Romans Lesson 6

Robert Harkrider · Romans 3:1–18 · Series: **Romans**

INTRODUCTION

- We've been talking about that the gospel is God's power to save. And then from there, from Romans chapter 1, verses 16 and 17, the apostle proceeds to show why all men need the gospel. All have sinned.
- The apostle seems to be answering an imaginary objector who might really say, Well, look, if God is going to treat the Jew just like he does the Gentile, what advantage does the Jew have?
- And sometimes when we're guilty, instead of just confessing humbly that we have committed sin, we tend to want to justify ourselves or to rationalize the condition that we are in.

1 What Advantage Then Hath the Jew?

Romans 3:1–2; Romans 1:16; Deuteronomy 4:6–9

- What advantage then hath the Jew? Or what profit is there of circumcision? Much every way. Chiefly because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.
- They should have known the Messiah. They had all the prophecies that foretold how he would be, where he would be born, and what he would be like.
- But those advantages that were given to the Jews through the word of God being delivered was conditional.
- When they obeyed God, they were always blessed. But when they turned their hearts from him, even turned to idolatry, they always suffered consequences.

2 Let God Be True, but Every Man a Liar

Romans 3:3–4; Hebrews 6:18

- Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid. Yea, let God be true, but let every man be a liar.
- It doesn't depend upon man for God's promises to be fulfilled. God is true.
- It is impossible for God to lie. He is not a man that should lie. He does not lie. God's word is so.

3 Let Us Do Evil That Good May Come?

Romans 3:5–8

- Would God be just if he treated a sinner exactly like he did, the man who really from the heart sincerely sought to obey the Lord?
- That's not what the apostle is taught, and that's not what the word of God teaches, that we ought to keep on doing evil so good may come.
- Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? God forbid, he answers. That's like saying no ten thousand times, no.
- Don't think in terms that the more evil we do, the more good will abound.

4 There Is None Righteous, No Not One

Romans 3:9–12; Psalm 14:1–3

- If men would come to the knowledge of their own sin and recognize their need of a Savior, then they would be more inclined to listen to the word of the Lord and to obey the gospel.
- It wasn't just the heathen and the pagan that were guilty of sin. The Jews likewise were guilty of sin.
- As it is written, there is none righteous, no not one. There is none that understandeth. There is none that seeketh after God.
- The Jew who understood or knew the scriptures at all recognized that this was really a quotation from Psalm 14.

5 Children Are Not Born in Sin

Matthew 19:14; Ezekiel 18:20

- He's talking about those who are of mature age, those who have ability to go aside. You cannot go aside if you've not been in the way.
- Suffer little children, forbid them not to come unto me for of such or to such belongeth the kingdom of heaven.
- A child is safe. He hasn't sinned, he doesn't need forgiveness of sins, therefore, he's safe.
- We do not inherit the sins of our father. We do not inherit the sin of Adam, for that matter.

6 No Fear of God Before Their Eyes

Romans 3:13–18; Psalm 36:1; Jeremiah 10:23

- Their throat is an open sepulchre. With their tongues they have used deceit. The poison of asps is under their lips.
- There is no fear of God before their eyes. That's a quotation from Psalm 36 and in verse 1.
- Until men have a way of turning back to God, truly to reverence and respect Him, we will only grow worse and worse.
- O Lord, the way of man is not in himself. It is not in man that walketh to direct his own steps.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Where do you stand, dear beloved? Are you a sinner that's only trying to rationalize and claim your innocence? Are you willing to admit, I've sinned, Lord, I need forgiveness.**

MY NOTES