

## Romans 3:1–8 Four Objections Answered

In answering these 4 objections, Paul reaffirms that God is both true & just in all of His dealings with us. He remains faithful in all of His promises. And it also shows us how we should respond to the great privileges we've been given.

Topic- Grace

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A Diatribe.

-“a literary convention well known to philosophers in the ancient world, in which a teacher would act out a dialogue with his critics or students, first asking and then answering the questions.”

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Verses 1–2: "Whats the point of being Jewish then?"

"Chiefly" = proton (πρῶτον); "First" (ASV, NLT, NIV, CSB, NASB)

Romans 9:4–5 - ...Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came...

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"Oracles" = logia (λόγια); the sayings, utterances, or revealed Words of God.

-Root: "Word/saying" = logos (λόγος); word, message, speech, reason, account.

-"the word for 'a short saying' came to mean 'a divine saying', 'an oracle.'" L. Morris, (e.g. the Oracles of Delphi)

Reformed & Orthodox Jews Today

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Verses 3–4 - "Are Gods Promises Void?"

Romans 3:3 NLT — True, some of them were unfaithful; but just because they were unfaithful, does that mean God will be unfaithful?

"Certainly Not!" = mē genoito (μὴ γένοιτο); Lit. "May it not happen," but this phrase is the strongest negation in the Koine Greek language.

- Typically translated: "May it never be!", "Certainly not!" Or, "God forbid!"

- 12 of 14 times Paul uses it to express his horror of the idea of one of his teachings being misunderstood or misapplied.

Paul vs. Replacement Theology (a.k.a. Supersessionism)

-If Replacement Theology is right, then Paul's argument here is wrong.

Romans 11:1 — I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not!

-For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

“Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar.”

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As it is written: “That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged.”

Psalms 51:4b NLT — ...I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just.

“God, before I was justifying myself. I was making excuses for my sins. But now I have come to realize that I was wrong, You are right, and however you handle this situation is both good and just.”

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Verses 5–6 - "Is God really just if He judges us for what brings Him glory?"

Romans 3:5 NLT — “But,” some might say, “our sinfulness serves a good purpose, for it helps people see how righteous God is. Isn’t it unfair, then, for him to punish us?” (This is merely a human point of view.)

BEST EXAMPLE:

-Judas

“Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world?”

Romans 8:28 — And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God...

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Verses 7–8 - "But why would God judge us if our sin glorifies His grace?" Part 2

Romans 3:7 NLT — “But,” someone might still argue, “how can God condemn me as a sinner if my dishonesty highlights his truthfulness and brings him more glory?”

[Then] why not say, "Let us do evil that good may come"?

Romans 6:1–2 - What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

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"as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say."

BEING MISUNDERSTOOD

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RADICAL GRACE & ANTINOMIANISM

WHAT IS ANTINOMIANISM?

-Nomos = Law (Greek)

-Anti+Nomos = Law Breakers

"Paul's grace was such a radical concept that he was accused of antinomianism. And while we are not ever promoting lawlessness, we ought to speak of such a radical grace that we may get accused of it from time to time."

~Pastor Joe

\*MLJ- "If your presentation of the Gospel does not expose it to the charge of antinomianism you are probably not putting it correctly..."

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"Are you saying that I can live my life however I want as long as I believe just moments before death?"

- "Yes."

- "And if I believed now, I could still sin as many times as possible and God's grace would still cover my sins?"

- "Yes."

- "But..."

- "But what?"

- "By you asking such questions, you show me that you are unsaved, destined for hell, and I have no assurance that there is any hope for you unless you truly turn to Jesus today."

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"Their condemnation is just."

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## From God-fearer to God-knower & Being Misunderstood

### CORNELIUS IN ACTS 10–11:

- “a devout man” (10:2)
- “one who feared God with all his household” (10:2)
- “gave alms generously to the people” (10:2)
- “prayed to God always” (10:2)
- “a just man” (10:22)
- “one who fears God” (10:22)
- “has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews” (10:22)
- Acts 11:14 — ‘[Peter] will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.’

\*Spurgeon- the grace that does not change my life will not save my soul

Isaiah 6:8 — Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

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## Privilege Demands Responsibility

Has your time in the Word inspired privilege or responsibility?

Do we ever come to a text in a sermon and you think to yourself, "I already know what he is going to say."

-Or do you ask yourself, "Have I been applying what I have been taught?"

Are you living in light of the privileges God has given you?

Do you believe that the Bible is the very oracles of God?

- Who knows the Bible best in your workplace?
- Who knows the Bible best in your family?
- Who knows the Bible best amongst your family?
- Who do you think God has sent to teach them?

Hebrews 5:12 — For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God...

Matthew 28:19 KJV — Go ye therefore, and teach all nations... teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...

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“Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect?”

2 Timothy 2:13 — If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

How many times has Israel turned their backs on God?

-How many times has God turned His back on them?

-Will God ever turn His back on you?

-How should you respond to such grace?