

Roamin' Thru Romans-Part 13

A detailed study/analysis of the Book—Sunday Morning Series

May we stand please...

Scripture Reading: Romans 3:19—31

Prayer:

Paul's argument **continues** in this chapter about the sin of man, but he also **begins** to speak about the *way of salvation*.

Romans 3 may be divided into three major parts as follows:

- A. The **Whys** for Sovereignty (Romans 3:1-9) (review)
- B. The **Wickedness** of Sinners (Romans 3:10-18)
- C. The **Way of Salvation** (Romans 3:19-31) (Today)

FIRST Subject: The Whys for Sovereignty

Paul deals with some pertinent *questions* that have arisen regarding the Gospel.

These *questions* challenge the wisdom of the Sovereign God Who planned salvation, but Paul's answers show that the *questions* are the problem, not God.

- I. **The Why of Inheritance** (Romans 3:1, 2)

"What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision?" (Romans 3:1).

- II. **The Why of Invalidation** (Romans 3:3, 4)

- III. **The Why of Inference** (Romans 3:5-8)

This *question* challenges the fairness and righteousness of God in condemning sinners.

- IV. **The Why of Inequality** (Romans 3:9)

"What then? are we better than they?" (Romans 3:9).

That fourth *question* addresses the problem of the Jews considering themselves better than the Gentiles.

LAST Subject: The Wickedness of Sinners

Paul once again addresses the theme of the *wickedness of sinners* which necessitates the Gospel to save them.

- I. **The Popularity of Wickedness** (Romans 3:10-12)

By "*popularity*" we mean the "universality" of sinning. **All** people are sinners.

- II. **The Pollution of Wickedness** (Romans 3:13-15)

After showing that all people were guilty of *wickedness*, Paul then shows some of the corrupt facets of wickedness.

III. **The Product of Wickedness** (Romans 3:16-18)

Sin brings many unhappy results. A few are cited here.

Today's Subject: The Way of Salvation

Paul gives some instructions regarding the way of salvation.

All the details of salvation are not covered here, of course, but some important facets of the Gospel are given. [there are 5 main points]

I. **The Purpose of the Law in the Way** (Romans 3:19, 20)

Paul repeatedly declares the relationship of the law to the Gospel.

- A. **To declare guilt.** "The law saith... that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may be guilty before God" (Romans 3:19).

The law does not save, but it does declare man *guilty* of sin.

- B. **To define guile.** "For by the law is the knowledge of sin" (Romans 3:20).

The law defines *guile* (what is right and wrong).

II. **The Purity Required for the Way** (Romans 3:21, 22)

What kind of standard is required to get into heaven?

It is a higher standard than what man usually thinks.

- A. **The standard of purity.** "The righteousness of God" (Romans 3:21, 22).
- B. **The source of purity.** "The righteousness of God which is... of Jesus Christ" (Romans 3:22).

The source of this required purity is Christ.

- C. **The securing of purity.** "The righteousness of God which is by faith of [in] Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe" (Romans 3:22).

When a person by faith receives Christ as Savior, this righteousness becomes theirs.

III. **The Problem Causing the Need for the Way** (Romans 3:23)

The fact that all need to be saved is emphasized again by Paul in "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

- A. **The crowd in sin.** "All have sinned."

"All" have sinned which means all need to be saved.

- B. **The character of sin.** "Sinned."

The character of sin is in the word translated "sinned." It means "to miss the mark"... thus to fail in obeying the law" (Wuest).

- C. **The consequence of sin.** "Come short of the *glory* of God."

The word "glory" here means the same as in [John 12:43](#), where it is translated "praise."

John 12:43 (KJV)

⁴³ For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

"Come short" emphasizes the failure of sin. Sin never meets the Divine requirements.

IV. **The Plan of God for the Way (Romans 3:24-26)**

Here is given some of God's plans for the salvation of sinful man.

- A. **The Savior in the plan.** "Redemption that is in Christ Jesus... justifier of him which believeth in Jesus" ([Romans 3:24, 26](#)).

Wherever the Gospel is, there will Jesus Christ be.

He is the key to the Gospel. Without Christ there is no salvation.

- B. **The synonyms in the plan.** Paul uses several words to describe salvation.

One word alone does not seem to cover every aspect of salvation, so **several words** are used to help show what salvation involves.

First, justification. "Being justified" ([Romans 3:24](#)).

Second, grace. "Being justified freely by his *grace*" ([Romans 3:24](#)).

Third, redemption. "Redemption" ([Romans 3:24](#)).

Three Greek words set forth the doctrine of **redemption** in the Scriptures.

The word used here means "full deliverance of the soul from sin" (Chafer).

Fourth, propitiation.

The word translated "*propitiation*" ([Romans 3:25](#)) was the word used for "mercy seat" in the Septuagint translation.

Propitiation speaks of the sacrifice that was made to reconcile God with man. That sacrifice was Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary.

Fifth, His blood. "His *blood*" ([Romans 3:25](#)).

Salvation involves the blood of Jesus Christ ("*His*").

Sixth, remission of sins.

The word translated "*remission*" ([Romans 3:25](#)) here is used but once in the New Testament and means to "*put on the side*" (Zodhiates).

Seventh, forbearance. "*Through the forbearance of God*" ([Romans 3:25](#)).

This is not a term we normally associate with salvation, but it is a big part of salvation, for it speaks of God's long suffering towards the sinner to give him time to repent.

- C. ***The sanction of the plan.*** "*To declare... at this time his righteousness; that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus*" ([Romans 3:26](#)).

Some would charge God with wrong in saving sinners. But the plan of salvation devised by God is just and righteous and vindicates the holy character of God.

V. **The Procuring by Man of the Way** ([Romans 3:27-31](#))

Earlier ([Romans 3:22](#)) Paul gave a brief explanation on how the sinner can be saved.

Paul said in that earlier text that man secured that righteousness by faith.

Here Paul elaborates on that truth by emphasizing the work of faith in becoming saved.

- A. ***Exclusion by faith.*** "*Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay; but by the law of faith*" ([Romans 3:27](#)).

Obtaining salvation by faith means that certain things are excluded with regards to salvation.

The law cannot save.

This was pointed out plainly earlier by Paul ([Romans 3:19, 20](#)).

Since salvation is through faith, it cannot be through the law.

- B. ***Equality for faith.*** "*Is he the God of the Jews only? is he not also of the Gentiles?... God... shall justify the circumcision [Jew] by faith, and uncircumcision [Gentiles] through faith*" ([Romans 3:29, 30](#)).

Both Jew and Gentile must come by faith to be saved.

Faith plays no favorites.

- C. ***Establishment by faith.*** "*Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid; yea, we establish the law*" ([Romans 3:31](#)).

The Gospel of salvation by faith does not discredit the law.

We pointed out earlier that God was justified in saving sinners ([Romans 3:26](#)) because salvation met the demands of the law (a sacrifice [Christ on Calvary] for sin).

Conclusion:

Substitution is permitted by the law, yea it was practiced every time an animal was **sacrificed**, for the animal **sacrificed** was a **substitution** for sinful man, just as **Christ** is a **substitute** for sinful man.

By faith the one who believes in Jesus Christ as His **substitute** is saved and this work of faith does not do away with the law.

It fulfills the demands of the law; thus, it establishes the law.

Closing: So, we will stop here for today!

Do you know this Jesus that the Book of Romans so clearly teaches us about?

If not, will you accept Him today?

Are you willing to forsake your sin and thank God for His wonderful grace?

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*This outline borrowed from: *Analytical Bible Expositor – Romans*. Other portions of this sermon were taken from various sources and commentaries.