

I) V21-22 INTRO: But now the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus

As we have seen, Paul built a case for *man's guilt* before God
Gentiles stand guilty before Him as sinners, and so do Jews

II) Gentiles have the witness of creation and the reality of a conscience
Creation demands a *Creator*, and *conscience* demands
cleansing

III) Because Gentiles have no *special revelation*, they have turned to idols

Their need for a connection with a god has resulted in *idolatry*
This has resulted in the worship of creation and not its Creator

IV) Conscience has also produced in them a sense of guilt
Though they are aware of their moral laws, they still violate
them

Conscience can accuse, or excuse but cannot free them from
sins guilt

V) The Jews have special revelation: The Law, Prophets, the writings

The Law is the first five books of the Bible: Pentateuch

The Prophets are the second division consisting of Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings well as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the twelve minor prophets and contains the messages God gave to the prophets to deliver to the people.

The Writings make up the third and final division. They include the Psalms, Proverbs, Job, the Song of Songs, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther, Daniel, Ezra-Nehemiah, and Chronicles (which recount the history of the Jewish people from a different perspective than the books of Samuel and Kings).

VI) Within these books they have instructions on how to please God

They had other advantages: the Temple, the sacrifices, the priesthood

Ro 9:4 Paul speaks of the Israelites, to whom pertain the *adoption*, the *glory*, the *covenants*, the giving of *the law*, the *service of God*, and the *promises*

VII) With all of these spiritual advantages, they are still guilty before God

VIII) The first martyr Stephen called Israel out on this

Ac 7:52 Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered Him

I) With all of these advantages, the Jews were no better than the Gentiles

Both stood in need of forgiveness
REVIEW

II) From there, Paul made a scriptural case for all of humanity being under sin

All human beings need forgiveness because all stand guilty
V9 Both Jews and Greeks *are all under sin*

III) V10 *As it is written*: There is none righteous no not one
No one has ever, outside of Christ, been morally righteous
Because of our sin nature, no one can do absolute good

IV) V11 Second: There is none who understands
Man has no innate ability to comprehend spiritual truth (1 Co 2:14)

V) V11 Third: There is none who seeks God (to know and do His will)
We are lost sheep in need of a Good Shepherd
Ps 119:176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.

VI) V12 They have *all turned aside* (gone out of the way: in the wrong direction)

Humanity has all left the true path of pursuing God and His will

VII) V12 They are all together become unprofitable (filthy, putrid like sour milk)

All of humanity has *with one consent* fallen to ruin

Man without God does not produce righteous works

- VIII) V12 There is none who does good, no not one.
None who does that which is morally upright but instead seek sin
- IX) V13 Their throat is an open tomb with their tongues they have practiced deceit
Throat an open grave: Their speech is not only corrupt, but corrupts others
They are an unsealed sepulcher: Stench and death are present
- X) Death proceeds from them, for their words are dead
The one who is spiritually dead cannot speak spiritual life
- I) With *their tongues* they have practiced deceit (they are smooth liars)
They have become smooth liars because they practice lying
- II) V13 The poison of asps (cobras) is *under their lips*
When the unsaved preach there is danger: their words are spiritual poison
- III) V14 Whose mouth is *full of cursing* (reproaching) and *bitterness* (cruelty)
They use their speech to harm and hurt others
Pr 12:18 There is one who speaks like the *piercings of a sword*,
But the tongue of the wise promotes health.
- IV) V15-16 Their feet are swift to shed blood destruction and misery are in their
wake
They are eager to commit terrible sins leaving pain in their wake
- V) V17 And the way of peace *they have not known*
They have not sought the peace of God or peace *with God*
As a result, they have no peace and are unfamiliar with what it truly is
- VI) The reason they have no peace is because they have no fear of God
Pr 3:7 Be not wise in your own eyes: fear the LORD and depart from evil.

VII) After making his case Paul made it clear: all humanity is guilty before God

His final statement: You cannot be saved if you try to keep the Law

VIII) V19-20 Now we know that whatever the law says it says to those who are

You stand condemned in the law; *this is why* we all need God's grace

IX) Those who've received the written code are guilty before the Lord (2:15, 3:2)

Most of us have done something that caused us shame: why did I do that?

Because all people violate standards, all stand guilty before God

X) V20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight

Even if we try very hard to be very good, we still fall short of God's glory

**XI) Because this is true the law condemns and does not save
It reveals to us how far we fall short of God's standards
It defines what sin *is*, shows how we have broken it, and then sentences us**

I) Unless God had done this for us, we would never realize our guilt before Him

No matter how good we are compared to others we still fall short

II) This is why we are thankful for His grace toward us: it changes everything

III) KEY: This is where we left off in our last study

IV) V21-22 But now the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ

V) *The question:* If God is angry about sin, why does He not

immediately judge

Lam. 3:22-23 It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness

VI) Paul now balances the judgment of God with the Mercy of God

VII) V21-22 But *now* the righteousness of God *apart from the Law* is revealed

Righteousness is not the *result* of keeping any kind of moral law

If it is worked for to achieve, the result is *self-righteousness*

VIII) V22 Even the *righteousness of God* which is through faith in Jesus Christ to

