

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

Romans

Rom. 3:1-8 Paul answered questions emphatically on behalf of his Jewish comrades:

- *God kept His promises even though Israel failed completely in it Divine Calling*
- *You cannot say God is unfaithful just because Israel was unfaithful*
- *God is NOT a party to this lawsuit of life!*

Result = ALL of us are without excuse before God

Romans

Romans 3:19

The very thing Israel is relying on to set them apart and make them Holy (that they were given and have Torah) is the very thing that is indicting them with the result = they are guilty too

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Romans 3:9

“Are we any better OFF?”

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Paul makes it clear:

1. The privileges of the Jews are REAL

2. But they are not ahead of the game because of those privileges regarding their standing before God – their guilt

“sin” = harmatia = sin as a personified FORCE

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Romans 3:10-18



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Everything that follows is a lack of reverence:

1. *“Nobody actually understands or seeks God” vs. 11*
2. *“Nobody keeps the fear of God in front of them” vs. 18*

In between a detailed list of going astray:

1. *Wicked speech (vs. 13-14)*
 2. *And violence (vs. 15-17)*
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OT quotes:

1. Starts with *Eccl. 7:20 & Psalm 14:1*
 2. Quotes at length *Psalm 14:53*
 3. Moves to *Psalm 5:9*
 4. On to *Psalm 140:3 & 10:7*
 5. *Isaiah 59:7-8, 16-18*
 6. Finally a quote of *Psalm 36:2*
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Message is clear:

1. All those “under the Torah” are condemned as sinners

2. And yet even still this is where God shines because He is righteous

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Romans 3:19-20



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1. Breaking the flow of the verse down:

- 1. The Torah is speaking to those that are under Torah*
- 2. With the result that every mouth is stopped from trying to wiggle out of trouble*
- 3. Because Torah brings the knowledge of sin*

In reverse order:

- 3. Torah brings the knowledge of sin*
 - 2. Therefore no one gets to escape (justified) by DOING Torah*
 - 1. Therefore it leaves everyone that is under Torah without a defense*
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2. The contextual breakdown of the verse:

Psalm 143:1-2 Hear my prayer, O LORD, Give ear to my supplications! Answer me in Your faithfulness, in Your righteousness! And do not enter into judgment with Your servant, For in Your sight no man living is righteous.

Torah is like calling a witness who endorses what the Prosecution has been saying all along!

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3. Meaning of “works of Torah”?

1. Biblical rules that...

2. Defined both Jews & Gentile Proselytes above pagans

i.e. Because we have Torah we are in better standing with God than you

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Sequence of Deuteronomy 30: Israel would receive...

1. Initial Blessing (already happened when they got the Land & a King)

2. Curse (already happened when they were exiled)

3. Final Blessing

“Works of Torah” = this final blessing will “work” itself out on behalf of Israel

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*Romans 3:22 even the righteousness of God
through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who
believe*
