

A marble bust of a man with curly hair and a beard, wearing a draped garment, sits atop a fluted column. The background is a light blue, marbled texture.

ROMANS

The Gospel According to Paul

Our Condition, pt. 1

Rom. 1:20-2:2

Romans (review)

- **Paul, AD 57**

- (1) **Intends to visit; support for trip to Spain**

- (2) **Aware of Jewish/Gentile tension in the Roman church**

- (3) **Desires to preach/clarify the Gospel**

- Our Condition, Our Justification**

- Our Response, Our new Identity**

Jew/Gentile conflict

- Jewish Believers

“We’re more righteous b/c we have the Law and heritage”

*Behavior. Circumcision. Legalism. Ancestry.

- Gentile Believers

“We are righteous bc we’ve received grace”

*License. Freedom. Behavior doesn’t matter.

Jew/Gentile conflict

- BOTH Misunderstood the nature of RIGHTEOUSNESS!

(1) Righteousness is not a MORAL term

(the currency of righteousness is not “good behavior”)

(2) Righteousness is a FORENSIC or LEGAL term

(settled before a judge; a legal status)

“in the right” in relation to God (Hab. 2:4)

Romans 1:20-2:2

- Man's Condition

(1) Rebellious towards God

*without excuse!

(2) Idolatrous

*Given to worship the creaTED and not the CreaTOR

*Ps. 106:20

Romans 1:20-2:2

- Man's Condition

(3) At odds with fellow Man

*Slanderous. Selfish. Corrupt. Jealous. Violent.

(4) Subject to the Wrath of God

*Not "Anger"

*rather, the consequences of upsetting His Moral Order

“ If it is felt that the word ‘wrath’ is scarcely suitable to be used in relation to God, it is probably because wrath as we know it in human life so constantly involves sinful, self-regarding passion. Not so with God: His ‘wrath’ is the response of His holiness to wickedness and rebellion” –F.F. Bruce, p. 90 ”

Implications for Modern Believers

***We are ALL unrighteous and “in the wrong” with God.**

***Moral Behavior is NOT the currency of Righteousness.**

***We can only be set/made “righteous” by accepting *His* free gift of righteousness.**

Prayer/Fellowship

“Therefore you have no excuse, you foolish person, everyone of you who passes judgment; for in that matter in which you judge someone else, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things” Romans 2:1

**Where or with whom do you struggle with judgment?
How/Why have you resisted receiving His free gift of
righteousness through faith in Christ?**