

ROMANS' ROAD – Reality Check

January 27-28, 2023

James 2:8-11 (NIV) – “If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself’, you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For He who said, ‘You shall not commit adultery’, also said, ‘You shall not murder’. If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker”.

Mark 10:17-18 (NIV) – As Jesus started on His way, a man ran up to Him and fell on His knees before Him. “Good teacher”, he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life”? “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good – except God alone”.

Mark 10:20-23 (NIV) – “Teacher”, he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy”. Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack”, He said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me”. At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

Romans 2:28-29 (NIV) – “A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person’s praise is not from other people, but from God”.

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Romans 3:1-4 (NIV) – “What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God. What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God’s faithfulness? Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written: ‘So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge’”.

“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. 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” – **Charles Spurgeon**

Romans 3:9-18 (NIV) – “What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. As it is written: ‘There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one’. ‘Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit’. ‘The poison of vipers is on their lips’. ‘Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness’. ‘Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of peace they do not know’. ‘There is no fear of God before their eyes’.”

Romans 3:19-20 (NKJV) – “Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore, by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin”.

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“It is the straight edge of the Law that shows us how crooked we are” –
John Bertram Phillips

Galatians 5:1-4 (NIV) – “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all. Again, I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law. You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace”.

Revelation 3:15-20 (NIV) – “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing’. But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me”.