



Key References:

Romans 2:29 (NLT) – 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 the Spirit.

Romans 3:9 (NLT) – Well then, should we conclude that we Jews are better than others? No, not at all, for we have already shown that all people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin.

Romans 3:3–4a (NLT) – True, some of them were unfaithful; but just because they were unfaithful, does that mean God will be unfaithful? ⁴ Of course not! Even if everyone else is a liar, God is true.

Romans 3:24 (NLT) – Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

Romans 3:20 (NLT) – For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

Galatians 2:21 (ESV) – ...for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV) – For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Romans 3:24 (NLT) – Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

Romans 10:9–10 (NLT) – If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.

1 – JEWS & GENTILES

How does Romans 3:9 summarize the first two chapters of Romans?

At the time Paul wrote Romans, there was a great mixing between Jewish-Christians and Gentile-Christians in Rome. **What kind of disputes has Paul been trying to resolve so far? What issues do you think there could have been between the two groups?**

2 – WHO IS FAITHFUL?

Read Romans 3:3-4. **What stories would you use to explain the faithfulness of God despite the failings of His people throughout the Bible?**

When in your life has God been faithful despite your own unfaithfulness?

3 – RIGHTEOUSNESS IS A GIFT OF GRACE

Read Romans 3:23-24. **What is the biggest penalty / consequence that you ever had to pay? What would have it been like if someone took on this consequence in your place?**

Read Galatians 2:21. **When we try to earn our salvation, how is it removing Christ's purpose?**

Read Ephesians 2:8-9. **Why is boasting in works such a problem?**

4 – RECEIVED BY FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE

Read Romans 3:27-28. Often, we can concentrate on our works more than on our faith in Jesus. **If faith is the highest priority, how can we cultivate increasing faith in Jesus over many years?**

Have you ever seen someone lose their faith? Why did it happen?

Read Romans 10:9-10. **Is salvation really this simple? What questions arise when you read this simple scripture?**

5 – UPON RECEIVING, WE ARE JUSTIFIED.

Romans 3:31. **Can the Old Testament law still point out sin within us? What is a Christian's new relationship to the law of God? *Roman's will speak more about our new relationship with the law in weeks to come.**