

Romans 3:1-31

The Book of Romans reveals how man continues to feel the need to have to contribute something to be saved.

Romans Chapter 1 reveals the unrighteous of man, and shows how degraded man becomes when he rejects God. We see it in the news everyday – murders, rapes, school shootings, etc. When you take the sanctity of life (the bible and God) out of life, society degrades.

Romans Chapter 2 reveals how man becomes self-righteous in his behavior and attitude after rejecting God.

Romans Chapter 3 reveals what God thinks of man's attitude in His written Word.

Vs1: The Jews put so much emphasis on their race and being circumcised that they became self-righteous. God tells man it is circumcision of the heart that matters, not the other. What's the good of being circumcised? Why are the Jews so special?

Vs2: it is because God took a small group of slaves and raised them in His mercy, and for the first time in history, God gave them His written word, His laws, His oracles. That's what made the Jews special. God put in place His written word in their hands and they were to take that word and be an example to the rest of the world. That's our task as Christians. Be an example to the rest of the world; teach them the word of Christ, of God.

Vs3: just because the Jews were unfaithful after receiving the word of God, it did not affect God's love for them. He will still raise the Jews and make them the leading nation of the world.

Vs4: Just because man is unfaithful doesn't mean God will ever be unfaithful to His promises to man. Every man is a liar, and God is always true. Man can use every excuse in the book to claim his righteousness – it is not true. Man is unrighteous.

Vs5: speaking as a man, if my unrighteousness reveals the marvelous wonderful grace of God, then does God have a right to judge me? If man's behavior is bad, it makes God's behavior look better. But this is not a license to sin.

Vs6: in response to the comment in verse 5: How can God judge the world?

Vs7: if this attitude is true (verse 5), if I'm bad, that makes God good. This is such a wrong attitude, very wrong. You cannot live like you want after you accept the Lord into your heart.

Vs8: Paul says that this attitude is wrong. People are teaching that we can live as we want because of God's mercy and grace, but it is a lie. We do not have license to sin after we are saved. We must live better now.

Vs9: all of human race is under sin, starting with Adam and Eve. All mankind is condemned because of the original sin.

Vs10: no human being ever born lived a life good enough to get into heaven without Jesus.

Vs11: again we see how man is in his natural form: they go off into all crazy sins without direction, make their own religions, sin overwhelmingly as mentioned in Chapter 1.

Vs12: men left to their own devices become unprofitable. "Unprofitable" means "rotten fruit." No human left to their own devices comes to any good.

Vs13: man's mouth is like an open sack, full of trash and garbage (lies). Using God's name to condemn everything is toxic.

Vs14-15: watch the news any day. Look at what's happening around the world. All this bad stuff is happening because we are throwing God out of our country. Taking guns away will not stop crime. Adding Christ to our schools, work, home, and government will solve many problems.

Vs16-17: there is destruction and misery everywhere where Christ is not. There is no peace without Christ.

Vs18: the problem is these bad men do not fear God. They don't pay attention to Him and just go on their way, which never leads to anything good.

Vs19: we cannot live under the 10 commandments or any of the other laws set forth by God. It is impossible for humans to live that way.

Vs20: under the law set forth by God, no man will ever be justified good enough to get into heaven.

Vs21-22: since man can't live by the law or be justified by the law as he is, God will show us how we can live by the law and get into heaven: through Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ came to the Jews and the Gentiles.

Vs23: all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. All Have Sinned, Period.

Vs24: "redemption" means "to purchase in the marketplace", "to buy at the market" and "to be set free by paying the price". Our righteousness is paid by Christ with the last meaning of the word "redemption". He bought mankind.

Vs25: Jesus Christ has been set forth as our sacrifice. God put a savior on the scene when He wanted; it was His shed blood, all on His time schedule. Man can't do anything to save himself. It is all up to God and His grace and mercy.

Vs26-27: man's works mean nothing toward salvation. It is by Jesus Christ alone that you are saved.

Vs28: **man is judged by faith apart from the works of the law.** The law will put you to death every time.

Vs29: God is God of Jews and Gentiles alike. He is God of the entire human race.

Vs30: there is one God over all, and all get into the family of God the same way, one way, by faith in Jesus Christ only.

Vs31: there was a law of works in the Old Testament, but the new law in the New Testament is faith in Jesus Christ. Now it's a sin to go back to the old law.