



Romans

Lesson 4, Chapter 3

In Chapter 2, Paul made it perfectly clear that being a Jew and attempting to keep the Law was not what made a person acceptable to God. Jew and Gentile alike are under God's righteous judgment and no amount of legalism would change that. Though Paul was a Jew and once was a Pharisee and Law keeper, he chastises those in that position for their hardhearted pride that caused them to think their own righteousness was enough.

This was very difficult for them to accept because they believed their traditions had been given by God and passed down through many generations as the required path to God. Now in Chapter 3, Paul will answer the questions he anticipated would be arising in the minds of his audience as arguments against the statements he has made thus far. This method of debate would have been common in Jewish thinking.

REVIEW OF CHAPTER 2

1. *What form of hypocrisy had the Jews fallen into? In what ways can Christians fall into this as well?*

2. *Why is circumcision no longer required for the Christian? Matthew 26:26-29*

READ ALL OF CHAPTER 3

3. *In Romans 3:1-31, Paul begins a debate in an attempt to answer the questions that he knows would be entering the minds of the Jewish readers concerning his exhortation thus far. Being a Jew himself, he anticipated the arguments that would be used against his teaching. List each question Paul asks and the answer that follows. In your own words, explain what is said.*

Vs. 1 question

Vs. 2 answer

Your explanation

Vs. 3 question

Vs. 4 answer

Your explanation

Vs. 5 question

Vs. 6 answer

Your explanation

Vs. 7 question

Vs. 8 answer

Your explanation

4. *From vs. 9-18, what is Paul's final conclusion about the previous debate?*

5. *According to vs. 19-20, what is the purpose of the Law? See also Galatians 3:24-25; 1 Timothy 1:8-10*

6. *Though God's righteousness was seen in the Law, what now reveals His righteousness? 3:21-22*

7. *Paul has made it perfectly clear to doubting Jews that the Law was never intended to make a person righteous. In verses 24-26, he uses some specific terms to present the truth of how faith in Christ enables both Jew and Gentile to attain righteousness. Using the definitions of these terms, rewrite verses 24-26 in your own words.*

- *Justified- being legally and formally acquitted of guilt*
- *Grace- divine unmerited favor*
- *Redemption- release from demand by payment of a ransom*
- *Propitiation (sacrifice of atonement)- the sacrifice through which atonement is received and God's wrath is appeased*
- *Forbearance- delay of punishment*
- *Just- equitable or fair*
- *Justifier (or the one who justifies)- to render innocent*

8. *In what way do the truth of these verses “establish the Law” or NIV “uphold the Law”? 3:31*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
