

Romans 3

- I. Defending God's Judgment (1-8)
 - A. Benefit of being Jewish: Possession of Scripture (1-2)
 - B. God's Faithfulness (3-4)
 - C. God's Justice (5-8)
- II. Proving Man's Guilt (9-20)
- III. Solving Humanity's Problem (21-31)

This was their prime privilege, that they were God's library-keepers, that this heavenly treasure was concredited to them." (Trapp)

"It is a strange, strong expression; but it is none too strong. If God says one thing, and every man in the world says another, God is true, and all men are false. God speaks the truth, and cannot lie. God cannot change; his word, like himself, is immutable. We are to believe God's truth if nobody else believes it. The general consensus of opinion is nothing to a Christian. He believes God's word, and he thinks more of that than of the universal opinion of men." (Spurgeon)

"In theory, the most dramatic example of someone who might ask this question is Judas. Can you hear Judas make his case? "Lord, I know that I betrayed Jesus, but You used it for good. In fact, if I hadn't done what I did, Jesus wouldn't have gone to the cross at all. What I did even fulfilled the Scriptures. How can You judge me at all?" The answer to Judas might go like this: "Yes, God used your wickedness but it was still your wickedness. There was no good or pure motive in your heart at all. It is no credit to you that God brought good out of your evil. You stand guilty before God." (Guzik)

- · Justification is an image from the court of law.
- · Redemption is an image from the slave market.
- · Propitiation is an image from the world of religion, appeasing God through sacrifice.
- i. Justification solves the problem of man's guilt before a righteous Judge. Redemption solves the problem of man's slavery to sin, the world, and the devil. Propitiation solves the problem of offending our Creator. (Guzik)