

Paul's Epistle to the ROMANS

1/24/2021 AM

"The Only Way to Be Right With God" Romans 3:9-20



Introduction:

I. PAUL REVIEWS HIS CASE (vs. 9-18)

A. The Indictment of All Men (vs. 9)

"What then?" [*ti oun*]

"Are we better than they?"

"Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin."

- 1) the ungodliness of sin
- 2) the pervasiveness of sin
- 3) the universality of sin

B. Evidence for the Indictment (vs. 10-18)

1. All Men Stand Condemned by their Character (vs. 10-12)

"as it is written" (*florilegium*)

unrighteous - "there is none righteous, not even one"

unreasonable - "there is none who understands"

unresponsive - "there is none who seeks for God"

unrepentant - "all have turned aside, together they have become useless"

undeserving - "there is none who does good, there is not even one"

2. All Men Stand Condemned by their Communications (vs. 13-14)

"Their throat is an open grave, with their tongues they keep deceiving" (Ps. 5:9)

"The poison of asps is under their lips" (Ps. 140:3)

"whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness" (Ps. 10:7)

3. All Men Stand Condemned by their Conduct (vs. 15-17)

“their feet are swift to shed blood, destruction and misery are in their paths, and the path of peace they have not known” (Isa. 59:7-8)

4. All Men Stand Condemned by their Contempt (vs. 18)

“there is no fear of God before their eyes” (Ps. 36:1)

II. PAUL RESTS HIS CASE (vs. 19-20)

A. Man’s Condition is Helpless (vs. 19)

“Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law...”

“so that every mouth may be closed”

Revelation 20:11-14

“and all the world may become accountable to God...”

B. Man’s Condition is Hopeless (vs. 20)

“...because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.”

Conclusion:

“a righteousness from God...has been made known” (vs. 21)

“the righteousness of God has been manifested...for all those who believe” (vs. 22)

Food for Thought:

- 1) Why is our society biased toward universal salvation and not universal judgment?
- 2) Why, do you think, Paul piles up Scripture references in his indictment?
- 3) Is it true that “you can’t legislate morality”? Is there any reason to try?
- 4) Have you come to the point in your own life where you have recognized your own lack of righteousness and your need of forgiveness?