

THE VERDICT

Romans 3:1-20



Book of Romans (Chapters 1 to 8)

Ch 1:1 – 3:20	Ch 3:21 – 5:19	Ch 6:1 – 8:39
Righteousness required because of human guilt	Righteousness imputed by divine grace	Righteousness enabled through spiritual life
What the gospel proves: Universal condemnation	What the gospel provides: Free justification	What the gospel produces: Practical sanctification
The need for salvation	The plan of salvation	The life of salvation
Sin	Salvation	Sanctification
Before I was saved	When I was saved	After I was saved
Genesis – the fall	Exodus - redemption	Leviticus – holiness
Legal		Ethical
Faith		

Romans 3:1-20

Quick Review Questions:

1. To whom was this epistle (letter) written to?
2. What do you think prompted Paul to write this letter?

In Chapter 1:

1. Paul goes after the Gentiles.
2. Claiming that Gentiles are sinful.
3. They were filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity.

In Chapter 2:

1. Paul reminded the Jewish people that just because they are God's chosen people, they are not any better.
2. They have no excuse and were even more to blame because they have been given the law and the word of God.
3. They were told to take a look at themselves before they start judging the Gentiles.
4. Possession of the law and circumcision will not save them.

How to Read the Bible

The Law

Biblical Law



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sew1kBle-Wo&list=PPSV>

Humanity on Trial

Romans Chapter 3 (1-20)

