

All Fall Short

1-24-21

Romans 3:23 (ESV)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God!

This Romans Chapter 3 is one of the most important Chapters in the Bible! It lays out the work of God in the salvation of man. As homework I ask each one of you to read this chapter through each day this week. One must grasp the foundations here to grow in their faith and understand the Word of God as a whole. To understand this magnificent chapter, there are some technical terms we have to understand:

Law – God’s Perfection

Righteousness – As right as God

Justified – As if you never sinned

Redemption – Bought back

Propitiation, Expiation, Sacrifice of Atonement – These are different translations for one Greek word –

- a) Appease and pay a debt.**
- b) Turn away God’s wrath and pay our debt for sin.**
- c) Sacrifice of Jesus on the cross to pay our sin. Jesus as a substitute for us on the cross paid the penalty due us.**

With these definitions in mind, we will look at Chapter 3. Up to this point the Book of Romans has made clear the problem of mankind as stated in Romans 3:9

Romans 3:9 (ESV)

We have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin.

In the first part of Chapter 3, we see the purpose of the Law.

Romans 3:19 (ESV)

The law (speaks), so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God.

The Law is God's perfection. The Law makes us keep our mouth shut about our goodness when compared to God and shows the whole world accountable to God.

Romans 3:20 (ESV)

For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

The Law shows us God's perfect standard. The purpose of the Law is to show us our sin and that we fall short of God's perfection.

The problem has been fully expressed. Now the solution is presented. We are Guilty under the Law, BUT NOW!

Romans 3:21 (ESV)

But Now the “righteousness” of God has been manifested apart from the law!

Righteousness: But now, we are being shown how to be “as right as God” APART FROM THE LAW.

Romans 3:22 (ESV)

(But Now this is) the “righteousness” of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

Righteousness: But now, we are being shown that being as right as God is ONLY through faith in Jesus Christ!

Why is faith in Jesus apart from the Law important?

Romans 3:23 (ESV)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God!

The issue, we fall short and need a Savior. Without Jesus, we all fall short of God's glory. Now, God presents the answer for all mankind!

Romans 3:24 (ESV)

We are "justified" by HIS "grace" as a "gift" through the "redemption" that is in Christ Jesus!

Review our technical words:

Justified – As if we never sinned

Redemption – Bought back

We are as if we never sinned by God's favor and power given as a free gift. As a free gift from God, we are bought back through Jesus.

How we are Justified (as if we never sinned) and how we are Redeemed (bought back) through Christ Jesus is fully explained by the word Propitiation.

Romans 3:25 (ESV)

Christ Jesus whom God put forward as a "propitiation" by HIS blood, to be received by faith!

Again, the Greek word can be translated by three different English words; Propitiation, Expiation, Sacrifice of Atonement which mean:

- a) Appease and pay a debt.**
 - b) Turn away God's wrath and pay our debt for sin.**
 - c) Sacrifice of Jesus on the cross to pay our sin. Jesus as a substitute for us on the cross paid the penalty due us.**
- Thus, we are forgiven.**

Thus, God put Christ Jesus forward to die on the cross as a substitute for us turning away God's wrath from us and paying our penalty for our sin. Thus, we are forgiven.

This forgiveness must be received by faith, which means "Jesus' sacrificial death becomes effective for us only through our faith." Our faith makes God's gift effective!

God put forth Christ as the means of forgiveness of sin, finally and forever! All fall short, but all who trust Jesus are forgiven.

Summary of Romans Chapter 3:

1Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Please read Chapter 3 once each day this week. This describes the immovable rock on which all we believe. We need to embrace every Word of Romans Chapter 3!