

Romans

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

Romans

Chapters 1-11 – God's righteousness is on trial:

1) Is He really fixing life?

2) Has He done what He said He would do?

- *If Israel isn't believing in Messiah Jesus in Mass then what gives?*
 - *What was on God's mind when it came to Israel & the history of humanity?*
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You have misunderstood what God promised:

- *There is an “Israel” and an “Israel”, “children” and “seed”*
 - *Do not mistake salvation FOR Israel with Israel’s ROLE in salvation history*
 - *God has always chosen to act thru a portion of Abraham’s offspring to save mankind*
 - *Ethnic Israel like the Gentile world is sinful & thus guilty before God & if God left Israel & salvations history to itself not only would they have ceased to exist but the promises of God along with them to reach the world*
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Two main points to highlight:

1.10:4 – Messiah is the “end” to the Torah

- *Really better translation is Messiah is the GOAL of the Torah*
- *Meaning the Story that Torah tells*
- *The Story of Torah comes to its desired GOAL in Jesus*

2.10:6-8 – Paul reads from Duet. 30:12-14 – prediction of the TRUE return from exile

Exile = the punishment of Israel’s sin reached its climax in the death of Messiah

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Romans 15:7-13

1) "Righteous"

- *A status that is God's – meaning Paul has now proven that He IS righteous, and that it then COMES from Him*
- *A status that human beings may or may not have*

2) "Covenant"

- *God's promises to Abraham that thru his family God would solve the problem of sin that plagues the entire human race*
- *The fulfillment of Torah*
- *And the promises of renewal, a new way of being God's people & being human AFTER EXILE*

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Romans 9:30-31 – Where have we arrived?

“What then shall we say? Shall we say Gentiles, who did not seek righteousness, received it anyway? Well yea, kinda, but it is righteousness out of faith.”

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Romans 9:32

Point = Torah never was supposed to be the proper route to joining the covenant family

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Romans 9:32-33

Romans 3:20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

- They have confused Ethnic privilege as Torah bearers (meaning their role/call) with the promise God made with Abraham by faith to become God's covenant family
- God always envisioned a different kind of Torah keeping...faith where He came thru on behalf of a humanity that couldn't pull it off on their own

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Romans 9:32-33

We are back to chapter 7 again:

- *God gives the Holy Torah to Israel and they mistake having/keeping it for life & relationship with God*
 - *They actually missed the life God offered being the way Abraham inaugurated it...thru faith*
 - *Even though the Torah pointed to Messiah all along*
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Is. 28:12-14, 16-17

He who said to them, "Here is rest, give rest to the weary," And, "Here is repose," but they would not listen. So the word of the LORD to them will be, "Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there," That they may go and stumble backward, be broken, snared and taken captive. Therefore, hear the word of the LORD, O scoffers, Who rule this people who are in Jerusalem, Therefore thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed. "I will make justice the measuring line And righteousness the level; Then hail will sweep away the refuge of lies And the waters will overflow the secret place.

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Is 8:12-14 “You are not to say, ‘It is a conspiracy!’ In regard to all that this people call a conspiracy, And you are not to fear what they fear or be in dread of it. “It is the LORD of hosts whom you should regard as holy. And He shall be your fear, And He shall be your dread. “Then He shall become a sanctuary; But to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, And a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

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Romans 9:32-33

POINT = *The Torah is attained thru faith in Messiah*

So then how is Messiah a stumbling stone? And how did Israel stumble over Him?

- *They didn't believe*
 - *Israel, chosen as Gospel bearers, given Torah, decide to find life from keeping Torah instead*
 - *They swapped GRACE for RACE...and missed faith altogether...and Messiah*
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HAS GOD'S WORD FAILED (Chapter 9:6)? Is God reliable?

NO, God is righteous, He has been faithful...

1) In working thru individuals like Isaac & not Ishmael, Jacob & not Esau, it was ALWAYS God's prerogative to work thru one person and not another to reach humanity

2) When you read the Story of God & Israel, there was ALWAYS just a remnant of people that had faith...and it is still like that

3) God has always intended to build a covenant people OF FAITH and gave them life - And this was always to include both Jews and Gentiles