Verses 1-8 Righteous Judge

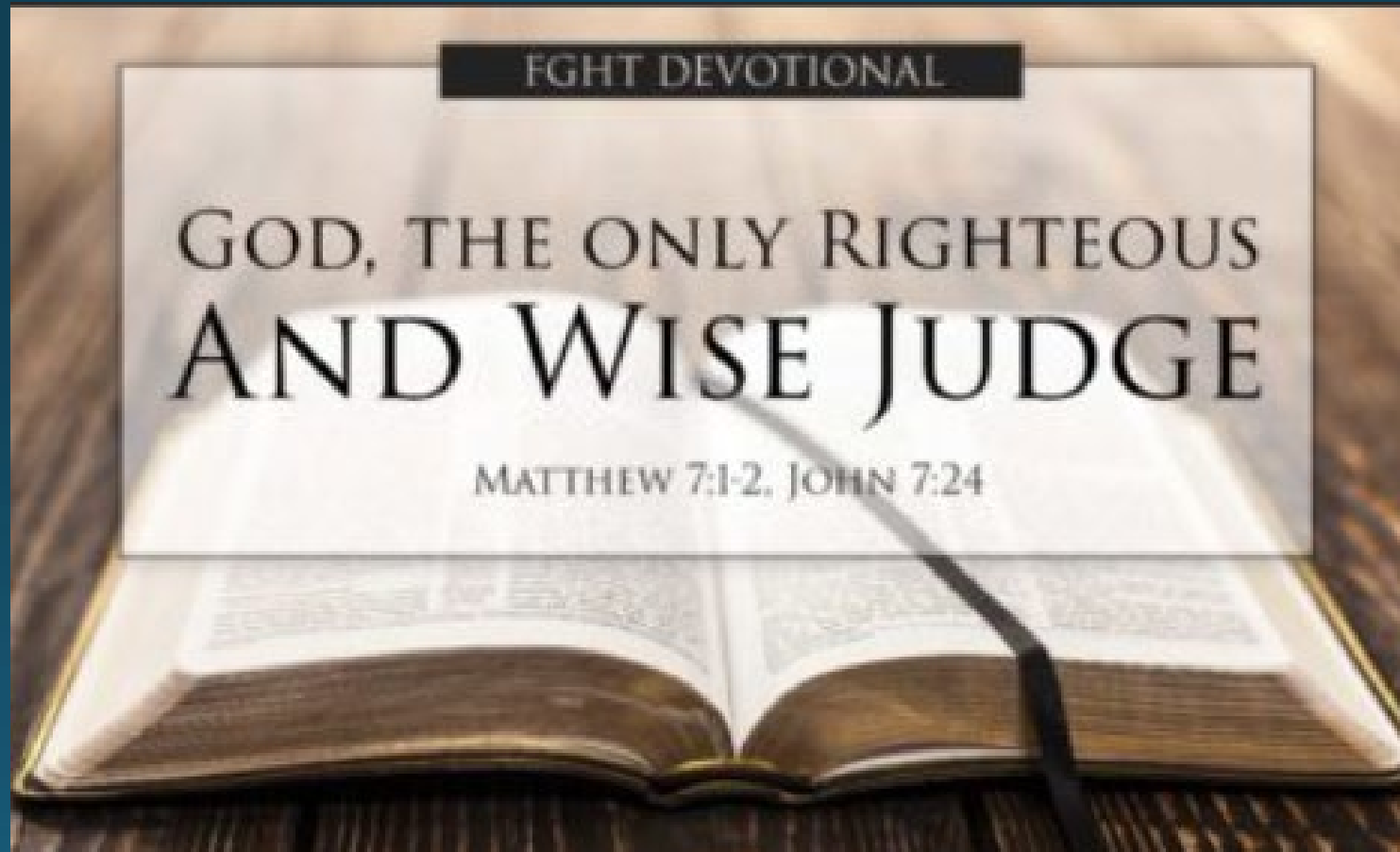
Verse 9 Indictment

Verses 10-18 Evidence

Verses 19-20 Verdict

Romans Chapter 3 Verses 1-8

Righteous Judge



Romans 3:1-8 (Diatribes)

¹What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision?

²Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God.

³What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness?

⁴Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written:

"So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge."

⁵But if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say?

That God is unjust in bringing his wrath on us? (I am using a human argument.)

⁶Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world?

⁷Someone might argue, "If my falsehood enhances God's truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?"

⁸Why not say—as some slanderously claim that we say—"Let us do evil that good may result"? Their condemnation is just!

Romans 3:1-2 (Advantage of Jews)

- ¹What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision?
²Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God.

1. Yes, Jewish people received God's words and promises directly.
2. Paul later expanded on the advantage of the Jewish people in Romans 9:4, explaining that Israel also had the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises.
3. In Romans 2, Paul already explained that the possession of the law or circumcision will not save a Jewish person.

Romans 3:3-4 (God's Faithfulness)

3What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness?

4Not at all! Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written:

"So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge."

1. Jewish unfaithfulness will not undermine God's faithfulness.
2. God remains true and faithful even when people are unfaithful.
3. Demonstrates that God's character is unchanging and not dependent on human actions.
4. Quote from Psalm 51:4, God is always right in His verdicts and justified when He judges.

Romans 3:5-6 (God's righteousness in Judgment)

5But if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say? That God is unjust in bringing his wrath on us? (I am using a human argument.)

6Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world?

1. This is a common human argument.
2. If what we do makes God look good because it gives God a chance to show His love and forgiveness, then it's unjust for God to judge us.
3. Paul firmly rejects this notion. God would be no better than the worst of men.
4. In other words, God is perfectly just in His judgments.

Romans 3:7-8 (God's Righteousness in Judgment)

⁷ Someone might argue, "If my falsehood enhances God's truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?"

⁸ Why not say—as some slanderously claim that we say—"Let us do evil that good may result"? Their condemnation is just!

1. Paul will not even answer such an absurd twisting of the gospel.
2. He simply says of those who would teach such things, their condemnation is just.
3. God rightly condemns anyone who teaches or believes in doing evil deeds.

Romans Chapter 3 Verse 9

Indictment

indict

\ in- ' dīt \ v

to formally decide
someone should
be put on trial
for a crime



Romans 3:9 (The Indictment)

