

The Book of Romans

“A RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM GOD!”

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Date: 4-19-09

Text: 3:1-31 Lesson: 6



TEXT:

3:1 Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? **2** Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the **oracles of God**. **3** What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the **faithfulness of God**? **4** By no means! Let **God be true** though every one were a liar, as it is written, “That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged.” **5** But if our unrighteousness serves to show **the righteousness of God**, what shall we say? That **God** is unrighteous to inflict **wrath** on us? (I speak in a human way.) **6** By no means! For then how could **God judge** the world? **7** But if through my lie **God's truth** abounds to **his glory**, why am I still being condemned as a sinner? **8** And why not do evil that good may come?—as some people slanderously charge us with saying. Their condemnation is just. **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.

21 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 faith 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 **Christ 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. **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.

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. **28** For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. **29** Or is **God the God of Jews** only? Is he not **the God of Gentiles also**? Yes, of Gentiles also, **30** since **God is one**—who will justify the circumcised by faith

and the uncircumcised through faith. **31** Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

STUDY NOTES:

I. The Advantages of being a Jew

3:1 Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? **2** Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the **oracles of God**. **3** What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the **faithfulness of God**? **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... **4** By no means! Let **God be true** though every one were a liar, as it is written, "That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged."
(Ps. 51:4; 1 Ki 8:46; 2 Ch 6:36; Ps 106:6)

II. Both the Old and New Testament Teach Original 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." **18** "There is no **fear of God** before their eyes."
(Ps. 5:9; 10:7; 14:1-3; 36:1; 53:1-3; 140:3; Eccl 7:20; Is 59:7,8)

III. The Law of God Holds All People Accountable

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.
(Jn 10:34; 15:25; 1 Cor 14:21)

IV. Several Pictures of Justification by Grace

21 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** faith 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**, (Ps 32:1,2; Hab 2:4)

24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through (Gal. ch. 2 and 3)

the redemption that is in **Christ Jesus**, (Ps 130:7; 1 Cor 1:30; Gal 4:5; Eph 1:7,14; Col 1:14; Heb 9:12)

25 whom **God** put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. (1 Jn 2:2)

This was to show **God's righteousness**, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.
(Acts 17:30)

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. (Gal 2:16; 3:11; Eph 2:9)

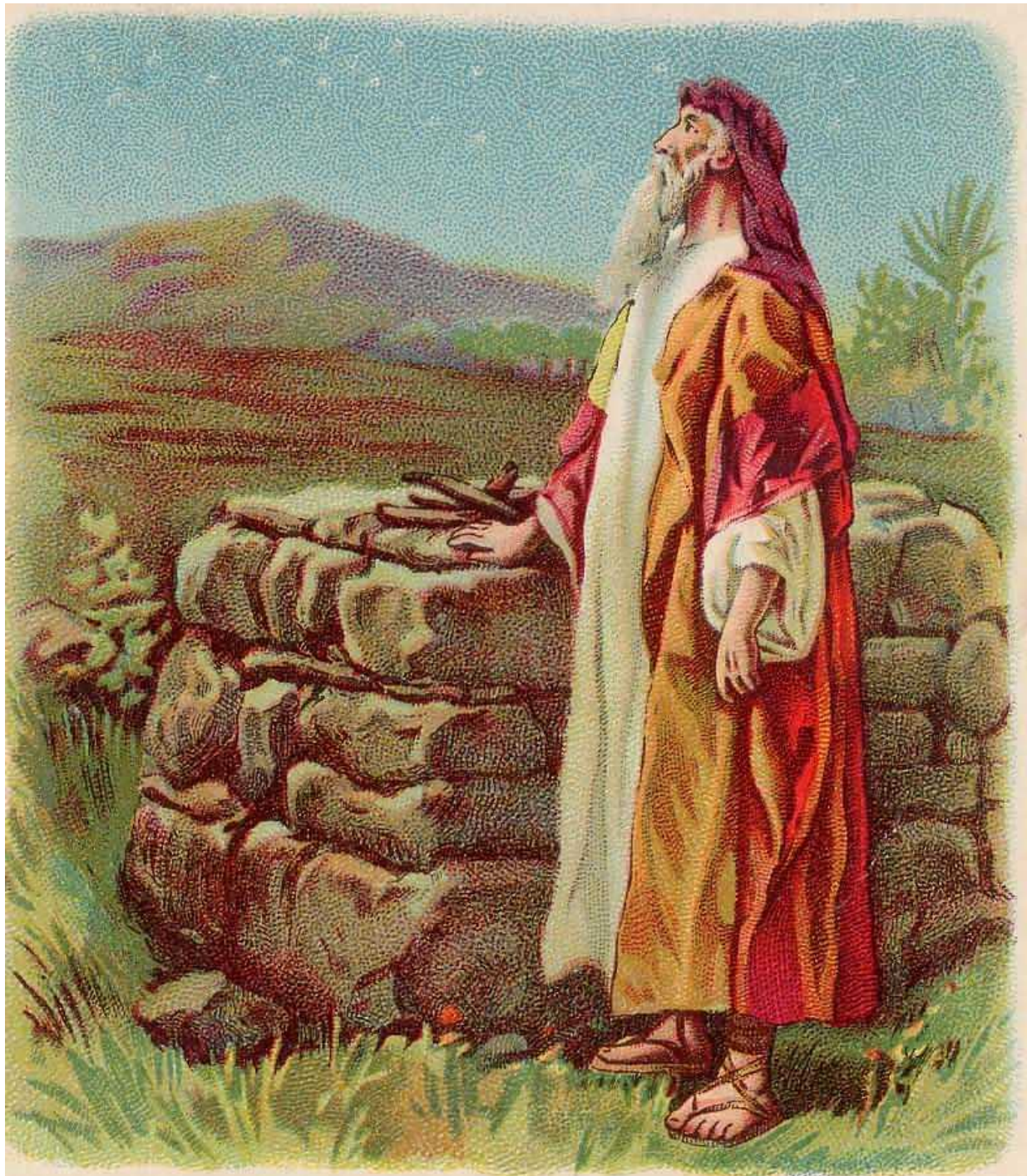
V. Justified by Faith, We Uphold the Law

28 For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. **30** since **God is one**—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. **31** Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.
(Dt 6:4; Gal 3:8, 28)

LIFE APPLICATION:

1. Why do we say that we are saved “by grace through faith”? (Note the prepositions!)
2. How were and are all people saved, always in exactly the same way, since Adam and Eve until the Last Day?
3. Once a person is saved (justified) how then do we uphold the law (sanctified)?





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**CHRISTIAN FAITH LEADS TO GOOD
WORKS.**

James 2 : 14-23.

I WILL SHOW THEE MY FAITH BY MY WORKS.

Epistola s. PAULI ad Galatas.



Die Epistel St. Pauli
an die Galater.

Epistola S. PAULI ad ROMANOS.



Die Epistel St. Pauli
an die Römer.