

WOMEN WALKING WISELY A STUDY OF ROMANS (PART 1) THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

LESSON 3—ROMANS 3

**WOMEN WALKING WISELY MEETING:
NOVEMBER 21, 2022**

This is the basic format for how this Bible study is designed. Following these steps will give us a close up look at the book of Romans. The Bible study steps can be organized as...

1. Read the assigned passage of Romans: Jotting initial thoughts at the end
2. Observe the section: Giving your own heading to the specific section(s) assigned to you
3. Evaluate the chapter: Identify the natural flow in the story as it moves along the chapter
4. Define the characters: Note the main actors in the story and give a description of each
5. Write out your questions: Look for anything you do not know and find the answer if you can
6. Answer the study questions: I will give you questions for each week that we will interact with
7. Interpret the text: Explain what the text said about and to the original audience and why
8. Apply the text: Look for the universal application that is true to the text and yet timeless

Romans Introduction

If you haven't already, take time to read through the book of Romans. When you are finished reading, jot down any initial thoughts, observations, and questions.

NOTE: You will often be asked in our study of the text to define words by looking at the Strong's Concordance to help understand the original meaning of a word in Greek (or Hebrew). You can simply do a Google search and type in Strong's #xxxx & press the enter button. This will take you to sites like biblehub.com or blueletterbible.org for a better understanding of what the specific word means.

Day 1: Review of Romans 2

Looking back at Romans 2, what are some takeaways from this chapter to remember? It is easy to look at chapter 2 and think that Paul was only talking to the Jewish audience, and so this may not apply to you personally. But, we know that application is always present in Scripture. As Paul brings chapter 2 to an end, what is the key truth to remember in verses 28 – 29?

Day 2: Romans 3:1 – 2

How does the beginning of chapter 3 flow from the end of chapter 2? Who is Paul addressing as he launches into chapter 3?

Paul uses his rhetorical questioning again as he anticipates that remarks and questions from the Jews. What are the first 2 questions? Answer them: is there advantage in being Jewish? Is there value in circumcision?

How does verse 2 begin with the answer to these questions? To begin with (or first of all 😊), what were the Jews entrusted with?

What are the oracles of God? (Deut. 4:1-2; Deut. 6:1-2; Gal. 3:8; John 5:39)

What does knowing God's Word help us to learn?

Day 3: Romans 3:3 – 8

Paul leads with more questions that can be seen as anticipated objections.

What is the first objection in verse 3? Who is at fault if a person has a lack of faith? Does God ever cease to be faithful? (Can you find a verse to support your answer?) Does God ever lie or can God ever lie? (Can you find a verse to support your answer?)

What characteristic of God is clearly stated in verse 4? And what does the verse go on to say then about men?

Objection #2: Is God ever unrighteous? Even when He inflicts wrath on sinners? (see Romans 1:18 – 2:2...look specifically at 2:2).

Paul answers emphatically, what? Why?

What does he mean at the end of verse 5 “I speak in a human way”?

How could God judge the world if He is unrighteous?

What does the Bible say about God as judge? (Psalm 9:8; 96:13; Jn. 5:30, 8:15-16)

Day 4: Romans 3:3 – 8

What was being spoken about Paul and his teaching? What were some people saying the message was?

How could people come to this false conclusion about Paul’s teaching?

What is the fate for those who truly did teach this false philosophy of the gospel?

Day 5: Romans 3:9 – 18

Verse 9 begins with a funny question, what does it mean? Next question, “Are we Jews any better off?”

The question is asking “are we better than them?” Notice the pronoun choice in this question. Who is we referring to? Who has already been charged and under sin?

Read through verses 10 -17. What do we learn about sinners? List out all the phrases. Take note of the uses of strong, negative terms.

Verse 18...why do they behave this way?

Day 6: Romans 3:9 – 18

Look back at Romans 3:10 – 12 and compare it to Psalm 14:1 -3 and Psalm 53:1 – 3.

