

Romans 3:9-20

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May 15, 2022



Romans 3:9-20 ESV

⁹ What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, ¹⁰ as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ no one understands; no one seeks for God. ¹² All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.” ¹³ “Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive.” “The venom of asps is under their lips.” ¹⁴ “Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.” ¹⁵ “Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ in their paths are ruin and misery, ¹⁷ and the way 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 under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Introduction

- here is a good question in our North American _____, “whatever became of sin?”

- if you were to go back 100 years and do a survey on the morality of the people of North America, you would see that certain actions and behaviors would clearly be identified as _____

- if you were to do that same survey now in North America on _____ you would get a vastly different outcome
 - this week I saw a Pastor scream out to the congregation “abortion is healthcare”
 - in the congregation there were shouts of amen and hallelujah
 - the pastor continued to say that he was proud that this church has been pro-choice since 1989
 - in the last few weeks I saw several articles that midwives are being trained to assist men who are giving birth
 - I thought the story was satire but it was not, these were mainstream news sources
 - the Canadian media is even promoting polygamy and trying to normalize sexual immorality
 - I could give you many of examples of scenarios that are being promoted right now by our government, media and culture that are completely in violation of the Word of God and are contrary to the Holiness of God
 - Canada was built upon Christian values, we know this because our Parliament building is covered with Bible verses and I know I did not put them there
 - how could Canada get so far from the values that it once promoted?
 - it is because we are all sinners, and the scriptures make this declaration very clearly
 - the book of _____ is often considered the most important book in the New Testament with regards to the gospel and gospel living
 - it is not that the other letters, or gospels, do not have this emphasis of the gospel
 - it is just that _____ is saturated with a clear and lengthy description of the _____
 - this book was written by _____ the apostle (Romans 1:1)
 - the people who received this book were the _____ who lived in Rome in the 1st Century
- Romans 1:7** To all those in _____ who are loved by God and called to be saints: _____ to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Paul did not _____ this church in Rome nor did Paul even know a whole lot about this church

- Paul says that he had heard of their _____ though

Romans 1:8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your _____ is proclaimed in all the _____.

- Paul writes that he wishes to _____ to Rome so that he can also _____ the gospel there!

Romans 1:13-15 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some _____ among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles.

¹⁴ I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. ¹⁵ So I am eager to _____ the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

- this book was written by Paul to _____ the church about the gospel and how to _____ out the gospel

- we see that there were issues between the Jewish and Gentile _____ much like the problems that we see in the book of Galatians

- the outline for _____ is very simple

1) 1:1-17 Introduction

2) 1:18-3:20 The Problem of Sin

3) 3:21-5:21 The Remedy for Sin – the Gospel

4) 6:1-8:39 Benefits of the Gospel

5) 9:1-11:36 Israel and the Gospel

6) 12:1-15:13 Gospel Living

7) 15:14-16:27 Conclusion

- today, we are looking at the _____ that talks very candidly about sin – Romans 3:9-20

- this section is set up just like a _____ case

- Romans 3:9-20 has _____ components

1) the accusation – _____ people are sinners

2) the evidence – is established from the Old Testament declaring that all sin

- 3) the verdict – the accusation is true – all people are sinners
- this passage is an amazing set up for Paul to _____ the gospel in answering the question “how can we be made _____ with God?”
- the answer: _____ through Jesus Christ as we see in Romans 3:21-25

Brief Outline

- 1) (3:9) The Accusation: Everyone Sins**
- 2) (3:10-18) The Evidence: Everyone Sins According to Scripture**
- 3) (3:19-20) The Verdict: Everyone Sins**

1) (3:9) The Accusation: Everyone Sins

(3:9) What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all.

- the NIV helps us _____ what the “what then” means

^{NIV} **Romans 3:9** What shall we conclude then?

- with the phrase “what then” Paul is _____ what he has been talking about in Romans 1:18-3:8

- Paul has dealt with _____ types of people

1) The Gentiles – the _____ are all people who are _____ Jews

- Romans 1:18-32 – Paul deals with the Gentiles who do not have the _____ of God

- the Gentiles are _____ of God and reject God’s ways and _____

- the Gentiles consistently deny the existence of _____ but the Lord has made His existence know through _____

- Romans 1:25 the Gentiles worship the creation and not the _____ who made them

- these Gentiles live out sin, as _____ below in this list:

Romans 1:29-31 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are _____, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ _____, faithless, heartless, ruthless.

2) The Jews

- next Paul talks about the _____

- although they have the _____ of God and should know better, the Jews _____ the same wickedness

Romans 2:1 Therefore you have no _____, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very _____ things.

- Paul makes the accusation that the Jews blaspheme God among the Gentiles by their behavior

Romans 2:23-24 You who boast in the law _____ God by breaking the law. ²⁴ For, as it is written, "The _____ of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you."

