

SUMMER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2016
THEME: TOWARD A NEW CREATION
UNIT TWO – A WORLD GONE WRONG

“WORKS WITHOUT GOD’S GRACE EQUALS SIN”

Sunday School Lesson No. VI – July 10, 2016

Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher



Lesson Text: Romans 3:9-20 (NLT)

Required Reading: Romans 3:1-20 (NLT)

Motto Text: Romans 3:9 (NLT), *"Well then, should we conclude that we Jews are better than others? No, not at all, for we have already shown that all people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin."*

Reliable Resources: All the Books and Chapters of the Bible (H. Lockyer); Understanding the 66 Books of the Bible (Dr. David Jeremiah); Expository Notes and Outlines on the Book of Romans (E. C. Gillentine); Word Search 10 Electronic Library; MacArthur Study Bible; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI Publishing); George Brooks Preaching Commentary; Analytical Bible Expositor; Wiersbe Expository Outlines

INTRODUCTION

As we reflect on the introduction of the letter to the Romans, Dr. David Jeremiah wrote: "Many church goers today don't want much doctrine to seep into their thinking. They want nice stories, uplifting platitudes, and fluffy comments on favorite verses...This is the first great doctrinal book in the New Testament, and a first-century course in biblical doctrine." (Understanding the 66 Books of the Bible). But Dr. Jeremiah continues thoughts from his Jeremiah Study Bible by declaring more thoughts concerning Romans and doctrine.

- "The doctrine of the Resurrection (1:4)
- The doctrine of Christ's deity (1:3; 9:5)
- The doctrine of Christ's humanity (1:3; 8:3)
- The doctrine of faith (1:17)
- The doctrine of judgment (1:18, 24)
- The doctrine of sin and depravity (3:20-23)
- The doctrine of justification (3:24 – 5:2)."

And at least 7 more life and death doctrinal teachings.

Our focus in this study is centered around Paul's teaching, "...*there is none righteous, no, not one.*" (v. 10). This is the true mantra of all mankind, be it Jew or Gentile, bond or free, which was clearly disclosed in chapters 1-2 of Romans and summarized here in chapter 3. Salvation to all people is by grace through faith alone! But how does Paul hammer this teaching into the hearts of his readers? He uses our text today to demonstrate **"Works Without God's Grace Equals Sin!"**

Anticipated Power Points:

- **The Universality of Sin by ALL. Romans 3:9-12**
- **The Ugliness of Sin's Application. Romans 3:13-18**
- **The Uncovering of Sin's Activity. Romans 3:19-20**

LESSON OUTLINE

Life Application Bible Notes: "In this chapter, Paul contends that everyone stands guilty by God. Paul has dismantled the common excuses of people who refuse to admit they are sinners...All of us-pagan Gentiles, humanitarians and religious people-are condemned by our own actions...We receive our salvation not through law but through faith in Jesus Christ." On the other hand, "The Jewish nation had great benefits. (1) ...entrusted with God's law... (2) race through whom the Messiah came to earth... (3) beneficiaries of Covenants with God himself...But these privileges did not make them better than anyone else (see 3:9)." Remember, God reveals some serious facts: "**Works Without God's Grace Equals Sin.**"

I. The Universality of Sin by ALL. Romans 3:9-12

A. Paul answers the Jewish Question, "What then?" v. 9

E. C. Gillentine states, "Paul says here: 'They are all under sin.' To be under sin means to be under the power of sin, that is, they were all born under sin, reared under sin, justly condemned under sin, and without the cleansing power of the blood of Christ, all will die and be finally damned in hell under sin. There is no relief from the penalty of sin, only by the cleansing power of the blood of Christ."

B. Paul's ALL in sin's universality. vv. 10-12

According to the Analytical Bible Expositor:

"1. The inclusion of ALL. (vv. 10, 12)

2. The indictment of ALL. (v. 11)

a. The sense is bad. I Cor. 1:21

b. The seeking is bad. Gen. 3:8

c. The steps are bad. Isa. 53:6

3. The inflicting of ALL. (v. 12)

Sin promises so much but what it does is ruins and makes one useless-thus worthless." (Woe is the universality of sin!)

II. The Ugliness of Sin's Application. Romans 3:13-18

According to E. C. Gillentine, "Everything about sin's application is just downright ugly!

A. Sin has an ugly throat like an open grave. v. 13a. ('swallows and consumes' Ps. 5:9; 10:7)

B. Sin has an ugly tongue. v. 13. 'As seen through God's eyes. Psalm 5:9'

C. Sin has ugly lips like a poison snake. v. 13c

D. Sin's mouth is ugly with cursing and bitterness. v. 14

E. Sin's feet are ugly, swift to shed blood. v. 15. Isa. 59:7

F. Sin's way is ugly with destruction and misery. v. 16. II Tim. 3:13

G. Sin's way is ugly, having no peace. v. 17. Phil. 4:7

H. Sin's ugliness has no fear (respect or reverence of God) before its eyes. v. 18. Ps. 36:1; Isa. 59:8; Prov. 1:7.

The sinner in his natural state has no fear of God."

III. Uncovering of Sin's Activity. Romans 3:19-20

Paul summarizes that the failure of the flesh, is a result of the facts of God's law, given basically for two reasons:

A. Because of the facts of the Law, sin's activity is pronounced guilty.

The Gentile's guilt is seen in Romans 1:20 and the very presence of the Law condemns the Jew!

B. According to the Life Application Bible Notes, "The moral code revealed in the law can serve to guide our actions by holding up God's moral standards."

Beloved, only one Person ever got the Law perfectly, and that is Jesus Christ who gave Himself a ransom for the sins of us all who will trust and receive Him.

CLOSING

John 1:12 tells us, "*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*" "**Works Without God's Grace Equals Sin.**" "*Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*" Galatians 3:24

"I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore. Very deeply stained within, Sinking to rise no more.

But the Master of the sea, heard my despairing cry. From the waters lifted me, Now safe am I."

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Looking Ahead:

July 17, 2016

Romans 3:21-31



Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School Lesson