

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

“For the word of God is living and powerful,
and sharper than any two-edged sword,
piercing even to the division of soul and spirit,
and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner
of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

(Hebrews 4:12)

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

“Not Ashamed of the Gospel”

**“For I am *not ashamed of the gospel* of Christ,
for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone
who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
For in it the *righteousness of God* is revealed from faith to faith; as
it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’”**

(Romans 1:16,17)

OUTLINE OF ROMANS

“Not Ashamed of the Gospel”

- 1–8 I. God’s Righteousness Revealed
- 9–11 II. God’s Righteousness Vindicated
- 12–16 III. God’s Righteousness Applied

OUTLINE OF ROMANS

“Not Ashamed of the Gospel”

1–8 I. God’s Righteousness Revealed

1:1–17 Introduction

1:18–3:20 Condemnation: Need for God’s Righteousness

3:21–5:21 Justification: Imputation of God’s Righteousness

6:1–8:39 Sanctification: Demonstration of God’s Righteousness

OUTLINE OF ROMANS

“Not Ashamed of the Gospel”

1–8 I. God’s Righteousness Revealed

1:1–17 Introduction

1:18–3:20 Condemnation: Need for God’s Righteousness

1:18–32 A. Guilt of the Gentiles

2:1–3:8 B. Guilt of the Jews

3:9–20 C. Guilt of All Mankind

Condemnation: Need for God's Righteousness

Romans 1:18–3:20

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS

(Romans 2:1–3:8)

(1) In Word (*Truth*) and Works *(Romans 2:1–10)*

(2) Impartiality of God *(Romans 2:11–16)*

(3) In Disobedience and Disbelief *(Romans 2:17–3:8)*

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

The Jews and the Law: Disobedience *(Romans 2:17–29 CEV)*

17 Some of you call yourselves Jews. You trust in the Law and take pride in God.

18 By reading the Scriptures you learn how God wants you to behave, and you discover what is right.

19 You are sure that you are a guide for the blind and a light for all who are in the dark.

20 And since there is knowledge and truth in God's Law, you think you can instruct fools and teach young people.

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

The Jews and the Law: Disobedience *(Romans 2:17–29 CEV)*

21 But how can you teach others when you refuse to learn? You preach it is wrong to steal. But do you steal?

22 You say people should be faithful in marriage. But are you faithful? You hate idols, yet you rob their temples.

23 You take pride in the Law, but you *disobey the Law* and bring shame to God.

24 It is just as the Scriptures tell us, “You have made foreigners say insulting things about God.”

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

The Jews and the Law: Disobedience *(Romans 2:17–29 CEV)*

25 Being circumcised is worthwhile, if you obey the Law. But if you don't obey the Law, you are no better off than people who are not circumcised.

26 In fact, if they obey the Law, they are as good as anyone who is circumcised.

27 So everyone who obeys the Law, but has never been circumcised, will condemn you. Even though you are circumcised and have the Law, you still don't obey its teachings.

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

The Jews and the Law: Disobedience *(Romans 2:17–29 CEV)*

28 Just because you live like a Jew and are circumcised doesn't make you a real Jew.

29 To be a real Jew you must obey the Law. True circumcision is something that happens deep in your heart, not something done to your body. And besides, you should want praise from God and not from humans.

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

The Jews and God's Message: Disbelief (Romans 3:1–8 CEV)

1 What good is it to be a Jew? What good is it to be circumcised?

2 It is good in a lot of ways! First of all, God's messages were spoken to the Jews.

3 It is true that some of them *did not believe the message*. But does this mean that God cannot be trusted, just because they did not have faith?

4 No, indeed! God tells the truth, even if everyone else is a liar. The Scriptures say about God, "Your words will be proven true, and in court You will win Your case."

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

The Jews and God's Message: Disbelief *(Romans 3:1–8 CEV)*

5 If our evil deeds show how right God is, then what can we say? Is it wrong for God to become angry and punish us? What a foolish thing to ask.

6 But the answer is, "No." Otherwise, how could God judge the world?

7 Since your lies bring great honor to God by showing how truthful He is, you may ask why God still says you are a sinner.

8 You might as well say, "Let's do something evil, so that something good will come of it!" Some people even claim that we are saying this. But God is fair and will judge them as well.

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

1. *Disobedience towards God's Law*

23 You take pride in the Law,
but you *disobey the Law* and bring shame to God.

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

1. Disobedience towards God's Law

“Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry ...” (1 Samuel 15:22,23)

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

2. *Disbelief in God's Message*

3 It is true that some of them *did not believe the message*. But does this mean that God cannot be trusted, just because they did not have faith?

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

2. Disbelief in God's Message

“Jesus said to him, ‘If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.’ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, ‘Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!’” (Mark 9:23,24)

“Belief” vs “Disbelief” and “Unbelief”

B. GUILT OF THE JEWS (3)

(Romans 2:17–3:8 CEV)

*“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.*

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him,
for whoever would draw near to God must believe
that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.”*

(Hebrews 11:1,6 ESV)