

Discussion Questions (Romans 3:1-20)

1. Paul says the Jews had an “advantage” because they were entrusted with God’s Word. Why is access to truth an advantage—but not a guarantee of salvation?
2. What does this passage teach us about the unchanging nature of God’s character (His truth, justice, and faithfulness)?
3. In Romans 3:9–18, Paul describes humanity as completely broken. Which part of that description (character, words, actions, or heart) stands out most to you, and why?
4. The sermon describes the Law as a *mirror, not a ladder*. What’s the difference between those two ideas, and why does it matter?
5. Which of the four functions of the Law (defining sin, revealing inability, awakening conscience, provoking sin) was most eye-opening to you? Why?
6. Why do you think people (including Christians) tend to misuse the Law as a way to earn God’s acceptance?
7. In what ways are you tempted to “try to impress God” through performance rather than trusting in Christ?
8. How does comparison with others distort your view of your own righteousness or standing before God?
9. When God’s Word exposes sin in your life, what is your typical response—defensiveness, minimizing, ignoring, or repentance? Why?
10. The sermon points to the shift in Romans 3:21—“But now...” How does the gospel change the way you relate to God compared to a performance-based mindset?