

What do we Really DESERVE? ~ Romans 3:9-20

→ Scripture Reading Romans 3:1-4, 19-20

INTRODUCTION

Gentiles		Jews	
Creation	Rm 1:19-20	Creation	Rm 1:19-20
Conscience	Rm 2:14-15	Conscience	Rm 2:14-15
		God's Law	Rm 3:2

Romans 2:23-25 (NLT) You are so proud of knowing THE LAW, but you DISHONOR God by breaking it. ²⁴ No wonder the Scriptures say, The Gentiles blaspheme the name of God because of you. ²⁵ The Jewish ceremony of circumcision has value ONLY if you obey God's Law. But if you don't obey God's law, you are no better off than an uncircumcised Gentile.

Romans 2:28-29 (NLT) For you are not a true Jew just because you were born of Jewish parents or because you have gone through the ceremony of circumcision. ²⁹ No, a TRUE Jew is one whose HEART is RIGHT with God. And true circumcision is not merely obeying the letter of the law; rather, it is a change of heart produced by God's Spirit...

What are we REALLY LIKE? ~ Romans 3:9-12

⁹ What shall we conclude then? Are we any better? Not at all! We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. ¹⁰ As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one;

All through Romans Paul refers to SIN in the singular to make the point that the many sins people commit stem from a single basic fact: **they are helpless slaves to sin's power.** DACarson

¹⁰ As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one; ¹¹ there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God.

¹² All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV) God made Him who had NO SIN to BE sin for us, so that IN Him we might become the RIGHTEOUSNESS of God.

What do we REALLY SAY? ~ Romans 3:13-14

¹³ Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips. ¹⁴ Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.

Matthew 12:34 (NIV) You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the OVERFLOW of the heart the mouth SPEAKS.

What do we REALLY DO? ~ Romans 3:9-18

¹⁵ Their feet are swift to shed blood; ¹⁶ ruin and misery mark their ways, ¹⁷ and the way of peace they do not know. ¹⁸ There is no fear of God before their eyes.

What does the LAW REALLY DO? ~ Romans 3:19-20

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

IMPLICATIONS

→Do we SEEK after God?

¹¹ there is no one who understands, NO ONE who SEEKS God.

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV) You will seek ME and find ME when you seek ME with ALL your heart.

The life of FAITH is All-Encompassing: it is **BY faith** that one initially **RECEIVES the gift** of salvation (eternal life), but it is also **BY faith** that one **LIVES each day**. ESV

Romans 1:17 (NIV) For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is BY faith from FIRST to LAST...

→What kinds of things are we DOING?

¹² ...there is NO ONE who does GOOD, not even one.

Galatians 6:9-10 (NLT) So let's NOT get TIRED of DOING what is GOOD. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone - especially to those in the family of faith.

- Don't get TIRED - Keep on Doing GOOD
- Don't GIVE UP - the Harvest IS Coming
- When you have the chance - DO GOOD

→ Does the way I talk HELP or HURT people?

¹³ Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips. ¹⁴ Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.

Ephesians 4:29 (NIV) Do NOT let any unwholesome TALK come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Psalms 19:14 (NLT) May the WORDS of MY MOUTH and the MEDITATION of MY HEART be pleasing to YOU, O LORD, my ROCK and my REDEEMER.

TAKE AWAY ??

Romans 3:19-20 (HCS) Now we know that whatever the LAW says speaks to those who are subject to the law, so that every mouth may be SHUT and the whole world may become subject to God's JUDGMENT.

²⁰ For NO ONE will be JUSTIFIED in His sight **BY the WORKS of the LAW**, because the knowledge of sin comes through the LAW.

→What IF the book or Romans ENDED right here?

²⁰ For no one can EVER be made RIGHT with God BY DOING...

...The LAW simply SHOWS us HOW sinful we are. (NLT)