

Romans 3: Sin and Salvation

- Romans 3:9-20** **Sin: All mankind has sinned.** (sin = "to miss the mark")
- Vs. 9** Without exceptions: Jew & Gentile
- Vs. 10-20** Without question: All Scripture gives a united message.
- Vs. 10-12** cp. Psalm 14:1-3. Sin affects our mind ("understands"); our heart ("seeks"); and our will ("does good").
- Vs. 13-14** cp. Psalm 5:9; 140:3; 10:7 Sin is revealed through our word ("throat...tongue...lips...mouth"). See also Matthew 12:34,37; Romans 10:9,10. **Vs. 15-17** cp. Isaiah 59:7-8 (Proverbs 1:16). Sin is revealed through our ways (walking the wrong paths with our "feet"). See also Psalm 1:1; Matthew 7:13-14. **Vs. 18** cp. Psalm 36:1. Sin reveals our pride ("no fear of God"). See all of Psalm 36 and 10.
- Vs. 19-20** The law (i.e. all of the Old Testament Scriptures) stops our mouths from making excuses and trying to justify ourselves. The law tells us all that we are guilty before God. The law does not provide a way for us to justify ourselves before God. The Law reveals our sin.
- Romans 3:21-28** **Salvation: All of God. All of Grace.** (**salvation** = "deliverance")
- Vs. 21-22** God gives righteousness. It can't be earned. Our attempts at righteousness are unacceptable (Romans 10:3; Isaiah 64:6; Titus 3:5-6). As the Scriptures are united to reveal our sin, so all Scripture gives "witness" to God's way of giving us righteousness, by grace, through faith in Christ (Romans 1:16-17; Galatians 3:24).
- Vs. 23-24** God justifies and redeems us by the work of Christ for us. "freely by his grace" means that it is a gift. You cannot earn it or deserve it. Note: the Greek word for "freely" is also translated "without a cause" in John 15:25.
- Vs. 25-26** God ordained ("set forth") Jesus Christ to be the savior of Mankind. See Galatians 1:3-5; 4:4-5; I Timothy 2:5-6; I John 4:14. Christ's blood is our "propitiation" (the way of obtaining mercy, turning away God's wrath and satisfying His justice). Christ's righteousness brings remission of sins (i.e. sins are sent away – the opposite of "admission"). God patiently planned ("forbearance") salvation for the Old Testament *believers* ("sins that are past") and for New Testament Believers ("at this time"). God gives a righteous salvation (I John 2:1). Christ's righteousness and blood allows God to remain just (holy) and also to justify guilty sinners ("to declare us righteous").
- Vs. 27-28** God gives the law of faith to override the law of works. Through Christ we now live out a righteous life (Ephesians 2:8-10; Romans 8:1-4).