

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible
Current Book: Romans – Message 10

2017 VISION: *Prioritizing God*

Scriptures for Today: Romans 3:1-18 – Paul reasons through questions and “truth” statements

Title of Today’s Message: **The Case of the Guilty Sinner (P1) – Proof beyond a shadow of a doubt.**

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw Paul use the **TEN** Commandments – God’s Law – to expose the sin of people who considered themselves to be “religious” or good. We learned that the religious Jew is a lot like the “religious” Baptist or Methodist or Catholic who trusts in his religion and not Christ – **LOST!** We concluded that God’s spiritual weapon to deal with this satanic blindness is the Ten Commandments. Today, we arrive at Romans chapter 3 where God will conclude that there is *none* RIGHTEOUS, there is *none* that UNDERSTANDETH, there is *none* that SEEKETH God, *everyone* is gone out of the WAY and become UNPROFITABLE, and there is *none* that DOETH GOOD – no, not **ONE**. However, the reality of that truth is hard to believe – especially about ourselves! When we approach the holy Bible, we must forsake any human wisdom that goes contrary to it. God does not ask you leave your brain and follow Him. He simply asks you to believe His truth above all things. He has given us an incredible brain that is able to reason and **THINK** through things. Paul constructed his argument in the first two chapters – all are guilty. Now, by anticipating the attacks against his argument, he continues to **REASON** with us. God wants you to use your brain today as He asks **17** questions in Romans 3.

PREACHING NOTES

1. Paul **reasons** through **QUESTIONS** concerning God’s truth from chapters 1 and 2. Vs. 1-18

✓ Q: *What ADVANTAGE then hath the Jew? or, what PROFIT is there of circumcision?*

✓ A: Much every way! Chiefly, because unto them were committed the oracles of God.

Nehemiah 9:13,14 *“Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and SPAKEST with them from heaven”*

Psalms 147:19-20 *“He sheweth HIS WORD unto Jacob ... He hath not dealt so with any nation...”*

NOTE Based on the conclusion of Romans 2, it may be a question then if there is any value in being a Jew. Obviously, the answer is ABSOLUTELY! They are God’s chosen people, and He gave them His words! What does it matter what the Jews believed? It matters a lot! God trusted them to record and preserve His holy Scriptures! Be careful not to forsake Israel.

✓ Q: *For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?*

✓ A: God forbid! Yeah, let God be true, but every man a liar.

Psalms 51:4 *“Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that THOU might be JUSTIFIED when THOU SPEAKEST, and be CLEAR when THOU JUDGEST.”*

Psalms 119:160 *“Thy word is TRUE from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”*

NOTE A basic principle of logic (“The law of Non-Contradiction”) is that two opposing “truths” or ideas cannot be TRUE at the same time. So, the conclusions that we draw with faulty reasoning can never be true if it opposes God’s Word. The man on the street corner who steps out into the street BELIEVING there is no semi coming even though a semi is actually coming will be run over by the semi regardless. His belief did not alter what was true! When it comes to eternal things, you do not want to use faulty reasoning. The Bible is true. As David said, God is justified in His sayings; no matter who judges God, God will always win, because HE IS TRUTH, and “every one of [His] righteous judgments endureth forever.”

- ✓ Q: But if **our unrighteousness** commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? **IS GOD UNRIGHTEOUS who taketh vengeance?** (I speak as a man)
- ✓ A: God forbid! For then how shall God judge the world?
- ✓ Q: For if the truth of God hath **more abounded through my lie unto his glory**; **WHY YET AM I ALSO JUDGED AS A SINNER?** And not rather, (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) **LET US DO EVIL, that good may come?**
- ✓ A: You are judged as a sinner because you have broken God's Law and are guilty.

Genesis 18:25 ***"That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: SHALL NOT THE JUDGE OF ALL THE EARTH DO RIGHT?"***

NOTE Paul is taking the time to make an incorrect assertion in order to demonstrate its illogical conclusion. Of course, God's righteousness looks glorious next to our unrighteousness, but that is not the conclusion that we draw from this fact! And, that is no reason to keep on sinning! God is not unrighteous to punish sinners for breaking His Law. The point is that HE IS THE JUDGE! And, we will be held accountable for our crimes against Him. God forbid! That truth, TO THE CONTRARY, makes Him a good Judge, and not an "unrighteous" Judge.

- ✓ *What then? are we better than they?*
- ✓ ANSWER: No, in no wise. God has already proved **both Jews and Gentiles** are guilty sinners.

2 Corinthians 10:12 ***"For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or COMPARE OURSELVES with some that commend themselves: but they MEASURING THEMSELVES by themselves, and COMPARING THEMSELVES among themselves, are not wise."***

NOTE This is a "Red Herring" (a misdirection tactic to get the attention off the correct conclusion). Whether you are "better" than someone else or not is not the question at hand. Being "better" than someone does not acquit from being a sinner yourself! When someone says, "I am not as bad as that guy," he is using this faulty reasoning. Instead of assessing himself, he wants to put the spotlight on someone else. Welcome to the human condition. We like to compare ourselves with others when we should compare ourselves to God's holy Word.

- ✓ *As it is written, There is NONE righteous, NO, not one:*
- ✓ *There is NONE that understandeth, there is NONE that seeketh after God.*
- ✓ *They are ALL gone out of the way, they are TOGETHER become unprofitable;*
- ✓ *There is NONE that doeth good, NO, not one.*

Jeremiah 23:29 ***"Is not MY WORD like as a fire? saith the LORD; and LIKE A HAMMER that breaketh the rock in pieces?"***

NOTE Paul supports his reasoning with some of the most powerful words in the holy Bible! This deals the death blow to the sinner. After being reminded that God is true and every man is a liar, the "as it is written" appeal to God's authority is like a hammer to the rocks of human hearts. There has only been 1 Man who was ever righteous, understanding, seeking God, in the right way, profitable, and good – and that Man was Jesus Christ! He alone is good.

- ✓ *There is NO FEAR OF GOD before their eyes!*

Proverbs 1:7 ***"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of KNOWLEDGE: but fools despise wisdom..."***

NOTE Paul provides 6 verses of evidence from the lives of all people which solidifies his argument. The words and actions of people speak for themselves. The concluding reason for WHY people sin is found in vs 18. You are not thinking correctly until you FEAR God in all things!