

Session #11: “WHO IS RIGHTEOUS?”— *Romans 3:9-20*

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area),

Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email - philtwente@att.net

For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column under “Bible Studies”

Note: Reference has been made in the following notes to commentaries on Romans by Pastor Chuck Smith, David Hocking and William Newell.

Questions:

- Who are the “they” in verse 9? “Are we better than they?”
- Can you visualize yourself – your DNA - as a “stinking, filthy, rag or garment”?
- When you came to the LORD, where you the one who was in charge?
- Can the law do more for you than to show you what sin is?
- Is keeping the law ever God’s way for salvation or for receiving His blessings?
- Can you think of any person/s that don’t initially stand in the condemnation of God?

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - Romans 1:18-8:39

Principle #1 - CONDEMNATION - 1:18-3:20

1A. CONDEMNATION OF THOSE WHO **REJECT** THE REVELATION OF GOD - ROMANS 1:18-32

2A. CONDEMNATION OF THOSE WHO **REBUKE** OTHERS WHILE IGNORING THEIR OWN DEEDS - ROMANS 2:1-16

3A. CONDEMNATION OF THOSE WHO **RELY** UPON THEIR OWN STANDARDS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS - ROMANS 2:17-3:8

4A. **CONDEMNATION OF ALL WHO REFUSE TO FOLLOW THE WAY OF THE LORD - ROMANS 3:9-20 – (PRINCIPLE of condemnation is pronounced; PROOF of Scripture is presented; PURPOSE of the law is proclaimed)**

“What then?” - 3:1, 9

*Rom 3:9 What then? **Are we better than they?** Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all **under sin**.*

1B. The **PRINCIPLE of condemnation is pronounced** – All are under sin!! – 9 - “*they are all under sin*” - cf. *Gal. 3:10* - “*under the curse*”-; - cf. *Gal. 3:22* - “*all under sin*”; - cf. *Gal. 3:23* - “*under the law*” (*Rom. 6:14*–“*under grace*”)- cf. *Gal. 4:4-5* - “*redeemed*” – *purchased out of the slave market of sin, set free and adopted as His sons!!!*; “*Are we better than they?*” - vv. 1-8 have shown that there is a Jewish advantage, but **it does not mean** that the Jews are better in terms of being justified before God.

*Rom 3:10 **As it is written:** “There is none righteous, no, not one; (7 indictments that we are all condemned!!!) The gospel = Christ died for our sins!!!*

2B. The **PROOF of Scripture is presented** - 10-18

“*as it is written*” - **only used with canonical Scriptures in the Dead Sea Scrolls**

The question “*Who is righteous?*” is answered **four times by the word “none”** and **two times by the words “no, not one.”**

1C. **Our Character does not reflect the righteousness of God** – 10 - cf. *Isa. 64:6*; *Romans 10:3* (*ours, not His!*)

*Rom 3:11 There is **none who understands**; There is **none who seeks after God**.*

Rom 3:12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable;

*There is **none who does good, no, not one.***

2C. **Our Conformity to God’s will and Word is lacking** - 11-12a - *1 Cor. 2:14*; - cf. *Psalms 14:1-3*; *Rom. 10:18-21*; - cf. *Eph. 4:18*; - cf. *John 6:37, 44* and *Luke 19:10 God comes after us!!! The*

reason you said "Yes", to the Lord is because of these verses! So, are you in charge of your coming to the Lord?

3C. Our Capacity for good is non-existent -v. 12a - cf. Psalm 14:1 & 53:3

Rom 3:13 "Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; "The poison of asps is under their lips";

Rom 3:14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness."

4C. Our Conversation is uncontrolled - 13-14 - cf. Psalm 5:9; 10:7; 140:3; Matt. 12:34-35; James 3:6-12

Rom 3:15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood; (Abortion??)

Rom 3:16 Destruction and misery are in their ways;

5C. Our Conduct is destructive - 15-16 - cf. Isa. 59:1-7

Rom 3:17 And the way of peace they have not known."

6C. Our Contentment is totally lacking - 17 - cf. Isa. 59:8; Jer. 6:14; Phil. 4:6-7

Rom 3:18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

7C. Our Commitment to God is missing - 18 - Psalm 36:1-4; Prov. 9:10; 16:6

Rom 3:19 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.

Rom 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin

3B. The PURPOSE of the law is proclaimed - 19-20 (A summary of condemnation!)

1C. It Declares the guilt of every person - 19

2C. It Demonstrates the impossibility of salvation by works - 20a - cf. Rom. 3:28; Gal. 2:16; 3:11

3C. It Describes the nature of sin - 20b - cf. 1 John 3:4

A quick review of the principle of CONDEMNATION in Romans 1:18-3:20 clearly shows that no one escapes it regardless of their background, knowledge, culture, or advantages.

1:18-32 - the light of creation

2:1-16 - the light of conscience

2:17-3:8 - the light of commandments

3:9-20 - the light of conduct

All Have Sinned – there are no exceptions (except Jesus!!!) – Romans 3:21; 8:1!!!