

¹ What advantage then has the Jew, or what *is* the profit of circumcision?

² Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God.

Romans 3:2 (ESV) Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God.

Romans 3:2 (NIV) Much in every way! First of all, they have been entrusted with the very words of God.

³ For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect?

⁴ Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: *"That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged."*

Paul continued his response: **Rather, let God be found true, though every man be found a liar.** The imaginary opponent had, in effect, asked whether the faithlessness of the Jews affected the faithfulness of God. Paul answered that even if people are not what they should be, this does not affect the unchanging nature of God (see 2 Tim. 2:13). For instance, even if every individual on earth were false, God would still be true (see Goodspeed).

To reinforce the truth that God will always be proven to be true, Paul quoted from the Book of Psalms: **"That You may be justified in Your words, and prevail when You are judged."** The quotation is from the last part of Psalm 51:4. Paul's rendition of the verse is different from the translation in most versions of the Old Testament. He was quoting from the Greek Old Testament (the LXX), while our translations are from the Hebrew.

Psalm 51 is one of the most profound confessional passages in the Old Testament. It records the penitence of David following his confrontation with the prophet Nathan regarding his sin with Bathsheba." David's words in verse 4 reveal that one of his primary concerns was that, in the end, God might be shown to be just and right. He was, in effect, saying to the Lord, "I am confessing my sin so *that* You may be justified in Your words, and prevail when You are judged."

Truth For Today Commentary by David L. Roper pg. 200

“when You are judged”

Paul's point was that, even though humans try to judge God, He will ultimately be vindicated. Someday all people will have to acknowledge that in all matters He was eminently fair, that He was faithful. The CJB says that God will "win the verdict" when He is "put on trial." When the judgment has ended, all will unite to say that God has been just and right in all that He has done.

Truth For Today Commentary by David L. Roper pg. 201

⁵ But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? *Is* God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.)

⁶ Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world?

⁷ For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner?

⁸ And *why* not say, "Let us do evil that good may come"?--as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just.

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.

¹⁰ As it is written: *"There is none righteous, no, not one;*

AS IT IS WRITTEN ----10-18 Paul now appeals to many Scriptures, quoting from Psalm 14:1-3; 53: 1-3; 5:9; 140:3; 10:7; Isaiah 59:7; Psalm 36:1. Checking these references, one sees that he plucks the highlights from many passages, making it amply clear that his conclusion is in keeping with God's Word. (12) **Gone out of the way ... become unprofitable. The responsibility is placed upon individuals in each generation, not inherited from Adam.** (18) There is no fear of God before their eyes (the basic problem discussed in 1:21ff.). In the absence of respect for our Maker, there is nothing to lift us to a more noble life.

Reading Romans by Robert Turner pg. 34

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

See --- [Psalm 14:2](#)

¹² *They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one."*

See --- [Psalm 14:3](#)

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

See --- [Psalm 5:9](#) & [Psalm 140:3](#)

¹⁴ *"Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness."*

See --- [Psalm 10:7](#)

¹⁵ *"Their feet are swift to shed blood;*

See --- [Isaiah 59:7](#)

¹⁶ *Destruction and misery are in their ways;*

See --- [Isaiah 59:7](#)

¹⁷ *And the way of peace they have not known."*

See --- [Isaiah 59:8](#)

¹⁸ *"There is no fear of God before their eyes."*

See --- [Psalm 36:1](#)

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.

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.

²¹ But now **the righteousness of God** apart from the law **is revealed**, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,

See **Romans 1:16-17**

²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;

Philippians 3:9, Romans 10:17, 2nd Timothy 3:16 & Hebrews 5:13

²³ for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God,

“all” – Gentiles (Romans chapter 1) Jews (Romans chapters 2-3)

²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the **redemption that is in Christ Jesus**,

Blood of Jesus

Revelation 1:5, 1st Peter 1:18-25, Ephesians 1:7 (Remember **Acts 22:16 & 1st John 1:7**)

²⁵ whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

See --- **1st John 2:2 & 1st John 4:10**

²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.

No boasting = See **Ephesians 2:8-10, 1st Corinthians 1:31 & Galatians 6:14**

²⁸ Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

"Paul is not contrasting faith and the obedience of faith. but he is contrasting justification by works of law and justification by faith. In chapter 1: 5 he speaks of "the obedience of faith" - that is. obedience of which faith is the source or foundation - an obedient faith. Works of law is an entirely different thing from obedience of faith. When Paul talks about faith. he means an obedient faith. Many have stumbled through Romans without ever recognizing the fact that Paul makes that plain in the very beginning of his letter. To make works of law refer to the obedience of faith is to enshroud ourselves in a fog of confusion from which we will not be able to emerge with any clear ideas of the gospel plan of salvation.

Paul's Letter To The Saints At Rome by Robertson L. Whiteside p. 83

²⁹ Or *is He* the God of the Jews only? *Is He* not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also,

³⁰ since *there is* one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.

³¹ Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

Questions Romans 3

1. How is the question, “*What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision?*” answered?

Questions Romans 3

2. How does David Roper explain the phrase “*Let God be true but every man a liar*” ?

3. Where does it state “*are we better than they*” ? Who are the “we” and what is the answer?

4. When Paul states, “*as it is written*” what Old Testament books does he make reference to?

5. List the verse that states, “*There is no fear of God before their eyes.*” and explain how this is still a problem today.

6. Which verse states, “*...the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed...*” and how was the righteousness of God revealed?

7. How could you use, Philippians 3:9, Romans 10:17, 2nd Timothy 3:16 & Hebrews 5:13 to help one’s understanding of Romans 3:22?

8. Who is the “All” of Romans 3:23?

9. 1st John 2:2 and 1st John 4:10 can be identified with which verse in this chapter?

10. How does Robertson L. Whiteside explain “faith” in verse 28?

11. What will you remember from Romans chapter 3? Why?

