

20230514 Our problem and God's solution

Understanding the Gospel series Part 5

Romans 3:20-24

²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.

²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

OUR SPIRITUAL CHECKUP FINAL RESULT

Romans 3:10-18

¹⁰ As the Scriptures say, No one is righteous - not even one.

¹¹ No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God.

¹² All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one.

¹³ Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave. Their tongues are filled with lies. Snake venom drips from their lips.

¹⁴ Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.

¹⁵ They rush to commit murder.

¹⁶ Destruction and misery always follow them.

¹⁷ They don't know where to find peace.

¹⁸ They have no fear of God at all.

THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE LAW: GOD'S DIAGNOSTIC TOOL FOR OUR SPIRITUAL HEALTH

Romans 3:20

²⁰ 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.

THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING A JEW (BEING A CHURCH GOES)

Romans 3:1-2

¹ Then what's the advantage of being a Jew? Is there any value in the ceremony of circumcision?

² Yes, there are great benefits! First of all, the Jews were entrusted with the whole revelation of God.

TWO PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF THE LAW:

1. To make us realize our spiritual problem.
2. To lead us to God's solution to our problem.

Romans 3:21

²¹ But now apart from the law **the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.**

THE GREATEST AND THE MOST POWERFUL 'BUT' IN HUMAN HISTORY IS IN THE GOSPEL

Romans 3:21

²¹ **But** now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.

The gospel doesn't say,

"You are sick. You have a serious problem. You are going to die. You have to heal yourself. You have to make your own way to create the solution."

The gospel says,

“You have the problem of sin and death. But you know what? God has provided the perfect solution. It’s not what you have to do. It’s what He had done for you.”

Romans 3:22-24

²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

3 BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD FROM VERSE 22

1. It’s given.

2. It’s through faith in Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:13-15

¹³ For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”

¹⁴ But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? **And**

how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?

¹⁵ And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, “How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!”

3. It’s to all who believe.

2 Timothy 2:4

⁴ God our Savior wants **everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.**

John 1:12

¹² But to **all who believed him and accepted him**, he gave the right to become children of God.

Charles Wesley:

No condemnation now I dread,

Jesus, and all in Him, is mine:

Alive in Him, my living Head,

And clothed in righteousness Divine,

Bold I approach th’ eternal throne,

And claim the crown,

through Christ, my own.

John Wesley’s Aldersgate experience:

“In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Aldersgate Street, where one was reading Luther’s preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed.”

THE INVITATION TO GOD’S CURE OF GRACE AND TRUTH

Matthew 11:28

²⁸ Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.