans 3:20 agrees that ***of the law there shall no flesh be justified.*** There is an opportunity to be justified (a legal term) that means to declare righteous. The only one that must declare you righteous is Almighty God! So what was the law given for? The law gave us the knowledge of sin, it was our schoolmaster. Galatians 3:24

Notes

KJV

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Name _____

1. What does it mean to be justified?
2. What was the purpose of the law?
3. Which of the Old testaments books quoted contain charges against man?
4. Write how the scripture depict the following of a natural man:
 - a. Throat
 - b. Tongue
 - c. Mouth
 - d. Feet
 - e. Heart
5. What is the final verdict from The Supreme (The Lord) Court?
6. Write the representation "faith of God" verse 3 in other words which are found in this lesson.
7. What about man is proven in the writings of Genesis, Psalms and Romans?
8. Who will rise up in judgment and condemn the religious sinner?
Not in lesson – hint: Matthew 12.

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9. This is where it gets a little harder. You will need to read Romans Chapter 3 over a couple of times in order to be able to answer these questions. In this chapter there are 4 divisions captured as convictions, you will need to write down the verses where these are taught.
- a. Conviction of Sin from the word of God.
 - b. Conviction of guilt before God.
 - c. Conviction of responsibility for sin and sins.
 - d. Conviction of human helplessness before God with regard to righteousness.
10. What is the ultimate cause of man's sin? -need the verse
11. What is unique about the book of Romans?
12. People in the Old Testament were not saved by keeping the Law, give me a verses and an explanation both taken from this lesson to prove that statement.

True/false

- If we keep the Law, we will go to heaven?
- The Jew has a free ticket to heaven, because they are God's chosen people?
- The Jew's had an advantage over the gentile, because Jesus was a Jew.



Scripture memorization, write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV) Galatians 3:24; Psalms 14:1-3; Genesis 6:5

Any Questions?