

L9: The Message of the Ambassador Pt. 5 - The Excuses of the Inexcusable

Introduction:

- Using the law lawfully
 - God's intended use
 - Use in the gospel
- The laws role in the truth of the judgment of God

Preview:

- The Excuses of the Inexcusable
 - Points of dispute:
 - The Truth of God
 - Creation
 - The Truth of Sin & Death
 - The Truth of God's Judgment
 - The Law
 - The Offence of the Cross
 - Romans 9:33
 - Galatians 5:11

Sermon:

The Excuses of the Inexcusable

- Excuses of extenuation
 - "extenuate" - to lessen, to make thin, or rare
 - Alleviation of punishment
 - Yet, God's love is all-encompassing
- **Excuse of Disadvantage**
 - Thoughts of God's pardon, clemency, leniency outside the redemptive work of Jesus Christ based upon some unfavorable position or condition, some absence of advantage or equality.
 - Blinding problem of "disadvantage"
 - Pride causing a false assessment of one's self-perceived trouble, predicament, etc that blinds one to the real state of things in God's sight.
 - Excuses
 - Hard upbringing
 - God made me this way
 - Satan made me do it
 - Too much suffering in life

- ☐ Too poor
- ☐ Didn't go to school

- **Excuse of Advantage**

- Thoughts of God's pardon, clemency, leniency outside the redemptive work of Jesus Christ based upon some favorable state, circumstance, opportunity, or means of benefit, gain, or profit, some superiority.
 - Blinding problem of "advantage"
 - ☐ Pride causing a false assessment of one's self-perceived wholeness, richness, reputation that blinds one to the real state of things in God's sight.
 - Excuses
 - ☐ Obey the 10 Commandments
 - ☐ Live a good life
 - ☐ Go to church regularly
 - ☐ Give to the poor
 - ☐ Be water baptized
 - ☐ Pray daily
 - ☐ Confess and turn away from my sins
 - ☐ Ask Jesus into my heart and make him the Lord of my life
 - ☐ I am not as bad as those in prison
 - ☐ Know the right person (family member a Christian)
 - ☐ Christian school

- **Sum it up**

- **Psalm 10:13 - "Wherefore doth the wicked condemn God? He hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require it."**
 - "condemn" - to despise (Rom. 2:4); to consider and treat as mean and despicable; to slight; to neglect as unworthy

{Romans 2:11} For there is no respect of persons with God.

- **"no respect of persons with God."**

- Unlearned or learned, leaders or not, officials or citizenry, high or low estates, riches or poverty, geographical location
 - Fishermen living in Galilee??
 - ☐ Unlearned
 - ☐ Valley of Darkness, etc

{Romans 2:12} For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

- "For as many as have sinned without law"
 - "shall also perish without law:"
 - Disadvantage, why will they still perish?
 - ☐ "sin"

- "and as many as have sinned in the law"
 - "shall be judged by the law;"
 - Advantage, why will they be judged?
 - "sin"
- The law isn't the matter of advantage or disadvantage
 - Rather, it is to prove one guilty of sin, of unrighteousness

Extenuation of Disadvantage

{Romans 2:13-16} (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified. {14} For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: {15} Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;) {16} In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

- **"(For not the hearers of the law are just before God,"**
 - Isn't simply of possessing it and it entering into one's ears
 - This isn't osmosis righteousness
- **"but the doers of the law shall be justified."**
 - Must "do" something, the law, the standard of righteousness (Rom. 7)
 - Justified declared righteous
- **"For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law"**
 - The Gentiles don't have the law, but do the things contained in the law?
 - "manifest sin"
 - Also,
 - Their "conscience" (internal self-knowledge, internal judgment of right and wrong)
 - Thoughts excuse or accuse
- **"are a law unto themselves:"**
 - The conscience is an internal law that excuse or accuse based upon one's judgment of right and wrong
 - Even their own "law" accuses!
- The disadvantaged attempt to cling tight to their disadvantage for their justification or demand of leniency or mercy, but there is right and wrong and God's judgment will judge not regarding one's "person", but what that person has "done".
- **"In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel."**

- **Ecc. 12:14 - "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."**
- The Father has given all judgment unto the Son
- The secrets of men (a law unto themselves, their conscience) manifest their own sin in which will be judged by Jesus Christ
 - Patient continuance in well doing seek for glory, honour, immortality, eternal life
 - Contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil.
 - Not a 51 to 49 ratio

Extenuation of Advantage

{Romans 2:17-20} {17} Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God, {18} And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law; {19} And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness, {20} An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.

- "Behold"
 - "called a Jew"
 - "retest in the law"
 - "makest thy boast of God"
 - "knowest His will"
 - "approvest the things that are more excellent"
 - "being instructed out of the law;"
 - :20 - "...which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law."
 - "art confident...thyself art a guide of the blind"
 - "a light of them which are in darkness"
 - "instructor of the foolish"
 - "a teacher of babes"

{Romans 2:21-29} {21} Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal? {22} Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege? {23} Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? {24} For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written. {25} For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision. {26} Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision? {27} And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law? {28} For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: {29} But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

- Paul's disputation against their self-perceived advantage
 - Possible to have advantage, but be wrong
 - **Psalm 50:21 - "These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself: but I will reprove thee, and set them**

in order before thine eyes."

- Questions:
 - **"Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself?"**
 - **"Thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?"**
 - **"Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery?"**
 - **"Thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?"**
 - **"Thou that sayest a man should not commit that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written."**
- Truth Fact:
 - **"For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision."**
 - Circumcision attached to the law
 - Breaker of the law circumcision is uncircumcision
 - Righteous by nature (circumcised), sinners by nature (uncircumcised)
- Main Truth:
 - Not outward flesh
 - Circumcision of the heart (faith)

Conclusion: