



The Book of Romans

ROMANS 1:18-32, PART B; 2:1-16

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										

“The just shall live by faith” (1:17)

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

1:1-17 – Introduction	1:18-32 – Gentiles → guilty	2:1-3:8 – Jews → guilty	3:9-20 – World → guilty	1 – Justification stated	2 – Justification illustrated	3 – Justification explained	4 – Victory over the flesh	5 – Victory in the Law	6 – Victory over the Spirit	7 – Victory over the richest riches	8 – Israel's rejection	9 – Israel's restoration	10 – The Church	11 – To society	12 – To the weaker believer	13 – Conclusion
	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>											
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← TODAY'S FOCUS

“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**

Paul's Logical Flow of Thought

1:15, I am eager to preach the gospel to you... WHY?

1:16a, BECAUSE I am not ashamed of the gospel... WHY?

1:16b, BECAUSE it is the power of God for salvation... WHY?

1:17, BECAUSE in it (the gospel), the righteousness of God is revealed (and is received) by faith...there is only one hope, to live by faith" WHY?

1:18a, BECAUSE the wrath of God is being revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness

AND THE POINT WILL BE: ALL are ungodly and unrighteous, and therefore GUILTY and in need of being justified!

God's Righteousness

- 1:17, *“the righteousness of God is revealed”* –
God's **SAVING** Righteousness
- 1:18, *“the wrath of God is being revealed”* –
God's **JUDGING** Righteousness

BIG PICTURE 1:24-25

God's wrath is being revealed

1:18b-32 is summarized in 1:24-25

WHY? 1:25 summarizes 1:18b-23

#1 1:25a, People exchanged the truth of God for a lie

#2 1:25b, People worshipped the creature rather than the Creator

HOW? 1:24 summarizes 1:26-32

#3 1:24, God gave people over to the lusts of their hearts

THE REASON

Why is God's wrath being revealed?

1:18b-23 is summarized in 1:25

#1 1:25a, People exchanged the truth of God for a lie

1:18b, suppress the truth of creation

1:19-20, creation reveals a Creator, so no excuse

#2 1:25b, People worshipped the creature rather than the Creator

1:21, knew God (because of creation), but did not honor him or give thanks to him

1:23, exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for corruptible creation

Paul David Tripp, *LEAD*

Definition of Balance—*“It is everything in its right place doing what it was meant to do” (87).*

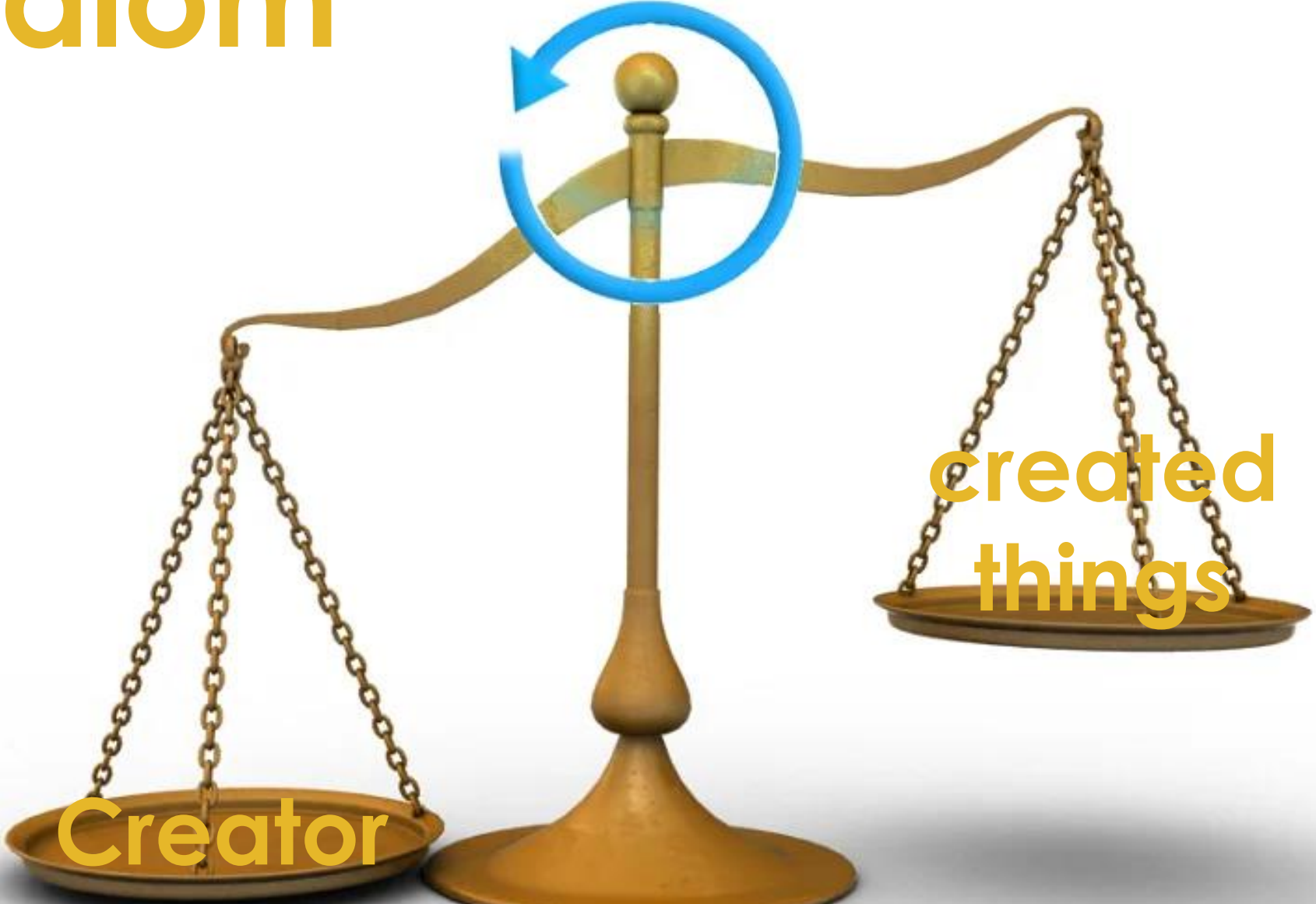
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OT Concept: Shalom

NT Concept: Rest

Shalom



Paul David Tripp, *LEAD*

“Idolatry is when things take on greater weight in our hearts than God does” (89).

Idolatry



created
things

Creator

Paul David Tripp, *LEAD*

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- *“Certain visions, desires, and created things take on greater weight in our hearts than they were meant to take and throw our lives out of balance” (88).*

Paul David Tripp, *LEAD*

“Idolatry is when things take on greater weight in our hearts than God does” (89).

- *“Certain visions, desires, and created things take on greater weight in our hearts than they were meant to take and throw our lives out of balance” (88).*
- *“Things gobble up more space in our hearts than they should, and things that should have prominence in our hearts often don’t” (88).*

Idolatry



created
things

Creator

Idolatry

A pair of golden scales of justice is shown against a white background. The scales are slightly tilted, with the right pan being higher than the left. A blue curved arrow is positioned above the central fulcrum, pointing towards the left pan. The text 'Idolatry' is written in a large, bold, yellow font in the upper left corner. A central yellow text box contains the main message. The words 'created things' and 'Creator' are written in yellow text on the left and right pans, respectively.

All of creation is **WITHOUT EXCUSE**. God's wrath is now being revealed.

created
things

Creator

THE CONSEQUENCE

How is God's wrath being revealed?

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#1 Dishonorable passions, 1:26-27

#2 Depraved mind, 1:28-31

Isaiah 5:20-21

“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and shrewd in their own sight!”

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CONCLUSION (1:32): They do what they know is wrong and celebrate it!

Now, back to the big picture...

WE JUST COVERED...

→ Those who rebel against God's gracious general revelation → GUILTY, 1:18-32

NOW...

→ Those who rebel against God's gracious special revelation → GUILTY, 2:1 – 3:8

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....”*

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→ 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.

#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.

#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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#2 2:5-16, God's judgment is perfect because he is absolutely impartial.

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!

