

Romans

**The Righteousness of God
proven through Messiah,
King Jesus**

Romans

- *Unique set of churches – Jews joining Gentiles*
- *God is on trial – Is God Righteous?*
 - *How can we trust God when the world is in shambles?*
 - *How can we rely on God if He has set Israel aside?*
- *Answer = Jesus PROVES God is righteous*

**The Gospel culminating in Jesus is the power of God to save everyone, & Jesus' faith proves God has come thru on His promises such that we can now exercise faith in Him
(from Faith to faith)**

Romans

It is humanity that is on trial, not God:

➤ *Rom. 1:18-32 = live autonomously apart from God*

➤ *Rom. 2:1-16 = claim morality thru obedience but fail miserably AND are judgmental*

➤ *Rom. 2:17-29 = Israel specifically has failed in their Divine calling & rely on outside identification while the inside remains untouched*

Result = ALL of us are without excuse before God

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Romans 3:1



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Remember the Promise to Abraham

1. You will be LIGHT that blesses & reaches & transforms the world

2. You will be a Kingdom of Priests

**What a responsibility but even
more so what an HONOR!!!**

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Romans 3:1-2

*Point = The Jews were entrusted with utterances
from God Himself for the world*

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Romans 3:3

Point = Israel's faithlessness cannot nullify God's faithfulness

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Romans 3:4

Psalm 51:1-4 Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; According to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity And cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, I have sinned And done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak And blameless when You judge.

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Point = sinful humanity & specifically sinful
Israel can have no claim on whether or not
God is trustworthy

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Romans 3:5-6

It might look like God is acting as both Judge and executioner where the case appears to be between Israel...and oh yea God Himself

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Echoes of the Story of Job:

- 1. Job assumes he & God are the two parties in a trial*
 - 2. Job then assumes his innocence (which BTW is correct)*
 - 3. Job's friends make the same assumption but in their case declare Job the guilty of the two*
 - 4. When in fact Satan is Job's adversary in the trial, not God*
 - 5. God remains the Judge & in the end He declares Job innocent*
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This is where the Stories part ways:

- 1. Israel is just as guilty as the pagans in being sinful*
- 2. Even more they are guilty of moralistically judging others*
- 3. And finally they are guilty of not being faithful to their Divine Commission/Calling as light to a lost world*

The entire mistake here is assuming God is a party in the Cosmic lawsuit!

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Romans 3:7-8

Question – If Israel's untrustworthiness makes God's trustworthiness stick out even more, then why should God object?

Answer = By even thinking this you are proving my point!

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Where then is Paul headed:

1. He has proven universally that all humanity is guilty before a righteous God & Judge who is committed to making things right

2. He has proven more specifically that Israel, beyond their sin & moralistic attitude have failed in their Divine calling to be light to a lost world

Result = If God is to be true to His character, if He is to be faithful to what He promised of old, what is needed is a faithful Israelite who will act on behalf of and in place of unfaithful Israel_____