

Start lesson 26

Oct 3

We are at romans 3:13-18.

We covered v. 18 first, *There is no fear of God before their eyes.*

Because the wicked have no fear of God, they have no concept of the vengeance of God against evil. Their only guideline in life is that which works best for them to gather to themselves wealth and power, which they use in their war against Christ.

FIRST: Romans 3:13 *Their throat is an open sepulchre.* Their mouths are like a tomb that is empty, and ready to devour the dead.

Speaking to the Jews, Christ said, *Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over them are not aware of them.* Luke 11:44

SECOND: V. 13, having no fear of God, they use their tongue to devour others as an open grave devours the dead.

THIRD: **There is death in the tongue of the wicked, as they use it for deceit and flattery** to accomplish their wicked goals against God and man.

FOURTH: The poison of asps controls their words.

FIFTH: Romans 3:14 *Whose mouth is full of cursing*

Now,

SIXTH, v. 14: **Bitterness**, extreme wickedness, **bitter hatred**. A bitter root produces a bitter fruit.

Hebrews 12:14 *Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; 16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. 17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.*

“4. The NT uses pikros literally in #Jas 3:11 for spring water which is bitter or brackish to

the taste. The great star in #Re 8:11 makes the rivers and fountains bitter (pikrainesthai). In #Re 10:9-10 the divine finds the message of God bitter, i.e., painful to proclaim, pikros is used for Peter's weeping in #Mt 26:75; the adverb expresses his utter despair following the denial. In #Jas 3:14 jealousy is bitter. #Heb 12:15 quotes #De 29:17 to show what harm the sin of an individual can do in the community. The OT association of poison and bitterness stands behind Peter's saying to Simon Magus in #Ac 8:23 Ro 3:14 quotes #Ps 10:7, and pikria heads a short list of vices in #Eph 4:31 (in the sense of resentment). In #Col 3:19 husbands are directed not to be harsh or angry with their wives." (Theological Dictionary of the New Testament.)

Who can stand against bitterness? More often than not, bitterness leads to seeking vengeance.

What is in the heart will come out in words and actions. The bitter fruit of vv. 13 & 14 is now described in Romans 3:15-18:

In his rebuke of the proud Jews in Rome, Paul quotes one of their own prophet, Isaiah. Romans 3:13-18 is from Isaiah 59:1-8.

Paul is speaking to the Jewish mentality that Christ addressed in Luke 11, let us look at Isaiah in the light of our day.

Isaiah 59 is addressed to ancient Israel, also known as Jews. Isaiah makes it clear that Israel did not face destruction because the Lord could not save them. Rather their calamities came upon them as a natural result of their sin.

Isaiah 59:1-8 ¶ *Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness. 4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. 5 They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper. 6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands. 7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. 8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they 7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. 8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.*

The normal cause of calamities is the result of sin catching up. However, we live in a fallen world, so calamities naturally happen. The first thing man does when calamities strike is to blame God.

Let us keep in mind that both Isaiah and Paul speak to those who had no fear of God, so they fear no retribution for their evil ways.

Isaiah 59:1, it was not because his hand was short that he could not save them, nor hear their plea for help.

Isaiah 1:15 *And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.* (Ps 66:18, Isa 59:2, Jer 7:16, 11f:14, &c.)

V. 2, the general principle here is that sins alone separate man from God.

V. 3, Their hands were defiled with blood. That is, murders, injustice, extortion, oppression and cruelties. Under “blood,” we see that when the wicked deprive others of their means of livelihood, they are guilty of murder.

Micah 3:1 *And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know judgment? 2 Who imphate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones; 3 Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.*

As one reads Christ’s words against the Jews in Luke 11, it seems that their common practice was to shed the blood of the innocent through deceit and robbery. However, both Paul and Isaiah describe the workers of iniquity of all time. Their goal was and is to enrich themselves at the expense of the poor. In Luke 11, one of the means of shedding the blood of the innocent was through unjust laws:

v. 46 *And he said, Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.*

The wicked today use unjust laws to shed blood by stripping the innocent of their means of livelihood.

I will only list **two of the many methods** of shedding the blood of the innocent.

1. Taxes. The property tax is totally against God, for the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. Property tax is an attack against God and a godly social order. The state always owns the property, and we pay rent.

2. Financial market manipulation that inflates the price of everything except the wages of the average man.

Financial market, including the precious metals market are being manipulated for the benefit of the banks and bankers. The nations and the banks are gathering gold to themselves at \$1500. There is little doubt that the time is coming very soon when the artificial suppression will be stopped, and gold will well over 10,000. The banks that have hoarded the gold will be extremely wealthy on paper.

