

Romans 3 “All Under Sin”

Romans 3:1-20

September 27, 2026

Romans 3:1-20

So what advantage does the Jew have? Or what is the benefit of circumcision?

2 Considerable in every way. First, they were entrusted with the very words of God.

3 What then? If some were unfaithful, will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness?

4 Absolutely not! Let God be true, even though everyone is a liar, as it is written:

That you may be justified in your words

and triumph when you judge.

5 But if our unrighteousness highlights God's righteousness, what are we to say? I am using a human argument: Is God unrighteous to inflict wrath? 6 Absolutely not!

Otherwise, how will God judge the world? 7 But if by my lie God's truth abounds to his glory, why am I also still being judged as a sinner? 8 And why not say, just as some

people slanderously claim we say, “Let us do what is evil so that good may come”?

Their condemnation is deserved!

Paul pre-empts.

Romans 3:1

So what advantage does the Jew have? Or what is the benefit of circumcision?

Are you are telling us that circumcision is meaningless?

Romans 3:3

3 What then? If some were unfaithful, will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness?

Are you saying that I am greater than God?

Psalms 51:4

4 Against you—you alone—I have sinned
and done this evil in your sight.

So you are right when you pass sentence;
you are blameless when you judge.

God's faithfulness is seen as he judges right and wrong.

Romans 3:7

7 But if by my lie God's truth abounds to his glory, why am I also still being judged as a sinner?

Is God's role as faithful judge made more glorious when I sin?

Romans 3:9-20

9 What then? Are we any better off? Not at all! For we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin, 10 as it is written:

There is no one righteous, not even one.

11 There is no one who understands;
there is no one who seeks God.

12 All have turned away;
all alike have become worthless.

There is no one who does what is good,
not even one.

13 Their throat is an open grave;
they deceive with their tongues.

Vipers' venom is under their lips.

14 Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.

15 Their feet are swift to shed blood;

16 ruin and wretchedness are in their paths,

17 and the path of peace they have not known.

18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are subject to the law, so that every mouth may be shut and the whole world may become subject to

God's judgment. 20 For no one will be justified in his sight by the works of the law, because the knowledge of sin comes through the law.

Paul is creating an indefensible position.

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing you these things so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ the righteous one. 2 He himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world.

Hebrews 7:24-26

24 But because he remains forever, he holds his priesthood permanently. 25 Therefore, he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, since he always lives to intercede for them. 26 For this is the kind of high priest we need: holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- 1.) What did God say to you through His Scripture during our Sunday gathering?
- 2.) Have you received any bad news lately? What was your initial response? Was it the kind of news you needed to verify or seek a second opinion?
- 3.) Read Romans 3:9-20. Can you imagine saying, "Really, Paul? Is it really that bad?" Why do you think we resist such a negative biblical assessment of our lives?
- 4.) Discuss this rule of thumb when sharing the gospel - if you had an hour to tell someone the gospel, spend fifty minutes telling them they are a sinner. What is your

opinion of that perspective? Why is convincing someone they are a sinner in need of rescue so critical to the gospel? When did you receive that for yourself?

5.) Consider standing before God at the final judgment. What are you trusting in at that moment? Instead of you defending yourself, imagine Jesus speaking up for you. What would Jesus say?

6.) Read Hebrews 7:24-26. What is being stated about Jesus? How is his intercession an encouragement?