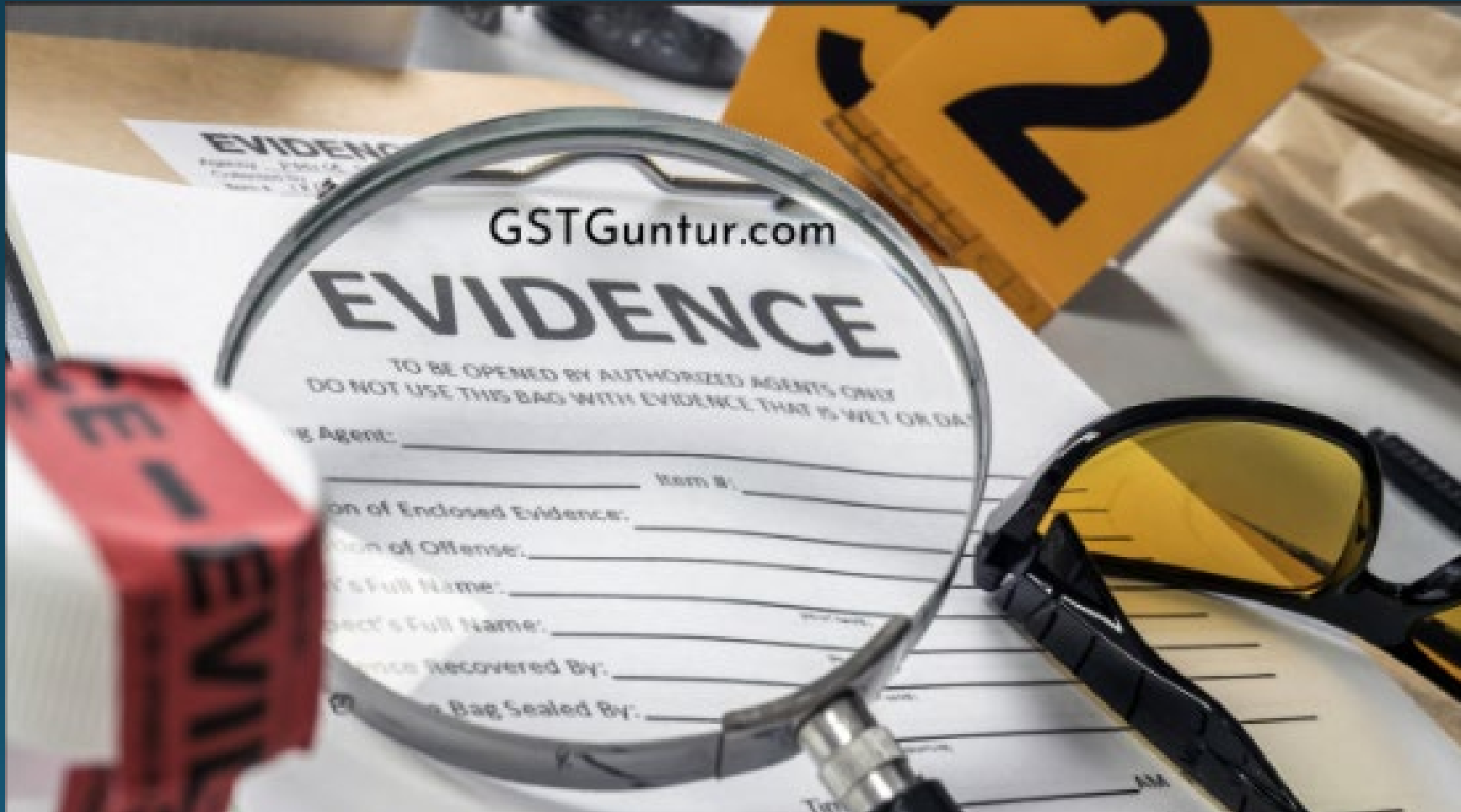
9 What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin.

1. He asked if we have any standing at all.
His answer: None at all!
2. Paul declares that both Jews and Gentiles are “under the power sin”.



Romans Chapter 3 Verses 10-18

Evidence



Romans 3:10-18 (The Evidence)

¹⁰ As it is written:

“There is no one righteous, not even one;

¹¹ there is no one who understands;
there is no one who seeks God.

¹² All have turned away,
they have together become worthless;
there is no one who does good,
not even one.”

¹³ “Their throats are open graves;
their tongues practice deceit.”
“The poison of vipers is on their lips.”

¹⁴ “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”

¹⁵ “Their feet are swift to shed blood;

¹⁶ ruin and misery mark their ways,

¹⁷ and the way of peace they do not know.”

¹⁸ “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Paul quotes multiple Old Testament passages to emphasize that “None is righteous”

Quotes from:

Vs 10-12: Psalms 14:1-3 & 53:1-3

Vs 13: Psalms 5:10 and 140:4

Vs 14: Psalm 10:7

Vs 15-17: Isaiah 59:7-8 & Proverbs 1:16

Vs 18: Psalm 36:2



Romans Chapter 3 Verses 10-12

Verdict:
Guilty or Not Guilty?



Romans 3:19-20 (The Verdict)

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.

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.





FIRST CLASS

ECONOMY CLASS

VS









Summary

1. Paul explains that the purpose of the Law is to close the mouth of the sinner so that he may know that he is guilty before God.
2. The Law reveals man's sinfulness.
3. No one can be justified before God through their own works.
4. You cannot "Earn" or "Learn" your way to righteousness.
5. Consider how acknowledging the Law's purpose can lead to a deeper appreciation for God's grace.
6. Reflect on whether you judge others while ignoring your own faults.
7. Remember that righteousness comes from God's grace and not from your own works.

Now that we are found guilty under the power of sin, is there any hope?

Come to class next week for the answer!

Thank you!