- so now we can understand why Paul says that the _____ are no better off than Gentiles

- if you are Jewish you are under sin

- if you are Gentile you are under sin

For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin,

- Paul explains what he has written in Romans 1:18-3:8 – Jews and Gentiles are _____ under sin

- to be _____ sin is a horrible situation and _____

- Paul describes what this life _____ sin looks like in Romans ____:10-18

- to be under sin means that you are under the _____ of sin

- you _____ in sin and have no _____ to get out from underneath it

- you are _____ the consequences of your sin – this means that God's anger _____ upon you because of your _____ against a Holy God

- it means you do n_____ seek God or even _____ God

- it means that you sin with your _____ and deeds

- so the accusation is clear, Jews and Gentiles (all people) are under the _____ of sin

2) (3:10-18) The Evidence: Everyone Sins According to Scripture

- Paul breaks down his evidence that all are _____ sin with three sections

a) 3:10-12 Scripture declares _____ sin

b) 3:13-14 Scripture declares _____ sin with speech

c) 3:15-18 Scripture declares _____ sin with actions

a) 3:10-12 Scripture declares all sin

(3:10) as it is written:

- this phrase "as it is written" is used many times in our _____ Testament
- it is used often to _____ that the New Testament _____ the Old Testament
- we see that the New Testament authors held to the _____ of the Word of God
- when they made a _____ they quoted the Word of God to _____ up their point
- but in the church these days we have a lot of _____ coming from the book of "2nd Opinions"
- someone recently sent me a _____ called "2nd Opinions" by Casting Crowns
- this _____ has an amazing message, so hear some of the lyrics
"Well, church gather around cuz we got us a problem There's a lot of inspiration floatin' around these days Words that paint a pretty picture But you won't find them in the scripture That's because there all from the book of second opinions"
- the _____ church did not lean on 2nd Opinions for their beliefs, they relied upon the _____ of God, especially as they looked the _____ of the sin

"None is righteous, no, not one;

- _____ declares that no human being stands before God as _____ apart from the grace of God
- we all stand before God as _____ righteous because we have not done right by our _____ or _____
- some people _____ they are good people, but when questioned whether they have obeyed the 10 commandments they are quick to _____ that have sinned against God
- since we have _____ sinned, that makes us _____ righteous
- Solomon, when he wrote Ecclesiastes, is very clear on this topic
Ecclesiastes 7:20 Surely there is not a righteous man on _____ who does good and never sins.

(3:11) no one understands;

- for the next two verses Paul leans upon two _____ which are 14 and 53, as he teaches the Romans about the _____fulness of humanity

- Paul writes that no one _____ as scripture declares
- this means that no one understands the _____ of the Lord
- they do not understand the _____ of God, they do not understand that their _____ puts them at odds with God, and they do not understand the _____ of God shown in the person and _____ of Jesus Christ

no one seeks for God.

- I know this phrase might be controversial for some but Psalm 14 and 53 both declare that ___ human, _____ from the _____ of God, can seek God
- _____ declares that humans, on their own, _____ their own pleasures and their own desires
- a person can _____ seek the Lord by the work of the _____ Spirit
- only the _____ of God working through the Holy _____, motivates people to _____ God

(3:12) All have turned aside;

- scripture _____ that humans, apart from the grace of God, _____ turn aside from God
- they do not _____ from sin, and turn to God, _____ from grace
- humans stay clear from, or steer away from, God
- humans, because they are _____ sin, turn _____ from God's goodness and grace

together they have become worthless;

- this word " _____ " can also be translated "depraved"
- scripture declares that all humans are _____ and corrupt
- the Greek Dictionary expands the definition of this word to say humans are a _____ to society _____ of their sinfulness
- we don't need to _____ too long about how when we see we can become a menace to those around us

no one does good, not even one."

- scripture declares that _____ is good
- Paul writes "no one" and "not _____ one" to emphasize that not one _____ except for God is good

- do you remember the words of _____ when someone called Him good teacher?

Mark 10:18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No _____ is good except God alone.

- in Romans 3:10-12 we have 6 phrases quoted from the _____ Testament that prove that all humans sin

b) 3:13-14 Scripture declares that all sin with their speech

- the _____ give proof of the sinfulness of humanity with the examples of how we _____

- the words throat, tongue, _____ and mouth are used here

(3:13) "Their throat is an open grave;

- Paul uses a very gross imagery of an open _____

- you may have smelled a _____ animal and it is not a sweet smelling experience

- _____ an open grave with a body rotting with all the smells and sights

- human mouths are like this-- _____ and disgusting like a grave that is open

they use their tongues to deceive.

- in our Canadian society _____ is still somewhat important but in some cultures lying is very _____ and accepted even by Christians

- if I were to ask you, a Canadian Christian, the question "have you _____ told a lie?" all of us would _____ yes

-we have all used our tongues to _____

"The venom of asps is under their lips."

- Paul equates our language to the _____ of poisonous snakes

- nobody wants to be _____ by any snake, let alone a poisonous

- but humanity's _____ is just like the poisonous venom that comes out of a snakes mouth

- our language can _____, destroy and discourage

(3:14) "Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness."

