

Chap 3:21-31



ROMANS

GOSPEL~ROOTED LIVING



Where have we been so far?

- Greeting and Introduction
 - Good news: God's grace & peace by faith
- Indictment
 - Bad news: All are guilty & need salvation
- Law's Purpose – Reveal, Define, Increase

Have you ever felt judged?

Video

Romans 3:21-22a

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested...through faith in Jesus Christ...

- “Now” – Jesus’ cross oriented manifestation
- Paul resumes what he started in 1:17

Romans 3:22b-23

For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- Summarizes 1:18-3:20
- Glory = “manifested majesty”
 - Result – we do not reflect God’s image

Romans 3:24

*24 and are justified by his grace as a gift,
through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

- Connects the Gospel - Gift of God's grace
- Redemption: purchase freedom for a slave
 - God liberates us from slavery to sin (Rom 6)

Romans 3:25a

25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith...

- Initiative shift – God puts forward a ransom
 - “Propitiation” – satisfaction of God’s wrath
 - “Wrath” – the response of Holy God to sin

Romans 3:25b

...This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.

- How can a holy God, justify guilty sinners without compromising His own integrity?

Romans 3:26

26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

- Sent His son to die thereby (a) satisfying His just nature in (b) an act of infinite love

Justification

- Manner of delivery – a gift
- Means of reception – by faith
- Basis / grounds – the Cross
- Psalm 85:10
- But we God does not stop there...

Mercy and Grace

- Mercy – not getting what we do deserve
- Grace – getting what we do not deserve
- Extravagant Love – Luke 15:11-24

Romans 3:27-28 Reliance on works excluded

27 Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith...

- Paul shifts to “*Sola fide*” – faith alone
 - Faith / believe – 21 times in 3:27-4:25

Romans 3:29-30 Faith includes the Gentiles

²⁹ ...the God of Jews only?...Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised...

- Torah-centrism replaced by Christocentrism
 - Law separated / faith unites

Romans 3:31 Embrace the purpose of the Law

31 Do we then overthrow the law ...By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

- “Uphold” – endorse, support, advocate
 - What do we uphold – Law’s purposes
 - Reveals, defines, increases

God has revealed...

- His plan of justification by faith...
- By sending His son to pay our ransom...
- Thereby purchasing our freedom from sin...
- While sustaining His integrity...
- And demonstrating His extravagant love

What is the good news (the Gospel)?

- God not only maintains His integrity
 - He gives mercy and grace
 - And the ability to choose to do right
 - To all mankind (both Jew and Gentile)
- The Law teaches us our need for grace
 - We should recognize and affirm it's goodness

Do you feel judged?

- Don't move away
 - Move toward the Holy Spirit
 - The Holy Spirit is calling you
- He has provided everything you need
- He wants you to be free
- And to be whom He created you to be



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