



# Romans 16 – Sin's Boast

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Romans 3:27-31

# Prologue: Abraham's Peoples

## Earthly People

- Dust of the earth and sands of the sea shore
- Jews and Israel
- Limited as earth ends
- Composed of *False* Jews; *True* Jews seek *heavenly* city

## Heavenly People

- Stars of the heavens which means not of the earth
- New Covenant salvation
- Unlimited, eternal
- Composed of True Jews & Gentiles saved in Jesus

# Prologue: Jerusalems as Metaphors

(Ga 4:21-31)

## Earthly Jerusalem

- Hagar, slave, represents earthly Jerusalem
- Son of slave born to flesh
- Represents Law, sin slave
- Shall be cast out forever

## Heavenly Jerusalem

- Sarah, wife, represents heavenly Jerusalem
- Son of free as promised
- Represents grace & faith
- Shall be loved forever



# Prologue: Priest Like Melchizedek

- Melchizedek ministered to Abraham who gave tithes acknowledging legitimacy of his priesthood 400 years before Aaronic, Levitical {Law} priesthood (Ge 14:18-20)
- Melchizedek's priesthood is the *likeness* of Christ's; but he was not Christ, just a *metaphor* for Christ (He 7:15-19)
- Permanent because Christ lives forever {Levitical was of men who die} (He 7:18-22; Re 1:9-16)

# Prologue: Christ Justifier & Justifies

- Because Christ's death satisfied God's wrath for sin He is the Justifier of all who believe on Him in faith
  - He is the essence of God's righteousness revealed by His resurrection (Jo 14:8-14)
  - He justifies all who believe on Him so they, we, have peace with God, eternally (Ro 5:1)
  - Since He lives forever, our salvation lasts forever based on His one sacrifice rather than annual sacrifices (He 6:4-6)

# Can We Boast of Our Salvation?

- To understand the question we need to grasp the biblical definition of boasting {Law of Identity}
- {Dictionary.com} to speak with exaggeration and excessive pride, especially about oneself
- {καύχησις} to vaunt oneself against someone, to treat someone in a derogatory or contemptuous manner
- Boasting is blasphemy against God; to be as gods (Ge 3:1-7)

If we can do anything to merit salvation then we can boast; however,  
Boasting is blasphemy, mark of sin therefore we cannot boast  
Less we expose ourselves as agents of Satan rather than sons of God



# Satan: First Boaster

- Lucifer boasted of his qualities, God given, elevating himself above God (Is 14:12-14; Ez 28:12-18)
  - During temptation of Christ, Satan was boastful wanting Christ to worship him (Mt 4:1-11)
  - During temptation of Woman, Satan boasted of God's command and punishment; teaching her boasting (Ge 3:1-8)
  - Satan will be placed in Lake of Fire (Re 20:10)

# Antichrist Boastful like Satan

- One of the hallmark qualities of Antichrist is his boastful speech at the expense of those who follow
  - *Little horn* of power appears small, but his words sway sinners who believe Satan's lie (Da 7:8; 2Th 2:9-12; Re 13:5-8)
  - His *False Prophet* provides the *moral* basis for Antichrist's rule {Government always uses morality for sin} (Re 13:11-15)
  - Both are thrown into Lake of Fire before Satan (Re 19:20)



# Boasting is Double-Hearted {Minded}

- Boasting reveals one as double-minded {Unstable in one's ways} and may include (Ps 12:2-3; Ja 1:5-8)
  - Lies
  - Flattery
  - Rebellious attitude toward authority
- God hates the one who boasts calling them deceitful and blood thirsty (Ps 5:4-6)

# First Boast Illustrates Violence

- First Bible boast was Lamech, fifth generation of Cain
  - He justified his killing of a man as self-defense (Ge 4:23-26)
  - He boasted that since God promised a 7-fold penalty on anyone killing Cain then God's penalty for anyone attacking him should be seventy-sevenfold
  - There is no remorse over a man's death nor repentance toward God; Lamech boastfully justified himself at the expense of another; mark of sin - Increasing violence

