



## Romans 1:16 -17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

- A. 1:18 - 32 Paul shows how **unreligious people** need the gospel - portraying a pagan (Gentile) society in idolatry, immorality and antisocial behaviour
- B. 2:1 - 16 He shows how **religious people** need the gospel addressing critical moralisers who profess high ethical standards and apply them to everyone else except themselves.
- C. 2:17 - 3:8 Paul turns specifically to **self-confident Jews** who boast of their knowledge of God's law but don't obey it
- D. 3:9 - 20 Paul shows how everyone - **the whole human race** needs the gospel, concluding that we are all guilty and without excuse before God.

## 1. No-one is Righteous

### a. Our sin is Universal

- “All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (23)
- What are we carrying around that no-one else knows about? What do we live in fear of others finding out?

### b. Our sin has consequences

- Sin affects others
- The Butterfly effect
- The judgement of God

### c. Our sin is forgivable



## Romans 3:21-26

21 **BUT NOW** apart from the law the **righteousness** of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 **This righteousness** is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and all are **justified** freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his **righteousness**, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— 26 he did it to demonstrate his **righteousness** at the present time, so as to be just and the one who **justifies** those who have faith in Jesus.

## 2. The Free Gift of Righteousness

- *diakos* = Acquitted / free to go / not guilty of all charges.
- *tsedek* = describes living in community with God.
- Exchanging scores
- Justified: “Just as if I’d” never sinned.
- The judge imposes the sentence and then he pays the fine

## 3. The cost to Jesus

- God’s holiness means that sin must be cleansed.
- God’s righteousness/justice means that sin must be punished.
- **Redemption** (v24) = the action of regaining something in exchange for a payment / the clearing of a debt / paying a ransom to liberate someone
- **Atonement** (2v5) = putting things right, becoming AT ONE.
- **Expiation** = making amends / putting things right / covering of guilt and sin
- **Propitiation** = making up for something you did wrong - easing of divine wrath / regaining favour....



God presented Jesus as his atonement sacrifice (v25)

### **Our Response:**

‘Blood soaked church’

- a community of people who understand, appreciate what Jesus has done for us by his death on the cross & who are choosing to live out of that reality. Knowing who we are in him, humbly staying close to him, systematically rearranging our lives to become more like him, bringing the reality of his kingdom - the hope of life he longs to offer to people & communities around us.

## 5 R's - a tool to help us bring our sin to Jesus for his forgiveness

Recognise  
Repent  
Receive forgiveness  
Rebuke / renounce  
Replace

.... then Rejoice

**Worship** - where we thank and praise him for what he’s done for us

**Communion** - where we reflect on this & remember it.