Though what the FED is doing to the money supply is public knowledge, their action is not being publicized. It is far too complicated to explain, so here is the short of it. The banks have been switching money around trying to increase their profits. Government securities and mortgages are being used as security on the money they borrow.

In their mad chase for more profit, they have again created a massive unsustainable debt crisis that is worse than it was during the "sub-prime" crisis a few years ago. To solve the debt crisis among the banks, the FED, which has controlled our financial system since 1913, is expanding our money supply to cover the banks losses by printing new "money." (Personal and industrial mortgages are again involved.)

"The Fed Is Girding for Repo Trouble Monday Even as Market Calms

"The third quarter ends Monday. So, for the past two days, the New York Fed has run \$100 billion overnight repo operations -- bigger than the \$75 billion daily liquidity injections that began early last week -- plus separate 14-day operations. Neither of Friday's actions were fully subscribed and short-term lending rates are well below the peak seen last week, a sign order has been restored for now." <https://www.investing.com/news/economy/the-fed-is-girding-for-repo-trouble-monday-even-as-market-calms-1988022>. Read the comments.)

In other words, in order to keep the debt loaded banks afloat, the Federal Reserve is inflating the money supply by at the very least \$100 billion a day, with no end in sight. 10 x 100 billion is one trillion, so every month the money supply is being inflated by \$3 trillion to keep the banks afloat.

The state through taxes and the FED through debasing the "money" supply are probably the two

entities with the most blood on their hands.

And it is not antisemitic to point out the major banks are owned by those who follow the Jew's Talmudic religion.

Isaiah 59:3 The nations are filled with the blood of the innocent.

Violence is not only accomplished with their hands, but also with their lips: lies, perjuries, slanders, false accusations, injustice, perverseness of every description.

V. 4, no one is concerned about justice and truth. There seems to be a two-tier justice system: one for the rich and powerful, and one for the common man. It seems there is no one to plead the cause of the truth and righteous.

The wicked continually plan mischief in order to destroy truth and justice. They speak vain, empty words and lies in order to draw the innocent into their various traps.

V. 5, **cockatrice** (a venomous creature), eggs. That is, the lies and deceits are laid as eggs that will hatch in the future do to their destructive work against the kingdom of God. Those who eat or believe their words swallow their poison. The term is Fabian Socialism; that is, a very slow creeping socialism to destroy a Christian society.

Sadly, the wicked make plans that they know will not bear fruit for maybe 100 years, such as the taking over of the education system. The destructive eggs they laid when they forced all the children into a state-run education system, are now bearing fruit. The socialist and the sodomites have taken over the government education system, and we see the destructive results of the eggs they planted over 100 years ago in the education system.

Eggs hatched: Two sickening examples of 13-year-old girls who have been convinced they are boys and are having their breasts removed.

U.S. Doctors Are Performing Double Mastectomies On Healthy 13-Year-Old Girls

Thirty-three of these girls were under 18 at the time of surgeries a taxpayer-funded researcher is studying to validate transgenderism. Two were only 13 years old, and five were only 14.

Some physicians in the United States are performing double mastectomies on healthy 13-year-old girls. The justification is gender dysphoria (“transgenderism”)—the girls now identify as boys and therefore want to look like boys.

<https://thefederalist.com/2018/09/12/u-s-doctors-performing-double-mastectomies-healthy-13-year-old-girls/>

Canadian doctor pockets \$9,000 to remove breasts from 14-year-old girls who believe they're 'boys'

TORONTO, Ontario, July 26, 2018 (LifeSiteNews) – A plastic surgeon in Toronto who calls himself a “leader in the LGBT community” has admitted to performing double mastectomies on girls as young as fourteen who believe themselves to be 'boys.'

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/canadian-doctor-pockets-9000-to-remove-breasts-from-14-year-old-girls-who-b>

On the other hand, most Christians cannot think much past themselves. So, they have chosen money over having and raising a godly family in order to control the future.

Spider's web. The wicked weave their web to ensnare the righteous with their poisonous words.

We have some solar powered lights around our glass front door to the glass enclosed front porch. A spider has spun her web between one of the lights and the edge of the glass. We like to watch her catch the aggravating night bugs that collect around her light. She is quite well fed.

When we would come into our driveway last fall after dark, the car lights would light up the many spiderwebs that were strung from the trees down to the ground. Those webs were established to catch the unsuspecting bugs that flew around at night in the dark.