Instead of working for it, righteousness *comes by faith* in Jesus

IX) This is not the result of our *own efforts* but is received in faith

Gal 2:16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

X) God requires a *righteousness* that *He provides*, not our efforts to produce it

2 Co 5:21 For He made *Him* who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

XI) V23 For *all (humanity) have sinned* and fall short of the glory of God

All have *sinned* (missed the mark; failed to hit the bullseye)
Eccl 7:20 For there is not a just man on earth who does good *and does not sin*

XII) *Fall short*: Come in last, to be inferior

I) To fall short of the glory of God is to fail to receive the honor God gives

No one has glory like God and because of this, all fall short of it

1 Ti 6:16 (God) alone is immortal and who lives in *unapproachable light*, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor

and might forever. Amen.

II) Because all *miss the mark*, all *fall short* of the glory of God

III) Often the reason for this is because they desire the praise of man
Jn 12:42-43 Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; *for they loved the glory that comes from man* more than the glory that comes from God.

IV) Their master passion is to be *admired* and *honored* by human beings
This desire is driven by their sin and disqualifies them from honor from God

Jn 5:44 How can you believe if you accept glory from one another, yet do not seek the glory *that comes from the only God*?

V) V24 Being *justified* freely by *His grace* through the *redemption* that is in Christ

We can't be justified by trying to obey the Law of Moses but by faith in Jesus

VI) *Justified*: To declare the *rightness* of something or *someone*
God absolves us from sin, frees us from its penalty, and makes us righteous

Definition: By justification, the sinner is declared righteous by God because the sinner has placed faith in Jesus. This has resulted because in Jesus, he has come into a righteous relationship with God, and as a result God has declared him to be not guilty because of Jesus

VII) Justification comes by the *redemption* (ransoming) that is in Jesus

1 Pe. 1:18-19 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were *redeemed* from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

VIII) V25 Whom God *set forth* to be a *propitiation* by His blood(shed) through

Set forth (exhibited): Redemption was openly demonstrated on at Calvary

Propitiation: Satisfaction, or appeasement of anger; atoning sacrifice

I) **Christianity gave a new insight into propitiation**

George Herbert Morrison wrote: We read in the NT of Christ being offered as a propitiation for our sins, and our thoughts go back to pagan faiths, where men tried to appease their angry gods; but the tremendous difference is that in all these faiths *man* had to provide the propitiation.

II) **This is demonstrated in the Greek myth of Helen of Troy**

When the Spartan King Menalaus' wife Helen was abducted by the Trojan prince Paris, his brother Agamemnon led the Greek (Spartan) expedition to Troy to take back Helen. For the Greek fleet to set sail, because Agamemnon had offended Artemis he was required to sacrifice his daughter to appease her anger and gain favorable winds.

III) **In the Christian faith *God* provides the propitiation. He does not ask man for an atoning sacrifice; *He gives* the atoning sacrifice, and He gives it because He loves the world and wills not that any should perish...It is because He is so passionately eager to forgive that God sent His Son to die.**

IV) **God demonstrated His righteousness by the bloodshed of Jesus**

When Jesus shed His blood, God provided justification for us sinners

He showed that He hated sin and would deal with it

V) **V25 in doing so God *passed over* the sins that were previously committed**

By doing so He made it possible for all past sins to be forgiven

VI) **In giving Jesus, He revealed His righteousness and rejection of sin**

Through Jesus, He revealed His grace, mercy, and love for the sinner

VII) **From Adam and Eve to the flood, throughout history, He has been patient**

Ps 78:38-39 Yet He was merciful; He forgave their iniquities and did not destroy them. Time after time He restrained his anger and did not stir up His full wrath. He remembered that they were but flesh, a passing breeze that does not return.

VIII) **V26 To demonstrate at the present time His righteousness that He**

might be

Man can now see that He is both Just, and our Justifier
How did He do this: By drawing us to Himself through the

Cross of Jesus

I) V27-28 Where is the boasting then *It is excluded* By what Law of works

Man could not come to God in his own way: He had to come by Jesus

Eph 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast

II) We are made right by faith in Jesus, the One who fully satisfied His Father

III) V29-30 Or is He the God of *the Jews only*? Is He not also the God of the

Jer 32:27 I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for Me?

There is one God, who works consistently

IV) Both Jew and Gentile come to God *by* and *through* faith in Jesus
As a Jewish believer, Paul made this clear

Phil 3:9 (I have lost all things that I may gain Christ) and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness *from the law*, but that which is through *faith in Christ*, the righteousness from God *on the basis of faith*

V) V31 Do we then make void the law *through faith*?

Was the law of Moses useless, then and now?

VI) *No*: Jesus came to fulfill it, and that is why we need Him

This is what Jesus said to the two on the road to Emmaus

Lu 24:44 He said to them, This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is *written about Me* in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled

VII) The law was useful in leading us to Jesus

Gal 3:24 So the law was put in charge *to lead us to Christ* that we might be justified by faith