# All Evil Doers Boast (Ps 94:3-7)

- Bible is clear: All sinners boast to elevate themselves by denigrating God and the saved
  - Grinding down poor, widows, fatherless and sojourner
  - They say God does not see; i.e., God does not exist
  - Since God has given up the lost, their domain is the world which grows worse and worse (Mt 24:6-12; Ro 1:18-25; Ja 4:4-6)
  - Boasts divides promoting divisions and violence: Sin (1Co 3:1-7; Ja 4:1-8)

Sinners, double-minded, devolve into violence to obtain what God has not given: Covetousness



# God Judges the Boastful

- God will judge at the appointed time all who boast; i.e., all unrepentant sinners (Ps 75:2-5)
- Boastful think they have power {horns}, as Antichrist, but they have no power with God; i.e., small horns
- Sinners remain in their fleshly mind and cannot inherit the Kingdom of God (1Co 15:50)
- Their works testify against them, consigning them to Lake of Fire (Re 20:11-15)

Sinners, double-minded, cannot boast for their works fall short of God's righteousness

Thus, they are consigned to Lake of Fire for eternity

If their works could save them then they could boast of their own righteousness

# Boasting is Excluded

- Law of works cannot save, it brings only knowledge of sin; but, law of faith is not of believer but Christ (Ro 3:20)
- Works of faith only means viewable results of inward faith; i.e., the new nature producing Christ-like works (Ja 2:18-20)
- Faith is not produced by the believer but by the word of God empowered by the Spirit; part of gift of grace (Ro 10:17; 1Co 2:14)
- Faith is from God via Christ, completer of our faith (He 11:1; 12:2)

# Jew and Gentile in Faith

- Just as both Jew and Gentile are lost for the same reason, sin; both Jew and Gentile are saved for same reason: faith which comes only from Christ via Spirit
  - Lost cannot boast as their works condemn them
  - Saved cannot boast, faith comes only by God while the person is a sinner and not seeking God (Ro 5:1-10)
  - Christ is the author and completer of our faith; all praise belongs to Him (Re 4:9-11)



# Godly Faith Unifies

- Sin divides, Godly faith unifies; God is one (Ep 4:11-14)
  - Is faith antinomianism {Against Law}; i.e., does faith negate the Law {Moral Law}? (Ex 20:1-17)
  - It is the essence of God's character which Christ came to reveal to sinful man (Ep 1:3-14)
  - Christ came to fulfill the Law which endures forever (Mt 5:17-19)

# Faith Upholds the Law

- Faith cannot negate the Moral Law; ergo, it upholds the Moral Law: Essence of the Father's nature
  - Christ is the essence of the Father (Col 2:9)
  - Christ and the Father are One with believers (Jo 17:20-24)
  - Christians are crucified with Christ and the life lived now is through Christ (Ga 2:20)
  - Moral Law is the standard by which we measure our maturity in Christ

# Interconnectedness of Moral Law

- We may look on each element of the moral law as separate articles; however, they are tightly intertwined
  - Suppose you steal an item {Eight Word}
  - First you had to covet the item {Tenth Word}
  - Meaning you reject teaching of parents {Fifth Word}
  - You place yourself as god in your life {First Word}
- Thus, breaking one Word violates essence of Law: God



# Epilogue: Boasting is Violence

- Boasting is not a harmless bragging but an active attack against God and others violating the Ten Words
  - {Dictionary.com} to speak with exaggeration and excessive pride, especially about oneself
  - {καύχησις} to vaunt oneself against someone, is to treat someone in a derogatory or contemptuous manner
- Boasting is always blasphemy against God

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# Tale of Two Men

- Rich man and Lazarus; two different men (Lk 16:19-31)
  - Lazarus poor, begged and ignored by rich man; however, this signifies his humility rather reward his poorness
  - Rich man had great goods of the world; again, this signifies his ties to the world making him God's enemy
  - Both died, went to the destiny of their faith's making: Rich man - Hell and Lazarus - Paradise
  - What does your speech say about your spiritual nature?