

ROMANS

GOD'S GOOD NEWS FOR ALL PEOPLE

#7 Religion . . . What's the Point? *Romans 3:1-8 (NIV)*

The Emperor's New Clothes...

Romans 3:1 – 8 *What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? ² Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God. ³ What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? ⁴ Not 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." ⁵ But 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.) ⁶ Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world? 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!*

Paul's Four Questions!

1. Is there an advantage in **BEING A JEW** and having **THE RITES OF WORSHIP?**
 - a. Yes! They have the written **DESCRIPTION OF GOD'S ETERNAL NATURE**
 - b. Yes! They have the written **DESCRIPTION OF MAN'S NATURE AND PURPOSE**
2. What if some of the Jews **WERE UNFAITHFUL?** Does that mean **GOD IS UNFAITHFUL?**
3. If our sinfulness shows **GOD'S MERCY AND GRACE,** then isn't God being unjust by **PUNISHING SINNERS?**
4. If being bad makes **GOD LOOK GOOD,** then why don't we **LIVE TO BE BAD?**

Seven Steps to God

1. There is **A GOD**
 - a. **Romans 1:20 (ESV)** *For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*
2. I am **ACCOUNTABLE TO GOD**
 - a. **Romans 14:12 (ESV)** *So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.*
3. I've missed **GOD'S MARK**
 - a. **Romans 3:23 (ESV)** *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...*
4. My sin **SEPARATES ME FROM GOD**
 - a. **Romans 6:23 (ESV)** *For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
5. Only Jesus never **SINNED; HE WAS DIFFERENT**
 - a. **1 John 3:5 (ESV)** *You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin...*
6. Only Jesus can **RECONCILE ME TO GOD**
 - a. **John 14:6 (ESV)** *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*
 - b. **1 Peter 3:18 (ESV)** *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,*
7. I am willing to trust **JESUS ALONE TO SAVE ME**
 - a. **Romans 10:13 (ESV)** *For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

***Are you counting on your religion
to make you right with God?
or
Are you allowing the Gospel to transform you?***

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