The wicked are like that. They set webs for the unsuspecting who are groping around in the dark without the light of the word of God.

V. 6, their deceitful words and works are like the web of a spider. Yet those webs can never cover their wicked deeds, to hide them from God.

Their deceitful words and works cannot defend them from the impending evil.

Proverbs 1:18 *And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives.*

V. 7, their hearts and minds are fully set on doing evil.

V. 8, the wicked do not care for peace nor righteous judgment, and even fight against honest judgment. Their hearts are continually at war against righteousness.

As we leave Isaiah 59:9 and go back to Romans 3:18, here is an application for us.

Lesson for us from Isaiah 59: The wicked plant eggs at every opportunity, hoping that they

will hatch and produce their desired purpose to overthrow God.

The Christian answer to the ungodly efforts of the wicked, is to plant eggs that, with by the mercy and grace of God, will produce an army to overthrow the wicked.

The Christian's victorious plan for the future is raising a godly generation which has the Spirit of God and the courage to confront the wicked.

Sadly, few Christians seem to realize the importance of having and raising Godly children. It is distressing to see the emphasis Christian women place on having a career in the business world. They have answered the world's call that money and a good life brings happiness.

Bettie and I watch what could be considered Christian themed movies. It is amazing how many of them center around women in powerful corporate positions.

Romans 3:18, no fear of God is a serious problem inside and outside of the church

Fear of God defined:

Psalms 36:1 ¶ « *To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD.* » *The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes.*

Proverbs 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

Psalms 34:11 ¶ Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

There is a fear such as the fear of a tornado approaching, or a wall falling on you.

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

Proverbs 3:7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

Proverbs 14:27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

Proverbs 16:6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

(THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN LESSON 27, BUT PASSED IT OUT SO WE COULD START IN ROM 4 WHEN WE MET AGAIN)

We are leaving Romans 3 so we can start in Romans 4 when we meet again, so the rest of ch 3 rest is in the handout. We will go through it until we run out of time.

3:19 is the conclusion of this whole portion of Romans which started in **1:18**. The law makes all the world guilty before God. The law defines sin, and proves that all have sinned and come

short of the glory of God. It proves that no man can justify himself before God.

1 John 3:4 *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*

V. 20, it is clear throughout the Old Testament that by the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified, which was a cause of distress for godly man throughout history:

Job 9:1ff. (V. 2, *I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God?* Bildad asked the same question in 25:1-6)

After destroying all hope any man might have in himself, Paul now presents the only answer. Man cannot change himself, so God provides his solution to man's in-born sin problem, that is Jesus Christ.

V. 21, Paul shows how God has provided righteousness without the law as it was written in the **law and prophets...**

Law: Genesis 15:6 *And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.*

Prophets: Isaiah 45:24 *Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed. 25 In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.*

Starting in vv. 22, 23 Paul explains God's solution to the sin problem presented by the fact that all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. God provided the solution for all of his people, while not compromising his own righteousness and holiness. V. 22, by the *faith of Jesus Christ* unto all.

Note **not faith in, but the faith of. That is, faith must be given by Jesus Christ. Faith IN would violate**

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

The solution was vaguely given to Adam, and became clearer as time went on. It was spelled out in the law and the prophets, though few could see it. Righteousness imputed to the sinner through faith in the promises of God.

V. 24, *justified...* to render, or regard as just or innocent so one can appear before the righteous and holy God.

Justified freely — justified without the sinner doing anything on his part to deserve being considered righteous.

Through the redemption that is in Christ.

Though justification is freely given, it was not free. The penalty of sin, death, had to be met before the sinner could be set free from the eternal penalty for his sin. Christ paid that penalty.

V. 25, **Remission**... noun. the cancellation of a debt, charge, or penalty. Remission means that the guilty party does not have to pay the debt. But that does not mean the price does not have to be paid.

God cannot simply overlook the debt. So, God's plan worked out so the sinner does not have to pay the price, yet the price is paid.

God the Father is the one who provided the payment, and the death of his Son was presented as the payment. Christ was and is the **propitiation**, or MERCY-SEAT. This word Paul uses, Propitiation, is defined in the Greek Lexicon:

1a) [the word Propitiation was] used of the cover of the ark of the covenant in the Holy of Holies, which was sprinkled with the blood of the expiatory [that is, power or authority to pay the price] victim on the annual day of atonement (this rite signifying that the life of the people, the loss of which they had merited by their sins, was offered to God in the blood as the life of the victim, and that God by this ceremony was appeased and their sins expiated, [atone, or make right]); hence the lid of expiation, the propitiatory [appeasement]. (Greek Lexicon)

In other words, propitiation meant the mercy seat that covered the Ark of God which contained the Ten Commandments. The blood was sprinkled on the mercy seat to appease for the sins of his people until the true blood of the Son was placed on the Mercy Seat in heaven. An interesting study, but not at this time.

