

Series: Romans, # 5

Justified Freely by His Grace

Romans 3:1-31

The apostle Paul is teaching the church in Rome about God's justice, in the form of a lengthy argument, as if we were listening to a debate. Chapter 3 contains a series of questions and answers:

Vs. 1 – Is there any value in keeping rules?

Vs. 3 – What if some of the Jews were unfaithful?

Vs. 5 – Is God unjust in bringing wrath upon the disobedient?

Vs. 9 – Do Jews have any advantage over Gentiles?

Vs. 27 – Is there any room for pride and boasting?

Vs. 29 – Is God the God of Jews only?

Vs. 31 – Does faith nullify the law?

Paul's conclusion is in the middle of the chapter, not at the end:
Vs. 21-26

Prayer:

Father God, I was created to bring you glory. I am a sinner, and fall short of that glory. Thank you for forgiving me, and declaring me guilt free. Thank you for buying me back, and restoring our broken relationship. Thank you for making things right with the holy Father. Thank you for being tolerant until the day I believed, instead of bringing just punishment. Help me obey your law, while I trust in salvation by faith in the death of your sinless Son Jesus. Amen.

Defining some theological terms from vs. 24-25

Justification

To declare innocent or guiltless; "just as if I'd never sinned"

Redemption

To buy back something, meaning it previously belonged to you, rightfully yours

Atonement

Reparation for a wrong or injury; that is, when we sin against God, we must not only be forgiven the wrong doing, but also make it right with him

Forbearance

Tolerance, leniency, clemency; the action of refraining from exercising a legal right, especially enforcing the payment of a debt

For next week, study: Romans 4