

"AS IT IS WRITTEN"  
Romans 3:9-20

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Jew and Gentile are all under sin
  - 1) The Jews are not better than the Gentiles
  - 2) Paul has made this charge once vs. 9
  
- B. Paul has no difficulty in proving the Gentiles to be sinners.
  - 1) His primary problem is with the Jew
  - 2) His best hope of proving them to be sinners is to quote from the scripture.
  - 3) This is what he does in these verses
  
- I. The Character of the Unbelieving Jew vs. 10-12
  - A. "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one" vs. 10
    - 1) Paul quotes from Psalm 14:1-3
    - 2) "righteous" = dikaios = "right", "just"
  
  - B. "There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God." vs. 11
    - 1) "understandeth" = suniemi = "to bring together", "to collect together the single features of an object into a whole"
    - 2) "seeketh" = ekzeteo = "to search out of"
  
  - C. "They are all "gone out of the way", they are together become unprofitable: there is none that doeth good, no, not one" vs. 12
    - 1) ekklino = "to turn away from"
    - 2) "unprofitable" = achreomai = "to be worthless", Heb. = "to go sour or bad, like milk"
    - 3) "not one of them acts honorably"
  
- II. Evidences of the Unbelieving Jews vs. 13-18  
Unrighteous Standing Before God vs. 13-18
  - A. "Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips." Psalm 5:9; 140:3 vs. 13
    - 1) "Their talk is foul and filthy like the stench from an open grave" Tay
    - 2) "deceit" = dolioo = "to use a bait"
    - 3) "What they say is like the poison from an asp, an extremely deadly serpent."

- B. "whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness" vs. 14  
1) "cursing" = ara = "imprecation" Psalm 10:7  
2) "bitterness" = pikria = "bitter taste"

**Psalm 1:16**

- C. "Their feet are swift to shed blood" vs. 15  
1) "They are quick to kill"  
2) "swift" = oxus = "sharp", "keen", hence, "eager"
- D. "Destruction and misery are in their ways:" vs. 16  
1) "Destruction" = katargeo = "to render inactive", "to make useless, void, abolish"  
2) "misery" = palaiporia = "hard work", "severe labour", hence, "bodily pain", "distress"
- E. "And the way of peace have they not known" vs. 17  
1) "And they have never known what it is to try to be kind and good." Tay  
2) "and of the path of peace they have no experience"
- F. "There is no fear of God before their eyes" Ps.36:1-vs. 16  
1) "And reverence for God does not enter their thoughts"  
2) "Without this fear they are incorrigible"

**III. The Proof That the Jew is Meant vs. 19**

- A. "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law:"  
1) "It is a conceded plain point"  
2) "whatever things are found in the law"  
3) "It speaks to them for whom it is expressly intended" Barnes pg. 88  
4) The Jew cannot evade the conclusion
- B. "that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God."  
1) "stopped" = phrasso = "to enclose with a fence for protection"  
2) "guilty" = upodikos = "under process", "under sentence", "condemned"

**IV. The Purpose of the Law vs. 20**

- A. "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight."  
1) "therefore" = "the conclusion of Paul"  
2) "deeds" = ergon = "work", "act", "action"  
3) "For no human being can be made upright in the sight of God by observing the law."

- B. "for by the law is the knowledge of sin"
  - 1) "All that the law can do is make men conscious of sin"  
Gspd.
  - 2) "indeed it is the straightedge of the law that shows us  
how crooked we are"

V. Paul's Points of Truth

- A. The Gentiles are sinners
  - 1) They are strangers to the commands
  - 2) Ephesians 2:12
- B. The Jews are Sinners
- C. The law was not given to make them righteous but to show  
them to be sinners.

