

**"God's Relationship with Israel"**

**Romans 9-11**

**Part 15**

**Introduction:** Last week in our study we were looking at how the people of Israel try to establish their own righteousness by keeping the Law. They are ignorant of God's righteousness which is by faith and so they will not submit to what God offers.

**God's Relationship with Israel in the Present**

**Part 3**

**Romans 10**

**Notice Romans 10:2-3**

God's righteousness comes not by works but it comes by faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

**Romans 3:21-24**

<sup>21</sup> *But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;*

<sup>22</sup> *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*

<sup>23</sup> *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

<sup>24</sup> *Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:*

Paul then went on in Romans 10 to state that Jesus Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.

**Notice Romans 10:4**

Last week this verse was our major focus. We looked at how we as believers are not under the Law. Jesus Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to the believer. In other words, IN CHRIST we are not under the Law and IN CHRIST we are covered in the righteousness of God.

**Philippians 3:7-9**

<sup>7</sup> *But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.*

<sup>8</sup> *Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,*

<sup>9</sup> *And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:*

We also looked last week at how we are now taught the moral absolutes of God by GRACE and not the Law.

#### **John 1:17**

<sup>17</sup> *For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.*

Here in this verse John is NOT talking about salvation and we know that because the Law was NEVER given as a means of salvation. The Law in the Old Testament functioned as a means to administer God's moral absolutes. The idea in John 1:17 is that GRACE now does what the Law did in the Old Testament. Now it is GRACE that administers God's moral absolutes.

#### **Titus 2:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> *For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,*

<sup>12</sup> *Teaching us that,* *denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;*

#### **Romans 6:14**

<sup>14</sup> *For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.*

So, we can clearly see that as believers we are free from the Law.

There is also another thought here that we need to consider.

**Notice Romans 10:4 again.**

Jesus Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness to everyone that believeth but what about those who are not believers. Those who are NOT believers will be judged by the Law if they die in their sins. Let me show you the Great White throne Judgment.

#### **Revelation 20:11-15**

<sup>11</sup> *And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.*

*12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*

*13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.*

*14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*

*15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

The people who are judged at the Great White Throne are unbelievers and they will be judged by their works. This means they will be judged by that which they chose to use to establish their own righteousness and that is their own works. They would not accept the finished work of Jesus Christ but instead they make the choice to rely upon their own works and their own righteousness and on this day their very own works will condemn them. The question is, "What will be used to judge their works?" It will be the Law of God which sets forth His perfect righteousness. One of the BOOKS opened here at the Great White Throne could very well be the BOOK OF THE LAW.

Let me show you something else which is recorded in Revelation.

#### **Revelation 11:16-19**

*16 And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God,*

*17 Saying, We give thee thanks, O LORD God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.*

*18 And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.*

*19 And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.*

#### **Revelation 15:1, 5-6**

*And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.*

<sup>5</sup> *And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened:*

<sup>6</sup> *And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles.*

In the midst of the judgments of God upon the world we see that twice the ark of the testament or testimony is mentioned. Why is this mentioned here in the book of Revelation? Because in the ark is the Tablets of the Law and we see this twice mentioned in the midst of the judgments of God because it is the Law that testifies of the sinfulness of man. It is the Law that condemns man to death, and it is the Law which testifies that God is justified in bringing His judgment upon mankind.

The point I want to make here is that if you are not saved then you are not free from the Law and you are held to keeping the Law in absolute perfection which is impossible. So, if you are attempting to establish your own righteousness by works then you must know you will be judged by God's perfect Law on the day of judgment and you will fall far short.

Let me show you what Paul wrote in Romans 2.

**Romans 2:1-6, 11-12**

*But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.*

<sup>3</sup> *And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?*

<sup>4</sup> *Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

<sup>5</sup> *But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;*

<sup>6</sup> **Who will render to every man according to his deeds:**

<sup>11</sup> *For there is no respect of persons with God.*

<sup>12</sup> *For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: **and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;***

Now, I know that someone would ask, "The Law was given to the people of Israel so how can I be held to the high standard of God's perfect Law?" The answer is that even the Gentiles are given the Law of God for it is written within our hearts.

**Romans 2:13-15**

<sup>13</sup> (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

<sup>14</sup> For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

<sup>15</sup> Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

Now as move on Paul is going to contrast "Law righteousness" with "Faith righteousness".

**Notice Romans 10:5**

Here in this verse Paul is quoting from Leviticus.

**Leviticus 18:1-5**

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, I am the LORD your God.

<sup>3</sup> After the doings of the land of Egypt, wherein ye dwelt, shall ye not do: and after the doings of the land of Canaan, whither I bring you, shall ye not do: neither shall ye walk in their ordinances.

<sup>4</sup> Ye shall do my judgments, and keep mine ordinances, to walk therein: I am the LORD your God.

<sup>5</sup> Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I am the LORD.

The idea here is that the "Gospel" of the Law is that the man who keeps the Law shall live but this is really no Gospel/good news at all for man cannot in any way keep the Law.

Let me show you the Words of our Lord.

**Luke 10:25-29**

<sup>25</sup> And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

<sup>26</sup> He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?

<sup>27</sup> And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

<sup>28</sup> And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

<sup>29</sup> But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?

This man sought to justify himself for he knew he had failed in keeping the Law. There are some 613 Commandments and man is not able to keep the Law perfectly. I know that some believe if you do your best that is good enough but that is NOT what the Bible teaches.

**James 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

Now, just in case there is someone listening who believes that there is another way of salvation other than Jesus Christ and His work on the cross, let me take you to the Garden of Gethsemane to see something that Jesus said.

**Matthew 26:39-44**

<sup>39</sup> And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

<sup>40</sup> And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

<sup>41</sup> Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

<sup>42</sup> He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

<sup>43</sup> And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy.

<sup>44</sup> And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

Let me explain what Jesus is praying for here; He is directing His prayer to the Father and I can assure you that His Father hears His prayers that are offered here. He is asking God the Father if there is some other way to provide salvation so that He would not need to go to the cross. He asked God three times if there was another way. There was no other way and therefore Jesus had to go to the cross.

I point this out to help you to see that there is NOT another way to God. The ONLY WAY is through Jesus Christ. If there was a way by keeping the Law Jesus would not have had to go to the cross. If there was any way to earn salvation Jesus would never have went to

the cross. Jesus Himself asked if there was another way and the Father's answer was, "NO".

**Galatians 2:21**

<sup>21</sup> *I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*

If there is another way of salvation, then Jesus died in vain. In other words, He died for no reason. God paid the greatest price ever to have our sin removed, He paid with the life of His Son. You can be 100% sure that there is NO BACK DOOR. No one will get into the presence of God without coming to Jesus Christ.

**John 14:6**

<sup>6</sup> *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

**Conclusion:**

If you are trusting in anything other than the finished work of Jesus Christ upon the cross you are lost and headed for eternal damnation. There is absolutely no hope apart from Jesus Christ. The Law will not and cannot saved you.

**Romans 3:19-20**

<sup>19</sup> *Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*

<sup>20</sup> *Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

We are saved by grace through faith.

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

<sup>9</sup> *Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

*"The legal formula for salvation is this: DO AND LIVE! (Keep all the commandments and keep them perfectly and keep them continually and you will live!)*

*The grace/cross formula for salvation is this: BELIEVE AND LIVE! Believe and rest upon what Christ has already done (His finished work) and you shall have eternal life."*