

Looking into Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome

EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE ROMANS

4. Every mouth shut



**Memory
1**

Romans 1:16-17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel,
for it is the power of God for salvation
to everyone who believes,
to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed
from faith to faith, as it is written,
“The righteous shall live by faith.”



**Memory
2**

Romans 1:18-19

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven
against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men,
who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

For what can be known about God is plain to them,
because God has shown it to them.




Therefore you have no excuse, O man,
every one of you who judges.
For in passing judgment on another
you condemn yourself,
because you, the judge,
practice the very same things.

(Romans 2:1 ESV)

Therefore you are inexcusable, O man,
whoever you are who judge,
for in whatever you judge another
you condemn yourself;
for you who judge
practice the same things.

(Romans 2:1 NKJV)

A scenic landscape at sunrise or sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. In the background, a mountain peak is visible under a hazy sky. The middle ground is filled with a dense forest of evergreen trees, partially obscured by a thick layer of mist or fog that fills the valleys. The foreground shows the tops of some trees, including a prominent evergreen. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

The gospel says that
you are
more sinful and flawed
than you ever dared believe
and
more accepted and loved
than you ever dared hope.

- Tim Keller

Paul's letter to the Romans

Chapter	Content
1	Introduction, theme, God's wrath and our sinfulness
2	
3	How the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ enable sinners to be justified before God through faith
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9	Israel's part in God's plan
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12	How then should a Christian live?
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16	Greetings to the saints

A library of books have been written on this letter. **Its influence is extraordinary and its value immeasurable.**


Romans 3

Chapter	Content
1	Introduction, theme, God's wrath and our sinfulness
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Chapter	Verses	Content
3	1 - 8	Paul answers some objections
	9 - 20	By the Law is the knowledge of sin
	21 - 31	Justified freely by His grace

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Objection 1


Then what advantage has the Jew?

Much in every way.

To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God.

(See Romans 3:1-2)

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Objection 2

What if some were unfaithful?

Does their faithlessness


nullify the faithfulness of God?

By no means!

Let God be true though every one were a liar...

(See Romans 3:3-4)

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Objection 3


***But if our unrighteousness serves to show
the righteousness of God, what shall we say?
That God is unrighteous to inflict wrath on us?***

By no means!

For then how could God judge the world?

(Romans 3:5-6)

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Objection 4

***But if through my lie God's truth abounds to His glory,
why am I still being condemned as a sinner?
And why not (as some say) do evil that good may come?***

Their condemnation is just.

(See Romans 3:7-8)

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What then? Are we Jews any better off?

No, not at all.

For we have already charged that **all**, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written:

“There is none righteous, no, not one...”

(Romans 3:9-10)

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***“There is none righteous, no, not one
no one understands;
no one seeks for God.
All have turned aside;
together they have become worthless;
no one does good, not even one.”***

(See Romans 3:10-18)

Know the meaning: **Justification**

Imagine a man on trial for a crime he committed.

The evidence shows that he is guilty and he confess to having committed the crime.

The law rightly condemns him as guilty.

However, when he comes to announce the sentence, the judge says that the guilty criminal **is free to go!**

This is the meaning of **justification** in this letter.

It is a **legal term** – a declaration that God no longer condemns the sinner but now **sees him as righteous.**

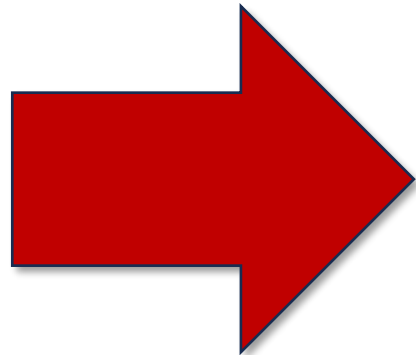
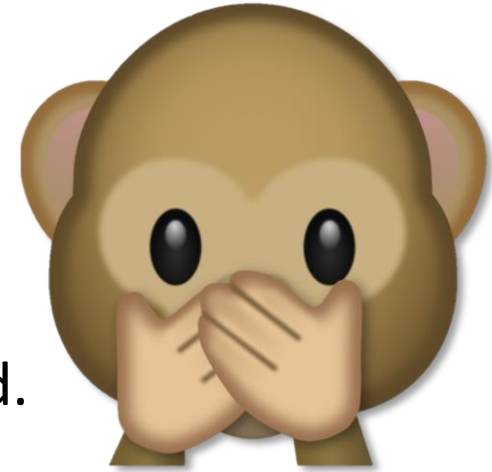
Just as if
he had never
committed
the crime!