Who is the fool? (Is. 32:6; Matt. 7:16, 20)

Does man not understand because of lack of opportunity? (Rom. 1:19-20; 2:15) Why does man not seek God? (see Eph. 4:18)

What does it mean to turn aside (Look up the Greek word: Strong’s #1578) What do people in this state become? (Look up the Greek word: Strong’s #889)

Who does good?

What does their words reveal in verse 13? (Compare to Psalms 5:9) What else does the Bible say about a person’s words or speech? (Prov. 10:31-32; 15:2; 15:28; Matt. 12:34-35; 15:18)

What is speech compared to at the end of verse 13? See if you can find out any information about what an asp is.

Verse 14...what does their speech do to others? Why do people speak in this way...what is their goal?

Verse 15 – 18...See Isaiah 59:7 – 8. What do these verses describe? What have they not known? What is missing from their lives (v.18)?

Fear of God: what do you know about the Fear of God? How would you describe or define it? Does Fear of God differ for believers -vs- unbelievers? In Romans 3:18 Paul is quoting from Psalm 36:1. Proverbs is a great book to look at to build understanding of the fear of God or the fear of the Lord. Read the following: Proverbs 9:10; 16:6.

“It is astonishing that men, while they acknowledge that there is a God, should act without any fear of His displeasure. Yet this is their character. They fear a worm of the dust like themselves, but disregard the Most High...They are more afraid of man than of God—of his anger, his contempt, or ridicule. The fear of man prevents them from doing many things from which they are not restrained by the fear of God...They love not His character, not rendering to it that veneration which is due; they respect not His authority. Such is the state of human nature while the heart is unchanged.” (Robert Haldane: *Exposition of Romans*, p. 121)

Day 7: Romans 3:19 – 20

Who can keep the whole law? Who is accountable to God? Why?

What does it mean to be justified? For further understanding you can read the following:

<https://www.gty.org/library/articles/A194/justification-by-faith>

<https://www.ligonier.org/guides/justification>

<https://gfmanchester.com/justification-by-martyn-lloyd-jones>

<https://www.mljtrust.org/sermons-online/romans-3-20/justification-explained/>

What does the law bring?

Day 8: Romans 3:21 – 31

This next set of verses begins with a change in flow with the words “but now.” Read through Romans 3:21-25. How has the righteousness of God come to be? Does it have anything to do with the Law? What do the Law and Prophets have to do with the righteousness of God? (See Romans 1:2) What does this mean according to v.22?

Again, is there any distinction between the Jew or the Greek (end of v.22)? Why? (v.23) When we sin, what happens according to Romans 3:23?

According to verse 24, how is the sinner made right? How is justification described in these verses? Being justified is what? How have believers been justified by grace? (v.24-25) What does all this show? (v.25 – 26) What do you think it means that God is both just and the justifier?

Do you have faith in Jesus? Can you be considered as the one that verse 26 is talking about? I pray that you are and that you have been justified by His amazing grace!

Day 9: Romans 3:21 – 31

Verse 27 begins with a question...can you answer it in regards to a believer's justification? What becomes of our boasting?

Answer the next question. By what kind of law (see verse 20)?

We hold and believe that one is justified by _____. Read back over Romans 3:21-31. Count how many times the word “faith” is used: _____ times. See also Galatians 3:11, Habakkuk 2:4; Hebrews 10:38 and take note of the righteous and how they live.

We believe and agree with verse 30: There is only one true _____! (1Cor. 8:5-6) According to verse 30, He will _____ anyone who comes to Him through _____.

As verse 31 closes out Romans 3, is the law overthrown by faith? What do believers do with the law?

“True faith does not wait for anything that can be seen or felt. It simply believes. Faith, not sight, summarizes the entire Christian life (2 Cor. 5:7)...When we walk by this kind of faith, the sanctifying grace of God's truth is unleashed in our hearts to conform us to the image of Christ.”

(Jerry Wragg & Paul Shirley: *Free to Be Holy*, p. 72)