

THE GREAT SOLUTION: A SAVIOR

A sinner can get right with God by faith in what Christ did.

Romans 3:21-31

INTRODUCTION: Paul's apostolic calling to proclaim the Gospel to the Gentiles prompted this letter. 1:1-17

Key idea: The gospel is the power of God for salvation, acquired by faith. 1:16-17

CONDEMNATION: the universal need for righteousness from God, 1:18-3:20

Main idea: All people lack sufficient righteousness to avoid condemnation by a holy God.

Secular people [godless, Gentiles] although without the written revelation of God's righteousness are under God's judgment (i.e., condemnation) because they have rejected in unrighteousness the revelation given to them. 1:18-32

Good people [moral, religious, Jew or Gentile] have not rightly responded to the revelation they have and so are under God's judgment (i.e., condemnation). 2:1-16

God's people [the Jew] have God's written revelation yet are under God's wrath (i.e., condemnation) because they rely on the revelation given to them (the Law and circumcision) rather than trusting in God. 2:17-3:8

All people [Jew or Gentile] are under God's wrath (i.e., condemnation) because all are under sin. 3:9-20

JUSTIFICATION: the imputation of the righteousness of God, 3:21-5:21

Main idea: God has provided righteousness on the basis of Christ's death for all who believe.

A. A Savior Saves, 3:21-26

Jesus provided a solution to my condemnation not by showing me how to be good enough (righteous) but by giving me God's righteousness!

1. What we need to be freed from condemnation: righteousness from God. (21)

2. How we obtain righteousness from God: through faith in Christ. (22)

3. A reminder: everyone needs this salvation. (23)

4. Justification. (24-26)

- a. Justify (24)

- b. Freely by His grace (24)

- c. Through the redemption... (24)

- d. Sacrifice of atonement (25)

- e. To demonstrate His justice (26)

B. Salvation Of Jews and Gentiles Removes Spiritual Pride (3:27-30)

1. Salvation through faith excludes spiritual pride — meaning all the glory goes to God. (27-30)

2. Therefore, salvation through faith upholds the real purpose of the Old Testament Law. (31)

Conclusion