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Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, **so that every mouth may be stopped**, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.



For by works of the law no human being will be **justified** in His sight, since **through the law comes knowledge of sin.**

(Romans 3:19-20)

Know the meaning: **Redemption**

Imagine a man has been taken captive by an enemy and then sold into slavery.

His brother goes looking for him and, when he finds him, he finds that **he is a slave**, owned by a master who refuses to set him free. **How can he rescue his brother?**

He **buys him** from the owner by paying the price for a slave. He **redeems** his brother and, in that way, **sets him free**.

This is the meaning of **redemption**.

When the Lord Jesus was crucified, He paid the high price necessary to **set us free** from our slavery to **sin**.



Know the meaning: **Propitiation**

Imagine that a very important or powerful man is **extremely angry** with you, and **you deserve his anger**.


You want to make peace and restore the relationship, so something must be done to turn away his anger. You are looking for a way to **propitiate** him. He will have been **propitiated** only when he is no longer angry with you.

How is God's righteous anger towards sinners **propitiated**?

Peace has been made through the death of the Lord Jesus. **His death for us** has become the **propitiation** that has turned away **God's wrath** from us.



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But now the righteousness of God has been manifested **apart from the law**, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in **Jesus Christ** for all who believe.

For there is no distinction:
for **all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**, and are **justified by His grace as a gift**, through the **redemption** that is in **Christ Jesus**...

(See Romans 3:21-24)

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...through the **redemption** that is in **Christ Jesus** whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by His blood, to be received **by faith**.

This was to show God's righteousness, because in His divine forbearance He had passed over former sins.

It was to show His righteousness at the present time, **so that He might be just and the justifier** of the one who has faith in Jesus.

(Romans 3:25-26)

So that He might be **just and the justifier...**




Guilty!

**Will the judge
be kind to his friend,
or will he be just?**

What will the judge do?

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Then what becomes of our boasting?

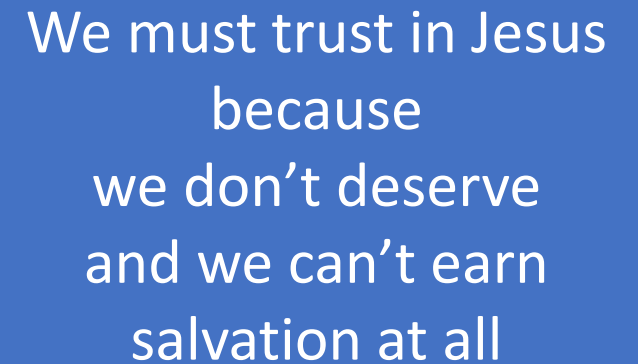
It is excluded.

By what kind of law?

By a law of works?

No,

but by the law of faith.




We must trust in Jesus
because
we don't deserve
and we can't earn
salvation at all

**For we hold that one is justified by faith
apart from works of the law.**

(Romans 3:27-28)

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**For we hold that one is justified by faith
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**Memory
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Romans 3:21-24

ESV:

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested **apart from the law**, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in **Jesus Christ** for all who believe.

For there is no distinction:
for **all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**,
and **are justified by His grace as a gift**,
through the redemption that is in **Christ Jesus...**

NKJV:

But now the righteousness of God **apart from the law** is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in **Jesus Christ**, to all and on all who believe.

For there is no difference;
for **all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**,
being justified freely by His grace
through the redemption that is in **Christ Jesus...**

Next: Romans 4

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	9 - 12	Abraham and circumcision
	13 - 25	Abraham's triumphant faith