

# But Now . . .

## Romans 3

### 1. Intro

1. Paul moves from a discourse of judging others to showing who they are right now.
2. He states the privilege they have; shows them that all are guilty of sin; and then shows them all the things God has provided them through His Son, Jesus.

### 2. Privileges (1-8)

1. The Jew have been privileged with being keepers of God's word. (2)
  1. Deut 7:6; Isa 43:10-11
  2. What a blessing for only by Scripture can we come to know God
2. Yet we still find an argument from the Jews that if we continue to sin, doesn't that help in revealing God's righteousness and glory?
  1. Paul's response is "No"
    1. Israel as a whole was unfaithful to their covenant relationship with God, yet God remained faithful (3-4)
    2. Even though God can make good out of some sin, that sin still needs to be punished. He is a righteous judge (5-7)
    3. Those saying sin is justified if it brings about good should be judged just because of this thinking (8)

### 3. All Guilty (9-20)

1. Jews not better than Gentiles
  1. All under the power of sin.
2. Paul now quotes a series of OT scripture
  1. No one – universal sin (10-12)
  2. Sins of speech (13-14)
  3. Sins of violence (15-17)
  4. Basic disregard of God (18)
3. Paul's conclusion shows that the law show us just how sinful we are. (19b)
  1. We can not be made right by keeping the law (20)

### 4. Important Theological Considerations (21-26)

1. Paul packs into a few verses several important pieces of information.
2. Faith
  1. We are made right by faith in Jesus
    1. Imputed righteousness
  2. For all (22)
3. Sin
  1. We have all sinned and fall short of His glory (23)
  2. Freed from the penalty of sin (24c)
    1. Sin as no more power over us

4. Mercy (24a); Justified (24b)
5. Propitiation – turn away God's wrath (25)
6. Forgiveness (25b-26)
  1. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice. God was looking ahead to the time His Son would set people free.
    1. As a result He withheld punishment to those that sinned in the past. (25b)
    2. They would be included in what He would do (26)

## 5. Application

1. Our privilege
  1. We are privileged to be able to spread the good news. (Matt 28:18-20)
  2. We should also not assume that we can sin and somehow bring glory to God.
    1. He wants us to walk in obedience to Him.
2. Our guilt
  1. We all have sinned. We are all guilty.
    1. We should be aware of sins of speech, violence and the disregard for God.
3. But now (21)
  1. Who are we?
    1. Remember who we were in the past? What was it that I turned from?
    2. Points us to who we are now. The old is gone. The new is here
      1. We are in Christ.
  2. We are given a condensed view of all the things that have been done for us through Jesus.
    1. No longer under the past law, but free to live under the covering of Jesus' sacrifice.

## 6. Conclusion

1. We have been given an incredible privilege
  1. To tell the world about Jesus.
2. We have been guilty of being sinful people
3. The “but now” sheds a whole new light on who I am in Jesus.