- Paul says that two _____ things come out of our mouths

- cursing – which is speech that calls down _____ one someone

- bitterness – which is _____ language or harsh language
- just examine our speech, would that be enough to _____ us before God?
- _____ it most certainly would

c) 3:15-18 Scripture declares that all sin with their actions

(3:15-17) Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ in their paths are ruin and misery, ¹⁷ and the way of peace they have not known."

- we see that the _____, or the lifestyle, of humans are not very good either
- humans _____ blood and are violent
- ruin and _____ are in their paths
- this path is _____, misery and destruction
- they do not know _____
- Isaiah talks about Israel and their wickedness and lack of _____

Isaiah 59:8 The way of _____ they do not know, and there is no _____ in their paths; they have made their roads crooked; no one who treads on them knows peace.

- humanity, _____ from the grace of God, is characterized by murder, personal retribution and _____

(3:18) "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

- the fear, or reverence, of the Lord is the beginning of _____ but humanity does _____ fear the Lord
- humanity is not _____ by reverence for God or by the fear of Him
- humans, apart from _____, are being directed by their false wisdom

3) (3:19-20) The Verdict: Everyone Sins

- there are three final _____ concerning the sinfulness of humanity

(3:19) Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

- first we see that every human being is _____ before God and accountable before God
- our actions and language _____ us so we stand before God as guilty

- there is no _____ that we can bring before the Lord because we are _____
- there is no excuse that we can make because we all have _____ against God and the evidence is _____ against us

(3:20) For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

- second, we see that by doing the works of the law we cannot be _____, or made right, in the eyes of God
- there is no _____ that we can do to _____ favour from God
- our good deeds cannot make us _____ before the Lord because, _____ from grace, we have _____ good deeds
- third, the law only _____ that we are sinners
- when the law of God is read, and people hear it, they are convicted and their _____ is exposed
- when the _____ of God is heard, it speaks to our _____ that we are sinners against God

Application

1) All Sin Because All Are Sinners

- I have been watching a lot of Ray Comfort videos on his YouTube channel called "_____ Waters"
- I am always amazed how many people think they are _____ people until they are forced to _____ their actions with the _____ standards of God found in His _____
- it is almost as if people never considered their actions of _____, stealing, lusting, and using God's name as a cuss word as _____, until they are _____ by someone who calls out their sin
- God's Word _____ that we sin against God
- and we have the evidence of our own _____ and they testify that we sin _____ God
- hear some more _____ that declare the sinfulness of humanity

Psalm 143:2 Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one _____ is righteous before you.

1 Kings 8:46 "If they _____ against you-- for there is no one who does not sin-- and you are angry with them and give them to an enemy, so that they are carried away _____ to the land of the enemy, far off or near,

- you might see this _____ as a serious downer and not inspirational but you have to see the endgame of the Word of God as it _____ our sin
- but the _____ of God also provides for us the _____ of the gospel

2) But Now Romans 3:21 – Jesus the Savior for Sinners

- if the book of _____ and God's message ended at Romans 3:20, WOW, we would be in a serious _____
- we would be _____ God, without His _____ and headed for just judgment before a _____ God
- but let us ponder what Paul writes after this _____ on sin

Romans 3:21-25 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it-- ²² the righteousness of God through _____ in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in _____ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

- we are _____ righteous, **"BUT NOW"** God _____ a righteousness for us
- this _____ eousness is provided by the person and _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ
- we have _____ sinned but Jesus Christ did not and is the _____ sacrifice for our sins
- our sins _____ us and expose to us to the _____ that we need Jesus Christ
- thanks be to God for the _____ of Christ who has dealt with our sin once for all through _____ in Jesus Christ
- Christian, do not be overpowered by _____ from sins of the past and do not let the guilt that sin brings _____ you down
- every time you think about a past sin and are _____ ridden, look to the beauty of Christ and _____ yourself of Christ's complete cleansing _____

- _____ of us are righteous, but through _____ in Christ, we can receive righteousness and be _____ pure and blameless before the Lord

- if you are _____ of Jesus Christ know that what Paul says about humans here is _____ about you

- you _____ Jesus Christ more than the _____ that you breathe

- _____ to Christ and _____ your sin and trust in Christ and His work done on your _____

3) Let Us Not Sugar Coat Sin

- _____ has gotten very comfortable with sin

- society even celebrates _____

- society is even calling holiness in the Lord _____ and hateful

- what Isaiah said about Israel is _____ about North American society

Isaiah 5:20 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!

- we ought to be _____ sin seriously and _____ it at all costs

- let us not be a people who _____ in on sin or approve of others sins but call evil, "evil" and _____ good, "good"!

- we know that people are seriously triggered by the Word of God, so let us be as bold as we can be _____ let us be as _____ as we can be speaking the truths of Jesus Christ in _____!