The Jews to whom Paul writes knew very well what was meant by the word propitiation. The word pretty well lost its meaning after the Jewish race and the second temple was destroyed, and time passed. The ark contained the law, which proved all men are sinners. The mercy-seat was sprinkled with blood once a year. The blood was from an innocent victim.

We have already considered the need for the blood sacrifice in the plan of Redemption, so I will only refer to the passages. Hebrews 9:22, Leviticus 17:11

The blood of Christ, or the work of Christ must be applied to the sinner's account by faith in his work on the cross. Any offer of salvation apart from the blood of Christ, or the work of Christ for the sinner are means of death. It is through Christ's sacrifice that the judgment seat became a mercy seat to everyone who places his complete trust in Christ's payment for his sins.

Only then is the prophecy of Psalms 103:12 fulfilled: *As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*

The result is that our sins are removed and we can stand justified before God.

1 Corinthians 6:11 *And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

Remission of sins depends not on what we think but on how God sees us.

V. 25. *Forbearance of God...*

That is, God acted righteously before Christ when he "overlooking" the sins of his people who looked forward in faith to the perfect sacrifice that would come and shed his blood which would take away their sins.

Job expressed his hope in the coming Redeemer about the time of Abraham:

Job 19:25 *For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:*

To those living after the death of Christ, the work of Christ is behind us, and we trust in what took place.

V. 26, *at this time*; that is, the time of the gospel of Christ.

just and the justifier... Through Christ, God remains just while declaring the sinner justified.

2 Corinthians 5:21 *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*

V. 27, there can be no boasting in the Lord, for, as Paul has proved, self-works of the law cannot stand before God. The only work can do is *believe on him*, John 6:29 *This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.* And that even that belief is a work of God in the heart.

Note: Those who say the law is no longer valid since Christ must also dismiss the law of faith which was delivered through Moses.

Paul is dealing with a unique problem of his day—that is, the line of separation between the Jews of his day and the Gentiles. That problem does not exist today. But the fact he has established that the Jews and Gentiles are on the same level before God certainly applies to our day.

He has shown that no matter one's social status, religious background, national origin, sexual-orientation, or family heritage, there is only one way of entrance to the Father's house, faith in Christ.

Vv. 28-30, conclusion... He sums up what he has proved thus far. Four things:

First, justification is through faith apart from any deeds of the law.

Second, God is not the God of the Jews only, but he is God of all nations, and all stand guilty of sin. All stand in need of justification by faith in Christ.

Third, there is only one God, and he is God over all men and nations. The way is made clear to him, and there is only one way.

Fourth, though most of what he has said was aimed at the proud Israelites at Rome, and who depended upon many useless things, what he has shown applies equally to the non-Israelites.

There is one God manifested in three persons. There is only one universal religion that can result in seeing God, and that religion requires approach to the Father through faith alone, in Christ alone, which will bring glory to God alone.

V. 31, what about the moral law and its many applications? Is it useless now? No!

First, it convicts the world of sin.

Second, it reveals our sinful condition even as believers, constantly in need of renewal in Christ.

Third, it is established in our lives.

Faith does not void the law; rather, faith establishes the law... Before conversion, the basic law was written in the heart. After conversion, the law in all its implications is made clear to us.

That is, it is established in the lives of his people as their standard of living, and their new desire is to properly apply the law in their lives.

The promise of Christ is found in the prophets:

Ezekiel 36:25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. 26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Paul restates Ezekiel like this:

2 Corinthians 5:16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. 17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

- * Conversion means that a new creature.
- * Conversion means that the laws of God are now established in our hearts.
- * Conversion means that a new spirit has been placed within his people.
- * Conversion means that that new spirit places the desire in his people to obey his laws and its many applications as given through Moses.
- * Conversion means that rather than resisting that law, the new creature loves the law, and desires to fulfill it, e.g., Psalms 119.

The new creature becomes an ambassador for the Kingdom of God on this earth. The new, indwelling Spirit gives the desire and power to properly represent that Kingdom in our daily activities.

God's righteousness is revealed and illustrated not only in his law, but in the lives of his people.