



The Book of Romans

ROMANS 2:1-29, PART TWO

Main Theme of Romans

The righteousness of God which is available to all who are justified by faith in the salvation provided in Jesus Christ (1:16-17, 3:21-26).

Theological Message

*“The gospel reveals how God is **righteously righteousing** (i.e., **justifying**) **unrighteous individuals**—**both Jew and Gentile**—at this stage in the history of salvation.”*

--John Stott

“In it [the gospel of Christ] the righteousness of God is revealed” (1:17)

1:1-17 – Introduction	1:18-32 – Gentiles → guilty	3:21-31 Justification stated	4 – Justification illustrated	5 – Justification explained	6 – Victory over the flesh	7 – Victory from the Law	8 – Victory in the Spirit	9 – Israel: past riches	10 – Israel: present rejection	11 – Israel: future restoration	12 – To the Church	13 – To society	14:1 – 16:21 To the weaker believer	16:22-27 – Conclusion
	2:1-3:8 – Jews → guilty													
	3:9-20 – The world → guilty													
Sin <i>Righteousness Demanded</i>	Salvation <i>Righteousness Declared</i>	Sanctification <i>Righteousness Developed</i>	Sovereignty <i>Righteousness Declined</i>	Service <i>Righteousness Demonstrated</i>										
1:18 – 3:20	3:21 – 5:21	6:1 – 8:39	9:1 – 11:36	12:1 – 16:21										

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								<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; color: red;">← TODAY'S FOCUS</p>				
								<p style="text-align: center;">To the weaker believer</p>				
								<p style="text-align: center;">16:22-27 – Conclusion</p>				
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“The just shall live by faith” (1:17)

PART TWO: SIN

Righteousness Demanded, 1:18 – 3:20

1:18 – 20

**Those who rebel against God's gracious
general revelation → GUILTY**

2:1 – 3:8

**Those who rebel against God's gracious
special revelation → GUILTY**

3:9 – 20

**CONCLUSION: All have rebelled against
God's gracious revelation → GUILTY**

PART TWO: SIN

Righteousness Demanded, 1:18 – 3:20

1:18 – 20

Those **THOSE WHO DO NOT GO TO CHURCH** righteous
→ GUILTY!

2:1 – 3:8

Those **THOSE WHO DO GO TO CHURCH** gracious
→ GUILTY!

3:9 – 20

CONCLUSION: All have rebelled against
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Romans 2:1-4, New Living Translation

You may think you can condemn such people, but you are just as bad, and you have no excuse! When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are condemning yourself, for you who judge others do these very same things. ² And we know that God, in his justice, will punish anyone who does such things. ³ Since you judge others for doing these things, why do you think you can avoid God's judgment when you do the same things? ⁴ Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?

- Common tradition: Abraham sits at the gate of Hell to keep Jews out, regardless of their deeds.
- Trypho, the Jew, taught, *“They who are the seed of Abraham according to the flesh shall in any case, even if they be sinners and unbelieving and disobedient towards God, share in the eternal Kingdom.”*
- The Wisdom of Solomon 12:2, it states, *“so while chastening us thou scourged our enemies ten thousand times more....”*

#1 2:1-5, God's judgment is perfect because, even though those with special revelation might live in a way that is admirable to people, God sees more deeply.

→ They fail to understand the nature and extent of sin.

→ They fail to see their own faults. They have an intrinsic blindness to their disobedience to their special revelation.

→ They fail to see their extreme judgmentalism as they sit back in judgment of the sins of others, sins they themselves are committing.

→ They fail to see that God's kindness is not approval. They wrongly think that they will escape God's judgment because they are on God's side.

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#2 2:6-16, God's judgment is perfect because he is absolutely impartial, judging Jew and Gentile according to what they have done.

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CONCLUSION: All the sins of Romans 1 are present in the lives of the religious, even the Jews. All of these sins go to church every Sunday. → GUILTY!

2:17-20

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POINT: The Jews felt superior to the Gentiles who “had no clue.”

2:21-24

2:21-22, Paul's Indicting Questions

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2:21-22, Paul's Indicting Questions

2:23-24, Paul's Concluding Indictment

2:25-29

DANGER #2 Thinking we are okay because we are in God's community.

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SIGN for the Jew: Circumcision

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SIGN for the Jew: Circumcision

TRUE CIRCUMCISION	FLESH CIRCUMCISION
Of the heart	Outwardly
By the Holy Spirit	In the flesh
Praise is from God	Praise is from men

Four Questions, 3:1-8

#1—3:1-2 **What advantage does being a Jew have?**

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#3—3:5-6 Is God unrighteous or unfair to inflict wrath on us?

#4—3:7-8 Why am I still being condemned a sinner if my sin makes God the more glorious?

Grand Finale, 3:9-20

→ Are we better than the Gentiles?

NOT AT ALL!

ALL ARE UNDER SIN!

→ 3:10-12 – Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3

→ 3:13 – Psalm 5:9; 140:3

→ 3:14 – Psalm 10:7

→ 3:15 – Isaiah 59:7-8

→ 3:18 – Psalm 36:1

Paul's Point, 3:19-20

→ CONCLUSION: "...so that every mouth might be STOPPED, and the whole world may be held accountable to God."

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→ CAN WE BE GOOD ENOUGH? "...by the works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight...."

→ NO ONE WILL BE JUSTIFIED! NO ONE! NONE!

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BECAUSE

→ **CAN WE BE GOOD ENOUGH?** "...by the works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight...."

→ **NO ONE WILL BE JUSTIFIED! NO ONE! NONE!**

Intended Response: "There is no escape from God's wrath! What hope do we have?"

What hope do we have?

*If you were to die right now and God were
to say to you,*

“Why should I let you into heaven?”

what would you say?