

Romans 3:19-31

Paul has already made his point clear that Jew and Gentile are under sin (under its dominion). However he needs to state unequivocally the position of the Jews. The law was given to them to make them **more conscious** of their need of redemption. Jews should not think they are above the law and therefore immune from God’s wrath. The purpose of the law was to bring Jews to the realisation of their need of salvation. The Law of Moses left them speechless without defence, and just like the Gentiles, they were guilty before God.

Simply put, the law makes you **aware of sin**; this knowledge then asks: How can I be rescued? A right relationship with God is of supreme importance.

Using the word “now” in verse 19, Paul emphasises that the law which proceeded could not make anyone righteous – it could only reveal how bad we are or how short we have come to God’s character of goodness. But **now** that Christ has come and died for us, we can become righteous through His work on Calvary and not through our own effort in obeying the law. Righteousness comes through faith in Christ Jesus.

Who needs Christ? All of us (Jew & Gentile) need Christ.

Why do we need Him? Because all of us are declared sinners, all of us have come shortof God’s character of glory, which is total perfection and holiness—verse 23.

Justification (just as if you had never sinned) is imparted to us who accept the work of Christ. Propitiation means “mercy” or the “*quenching of judgement*”. The blood of Jesus Christ represents innocence and purity. The innocent died for the guilty. Under the Old Testament, God was patient with sin because He anticipated and knew that Christ, His Son, would die to redeem sinners.

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God's character of **JUSTICE** demands that sin be punished. God's character of **LOVE** provides the sacrifice of Christ Jesus in our place and He takes the punishment for us. Now God is able to unveil the magnificent plan to save mankind through Christ. In the Old Testament, the innocent lamb died to cover man's sin, now in the New Testament, Christ is God's Lamb that takes the sin away.

In that O.T. sins were covered. - In that N.T. sin is taken away.

The Jews no longer can boast over Gentile ignorance and sin because, like Gentiles, Jews are also sinners. The Law or principle of faith is what leads to salvation.

In the Old Testament, Jews demonstrated their faith in God by seeking to observe the Law. Now, Paul says, you can be accepted by God through faith without the deeds of the Law.

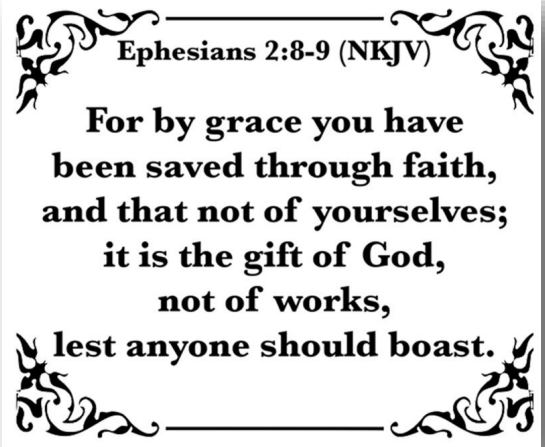
- Old Testament - Human works necessary to show observation of the Law.
- New Testament - Divine work through Calvary now accepted by faith God's righteousness imparted to man.

If the way to God is the way of faith and trust, then all human boasting is futile.

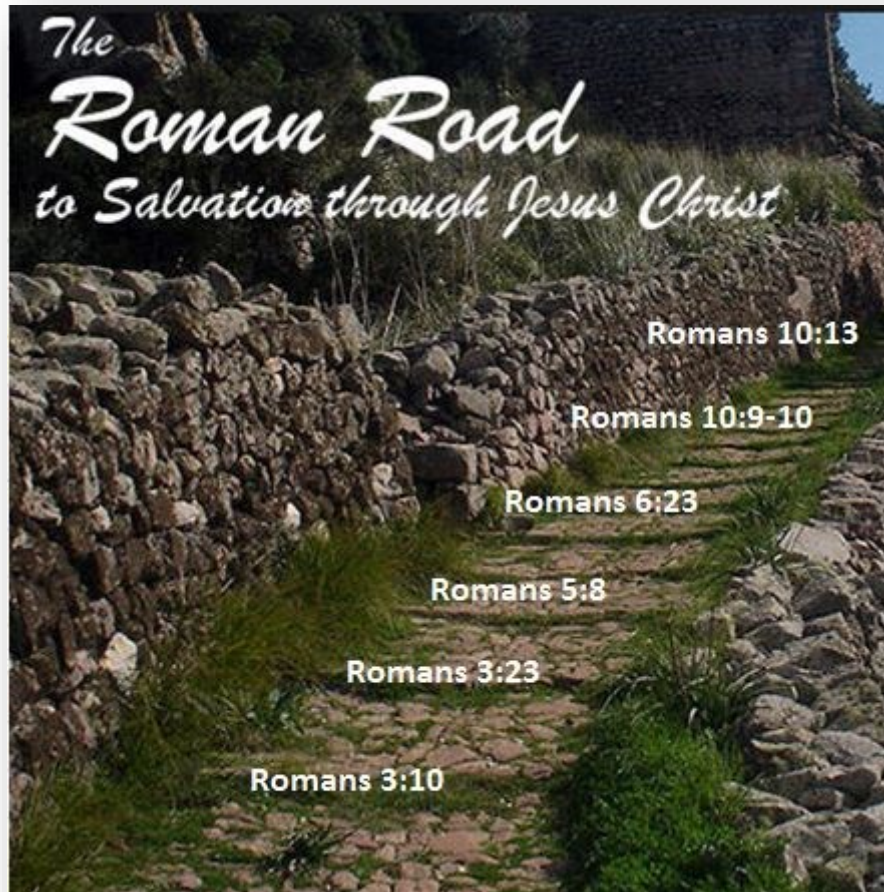
Some people, like the Jews, of old – keep a type of an account of profit and loss with God. They think God is in debt to them because of hardships and difficulties. “God owes me” seems to be their attitude. The truth is we are in debt to God and there is no way we can pay it back. Faith in Christ wipes the debt from our account and puts us into an eternal credit with God. This is the price Jesus paid for you and me. He is the God of Jews and Gentiles who accept Him **through faith and not works**.

Verse 30 refers to Jews (circumcised) and Gentiles (uncircumcised). The Jews are saved by faith manifested through works. The Gentiles are saved through faith manifested by grace. (Ephesians 2:8)

Paul concludes and says this does not devalue the Mosaic Law but rather compliments it for bringing us to Christ. (Please read Galatians 3:24).



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— Roman Road to Salvation —

The ROMANS ROAD...is a pathway you can walk. It is a group of Bible verses from the book of Romans in the New Testament. If you walk down this road you will end up understanding how to be saved.

Admit That You Are A Sinner.

Romans 3:10, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Romans 5:12, Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Sin Has An Ending... It Results In Death.

Romans 6:23a, For the wages of sin is death...

We all owe this wage of spiritual death described in *Revelation 20:14*. You need to be born again!

Realize that God Loves You!

Romans 5:8, But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

When Jesus died on the cross He paid sin's penalty.

Salvation is a free gift from God to you!

Romans 6:23b, ...but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You can't earn this gift, but you must reach out and receive it.

You must ask God to forgive you and save you.

Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Like any gift it must be received!

Romans 10:13, For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Call out to God in the name of Jesus!

If you know that God is knocking on your heart's door, ask Him to come into your heart. Believe in Him. Ask Him to come in to your heart by faith, and ask Him to reveal Himself to you.

You need to look for a local church where God's word is preached. The Bible says that we are to desire God's word like a newborn baby desires mother's milk. Aren't you hungry to know the truth?