

Romans

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- A) The Opening to the Letter (1:1-17)
- B) The Gospel Explained: Justification by Faith Alone (1:18—4:25)
 - 1) The Universal Need of Justification by Faith (1:18-3:20)
 - a) The Gentile Pagan (1:18-32)
 - b) The Jews (2:1—3:8)

“I Object!” (Pt. 3)

Romans 3:1-8

- Four Jewish objections to the gospel...
 - I. The gospel undermines God's integrity (1-2).
 - II. The gospel undermines God's faithfulness (3-4).
 - III. The gospel undermines God's justice (5-6).
 - IV. The gospel undermines God's holiness (7-8).

Paul's Gospel of Grace

- a) God allowed human sin to exalt His glorious grace (9:18-24).
- b) Human sin produces moral guilt and total inability (3:9-12; cf. 8:5-8).
- c) The depth of human sin requires God to rescue sinners from His wrath and forgive them by an act of His grace alone through the work of Christ alone, received by faith alone (3:24-26).
- d) Salvation by grace alone through faith alone without any human contribution brings glory to God alone (3:27-28).

IV. The Gospel Undermines God's Holiness (7-8)

A. The Objection (7-8a)

- 1. "If your gospel of grace alone is true, God has no right to judge me" (7).
- 2. "If your gospel of grace alone is true, it encourages sin and violates God's holiness" (8a).

B. Paul's Answer (8b)

- 1. The God and gospel I proclaim are being slandered.
- 2. God will justly condemn those who accuse Paul of promoting sin.

Lessons for Us...

- **1)** Unbelievers often have objections to the Gospel.
- **2)** We should be prepared to answer common objections to the gospel with reasoned biblical responses.
- **3)** We should keep our response to objections brief and return quickly to the gospel.
- **4)** Unbelievers especially object to total depravity and salvation by grace alone.