

“Judged, Condemn, but Saved!”

Romans 3

3 What advantage then has the Jew, or what *is* the profit of circumcision? ² Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God. ³ For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? ⁴ Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written:

“That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged.” ⁵ But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? *Is* God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.) ⁶ Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world?

⁷ For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner? ⁸ And *why* not say, “Let us do evil that good may come”?—as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just.

⁹ What then? Are we better *than they*? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

¹⁰ As it is written:

“There is none righteous, no, not one;

¹¹ ***There is none who understands;***

There is none who seeks after God.

¹² ***They have all turned aside;***

They have together become unprofitable;

There is none who does good, no, not one.”

¹³ ***“Their throat is an open tomb;***

With their tongues they have practiced 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 they have not known.”***

¹⁸ ***“There is no fear of God before their eyes.”***

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. ²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law

no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. ²⁹ Or *is He* the God of the Jews only? *Is He* not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, ³⁰ since *there is* one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. ³¹ Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law. Romans 3:1–31 (NKJV)

People don't like the idea of God being a Judge. Yet, from Genesis to Revelation, throughout Scripture, God is called "Judge."

In Genesis 18:25 Abraham calls God "The Judge of all the earth."

In 1 Samuel 2:11 while praising God for the birth of Samuel, Hannah says "The LORD shall judge the ends of the earth."

Throughout the Psalms David refers to God as Judge, one example is ¹¹ "God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day." (Psalm 7:11 NKJ)

Our government, being divided in three branches was based on the acknowledgment of God as the Ultimate Judge – ²² (For the LORD is our Judge, The LORD is our Lawgiver, The LORD is our King; He will save us); (Isaiah33:22 NKJ)

Jesus tells us - ³¹ **Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.** John 12:31 (NKJV)

Finally, in **Revelation 20:11-15** we read of God sitting on a Great White throne judging the dead according to their works -

¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³ The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:11–15 (NKJV)

I. In Romans 3:1-8 we read that the law was an advantage to the Jew, and yet it does not save from God's judgment!

3 What advantage then has the Jew, or what *is* the profit of circumcision? ² Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God. ³ For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? ⁴ Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: *“That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged.”* ⁵ But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? *Is* God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.) ⁶ Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world? ⁷ For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner? ⁸ And *why* not say, “Let us do evil that good may come”—as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just. Romans 3:1–8 (NKJV)

Circumcision, hearing God's Word, knowing His laws, all these things were great advantages to a Jewish person, yet still sinning they would not be saved by these things –

II. Starting with Romans 3:9 we read there are charges against all of us –

9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. (Romans 3:9 NKJV)

*In **Revelation 20** we read that every individual who has ever lived will stand before God to be judged. In God we have a Judge Who cannot be bribed, distracted, deceived, tricked or confused. God is a Judge who knows and sees everything, even evil thoughts, with perfect understanding. Additionally, **Revelation 20** tells us there are Books, detailed records of EVERY WRONG-DOING! Sins of commission and sins of omission and for each sin there is a detailed, accurate record!*

III. God knows our character; we lack righteousness, we do not seek or desire God –

:10-12 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." (Romans 3:10-12 NKJV)

- 1. The verses from **Romans 3:10-12** are quoted from **Psalm 14:1-3 & 53:1-3**.*
- 2. Paul is referencing Scripture as legal testimony against us, and he continues this throughout this passage - **:9-18***

3. *None is righteous because we are born in sin, as David said – ⁵ **Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me. (Psalm 51:5 NKJV)***

IV. Our talking (speech) is poisonous and stinks – :13-14 "Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; "The poison of asps is under their lips"; 14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness." (Romans 3:13-14 NKJV)

*Cited from **Psalm 5:9; Psalm 140:3; Psalm 10:7** This is what makes bad breath, **BAD BREATH!***

V. Our actions are murderous and destructive - :15-17

"Their feet are swift to shed blood; 16 Destruction and misery are in their ways; 17 And the way of peace they have not known." (Romans 3:15-17 NKJV)

*Paul knew this to be true about himself – **Acts 7:58-60; Acts 8:1-3; Acts 9:1-6**, his feet were definitely swift to shed blood! Cited from **Proverbs 1:16 & Isaiah 59:7-8***

VI. At the heart of all this sin is no fear of God - :18
**"There is no fear of God before their eyes."
(Romans 3:18 NKJV)**

*Cited from **Psalm 36:1** ask yourself, do you practice the presence of God? Even in your mind?*

Paul charges all humanity with sin, radical corruption, guilt, he does so by stringing these Old Testament passages together, this method was called charaz literally "stringing pearls."

When God speaks to us about OUR SIN, He is not doing what Jesus condemned –

⁶"Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces. (Matthew 7:6 NKJV)

Rather He is stringing pearls before Saints; because we all have to realize the reality of our guilt and sin before we can be made right by God!

Theologically George Thorogood was right –
GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS –
"Bad To the Bone"

On the day I was born the nurses all gathered 'round
And they gazed in wide wonder at the joy they had found
The head nurse spoke up and said "leave this one alone"
She could tell right away That I was bad to the bone
Bad to the bone
Bad to the bone
B-B-B-B-Bad B-B-B-B-Bad B-B-B-B-Bad
Bad to the bone

What is sad is, many now count this badness cool!

James Dean, Michael Jackson, Captain Kirk from Startrack, all
(with many others) have made it cool to be bad!

We are ALL BAD, but not in a cool good way, but in a we deserve
God's fiery wrath way. The more we realize this ...

The more we CRY for mercy!

The badness is BAD! The crying for mercy good!

VII. The final verdict, all of mankind is guilty before God, deserving of the fiercest judgment - :19-20

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin. (Romans 3:19-20 NKJV)

VIII. The only HOPE, the Righteousness of God - :21-31

1. There has to be a righteousness apart from the law :21 because not one of us (except for Jesus Christ) keeps the law!

But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, :21 A

2. This righteousness is witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, :21 B

3. The salvation is the same for all for all have sinned. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, between Great sinners and little sinners –

22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:22-23

“We may think that we are more righteous than other people but compared to the ultimate standard of God, we fall short, abysmally short, miserably short.”

R.C. Sproul

4. We are justified freely by God's grace - :24 freely because we do not pay for it --- but Christ paid with His life as a propitiation by His blood - :25

The Great Price of the cure, not for us, but for Jesus Christ, shows us:

A. How terrible our disease is or was!

B. How great God's compassion is!

²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, Romans 3:24-25

5. *God is Just and the Justifier, Romans 3:26*

God is both righteous and merciful at the same time – Holy and Loving at the same time

26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:26

6. *There is no room for human boast or pride – Romans 3:27*

²⁷ Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. Romans 3:27 (NKJV)

ἐξκλείσθη it is shut out, excluded – A door is slammed hard in Pride's face! True faith in God means NO FAITH in SELF

7. *God is God of Jews and Gentiles as none our saved by keeping the law, all saved by faith - :28-31*

28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. 29 Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, 30 since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. 31 Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law. (Romans 3:21-31 NKJ)

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