

# Romans: The Crown Jewel of Salvation

## 34 - My Sin Problem has an Amazing Solution

### Summary of Romans Ch. 1-7, part 3

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / September 28, 2014

#### I. Your Biggest Problem and My Biggest Problem a Sin Problem that Brings You Face to Face with a God Problem

Our BIGGEST problem that's at the heart of all our problems with other people around us is that ALL of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are entrenched in our own stubborn rebellion against God.

"Yea, we're all worms, but I do believe I am a glow worm."  
Winston Churchill

News alert! The book of Romans flies in the face of 'glow worm' talk!

**Romans 3:22-23** "...For there is no difference; (there aren't worms and glow worms... JUST worms) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Sin at its very essence is falling short of the glory of God and exchanging that glory for something else created in this world!

**Rom. 11:36** "For *from* Him and *through* Him and *to* Him are all things. To *Him* be the glory forever! Amen"

You were made for the glory of God! You were made to spend your life displaying *His* glory rather than your own in everything you do.

There's probably not a single day that you and I don't plot to steal glory that rightfully belongs to the God of the universe. We compete with God for glory... and with one another for glory... and that's really what's at the bottom of most of our conflicts.

#### II. This Sinful Condition of being *Glory Thieves* Brings Down the Wrath of God on Us!

**Romans 1:18** "The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men, who suppress the truth by their wickedness."

**Romans 2:5** "Because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God."

But our culture keeps working hard to edit out of existence anything that we're uncomfortable with.

"Liberal Christianity has been reduced to a God without WRATH (bringing) men without SIN into a kingdom without JUDGMENT through the ministry of a Christ without a CROSS." (*Christian Psychology's War on God's Word*, Jim Owen, p. 12)

If you eliminate the wrath of God... then you truncate the love of God and you reduce it to something sappy, and sentimental... and unnecessary. The love of God is not amazing love without the sobering reality of wrath.

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### III. Our Own Efforts Could Never Save Us or Change Us

JUSTIFICATION is God's only remedy for our CONDEMNATION.

**Romans 3:23-25** "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth to be a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness..."

"**JUSTIFIED**" is precious because it means God declares us to be just and righteous in His sight.

"**FREELY**" is precious because it means we can't earn this. We don't deserve it. It's free!

"**BY HIS GRACE**" is precious because it means that behind the wrath of God there's another mighty impulse in the heart of God toward us. Grace moving God - in complete freedom - to save us from His own anger by His own good pleasure.

"**THROUGH THE REDEMPTION**" is a precious phrase because it means when our sins are forgiven we're bought back from slavery to sin and Satan and given a new master, Jesus Christ.

"**WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS**" is a precious phrase because it makes Christ the central figure! It's not Christ and you working together towards salvation. It means that Jesus Christ Himself is the foundation of our justification.

"**WHOM GOD DISPLAYED PUBLICLY**" is a precious phrase because it reminds us that this great transaction of redemption was not done in some mythological story; the crucifixion of Christ took place in time and history under a Roman governor before many witnesses.

"**AS A PROPITIATION**" is a precious phrase because it means that the wrath of God that we deserved was removed. Christ absorbed it. Christ took the blow. He became the curse for us and took away the judgment of God. God was propitiated so that He can sing over us now and delight in us now!

"**IN HIS BLOOD**" is a precious phrase because it shows us a price was paid! It cost God His very Son...

"**THROUGH FAITH**" is a precious phrase because it shows how you and I become beneficiaries of all this grace. How do you get this grace? Well you don't work for it. You receive it as a gift by faith.

That's what God does in LOVE to save sinners from His WRATH!

So if you're here and you're not a Christian – come to Christ! Put your trust in Christ and be justified forever!

But if you're here and you know Christ – you're a Christian... it's easy to fall into the trap of thinking it's Christ + something else NOW in your life that keeps you saved and growing and changing. But it's not!

You start with Christ...and you stay with Christ. And you become more like Christ as you keep your eyes fixed on Him which brings us back to God's glory.

**2 Cor. 3:18** "But we all with unveiled faces, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory..."

- Make Christ your focus.
- Embrace Jesus.
- Hold fast to Jesus.

- Trust Jesus.
- Treasure Jesus.
- Worship Jesus.
- Love Jesus.

Make Jesus the passion of your life.

**Romans 8:1-4** “There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son on the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”