



## Romans Revision Chapters 1-3

These chapters lay an extremely important foundation, critical to understanding the Gospel as taught by Paul. Therefore, it will be worth our time to quickly revise what we have covered so far. Let us consider the “objector” who was questioning important doctrines, and Paul’s response. We will also highlight what Theological doctrine is being taught.

### CHAPTER ONE:

OBJECTOR'S QUESTION	PAUL'S ANSWER	SUBJECT or DOCTRINE
Who are you to address us?	Paul, a messenger of Christ, an Apostle called by God to reach the Saints of Rome.	Authority of the messenger/calling.
The true Christ? (Messiah)	He is the Son of God—His resurrection proves this.	Resurrection
Why visit us?	To preach the Gospel of Christ. (I have good news for you).	Evangelism
What Gospel?	That Christ is the power of salvation and that the just shall live by faith only.	Key of salvation <i>Memory Verse</i>
Why would God be so angry?	God has shown all that He exists and what is right. Everyone knows this but prefers to disobey and reject this Truth.	Man's sin and rebellion.
How can you say that?	Look at society and the world around you. Look at the disgusting things people are doing. (I list some for you).	Total depravity.

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## CHAPTER TWO:

OBJECTOR'S QUESTION	PAUL'S ANSWER	SUBJECT or DOCTRINE
Noted. But we don't do these things.	You allow it—therefore, you are part of it. You also have hard, disobedient, evil hearts and are under God's wrath.	Depravity.
But we are Jews and proselytes—we keep the Law. (They are Gentiles you refer to).	God judges both Jew and Gentiles. Some Gentiles keep the "Law" better than some Jews! But God now judges all men's heart according to MY GOSPEL—that's why I want to share it with you.	My Gospel.
We have the Law - we TEACH the Law!	You may teach it, but you don't keep it! The Gentiles joke about you because you are hypocrites! You don't practise what you preach.	Gentiles blaspheme the God of Jews.
How can you say that! We are circumcised.	Circumcision means absolutely nothing if it is just in your body. It was purposed as an <i>outward</i> sign of an <i>inward</i> commitment and obedience of the heart to God. It is that aspect of circumcision that counts with God. True obedience comes from the heart, not just the behaviour.	Covenant people. The sign of circumcision.

## NOTES:

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## CHAPTER THREE:

OBJECTOR'S QUESTION	PAUL'S ANSWER	SUBJECT or DOCTRINE
After all God promises about the Jews being a chosen people—you are now saying that is useless and there is no advantage in being a Jew!	No. There is an advantage. The oracles (Word) of God were given to the Jews. If some don't believe, it does not mean that God is not faithful to honour His promises to the Jews	Character of God—Faithful and True.
So even if we are wrong. God will do right. So you suggest that the worse we are, the better God will be? Then He is unfair to be angry when our lies make the truth stand out! Why judge me when I do God's favour?	That is a ridiculous way of reasoning. It is the way a sinner would reason. Some may say I reason like that—they wilfully distort what we are teaching—God's Gospel of Grace. Those who reason that way deserve every ounce of condemnation that is coming to them.	Antinomianism <sup>1</sup> .
Ok so what is the "advantage" you mentioned? Surely the Jews are better than the Gentiles?	Not at all from a spiritual point, both Jews and Gentiles are sinners—remember in the OT in numerous passages, the Scripture explains that we are all under sin. Look how terribly depraved we all are. Neither Jew nor Gentile are righteous in God's sight.	Harmartiology <sup>2</sup>
This doesn't make sense. We have LAW. We are God's people.	<b><i>That Law can't make you right before God or with God.</i></b> You can't keep the Law—the law only shows you <b><u>how guilty</u></b> you really are before God.	Law a yardstick only.
You are saying it is impossible to be right with God—What then!	Yes. BUT NOW there is a way to be right with God—apart from the Law! It was alluded to by the OT prophets and the Law itself. That is by believing in the Saviour, Jesus Christ.  All are sinners. It is impossible for man to be right with God, but God by His mercy (Grace) allowed Christ to take the wrath for us so we can be free and right with God. This is known as propitiation. All we have to do is accept and believe what Christ did make us right with God. My message is all about what Christ did for us—not what we do for God. We cannot boast about our works or obedience to the Law. It is by faith, not what we do, but in whom we believe.  <b>Chapter 3 continued page 4/....</b>	Christianity.  Grace Propitiation <sup>3</sup>

## CHAPTER 3 continued:

OBJECTOR'S QUESTION	PAUL'S ANSWER	SUBJECT or DOCTRINE
You totally disregard the Law and the works it tells us to do.	No. We do not disregard the law. We uphold the values and works as good, but the point is that we do not have the power to keep the Law. Knowing and doing are two different things. Christ kept the law thus establishing the value of the Law.	Law is established.

- <sup>1</sup> The word antinomianism comes from two Greek words, *anti* meaning “against”, and *nomos*, meaning “law.” **Antinomianism** means “**against the law**”. Theologically, antinomianism is the belief that there are no moral laws God expects Christians to obey.
- <sup>2</sup> **Harmartiology** - Doctrine of the nature of sin.
- <sup>3</sup> The word **propitiation** carries the basic idea of appeasement, or satisfaction, specifically towards God. Propitiation is a two-part act that involved *appeasing the wrath* of an offended person and being reconciled to him.

