

Law

- Paul the Apostle's letter to the Romans

Talk 2 : Sunday 9th September 2012

- Romans Chapter 2 v12 to 3v 26

At end of Talk1.... PAUL'S BAD NEWS

- Romans 1 and up to Chapter 2 verse 12
- **SINCE THE FALL applying to all Humans**
- There is a huge growing chasm between God and man and we are all under Gods correct judgement
- Because men used their freedom to reject God, that abuse of freedom has meant reaping a terrible results
- As man followed his own way his way got worse and worse the more he tried to replace God with himself and things
- Today we see this despite many advances ,there is also increasing wickedness and hardness against God
- Every person will face Gods judgement for this ...

Rom 2v 17 to v 28

- 17** Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; if you rely on the law and boast in God; ¹⁸ if you know his will and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law; ¹⁹ if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, ²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of little children, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— ²¹ you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? ²² You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³ You who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? ²⁴ As it is written: “God’s name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.”^[b]
- ²⁵ Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised. ²⁶ So then, if those who are not circumcised keep the law’s requirements, will they not be regarded as though they were circumcised? ²⁷ The one who is not circumcised physically and yet obeys the law will condemn you who, even though you have the^[c] written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker.
 - ²⁸ A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. ²⁹ No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person’s praise is not from other people, but from God.

So talk 2 begins -Romans 2 v12 3-21

- But what about the religious people ...who know the law
- Surely they will be able to justify themselves to God when they meet Him –Paul focuses on the hypocrisy of the religion of his day and its tendency to generate pride and judgement
- The fact is when men and women judge others even by Gods law it blinds them to the need to face themselves before GOD
- Mans judgement is often connected to a kind of religion –a religion where one has heard or knows what is right (say the 10 commandments) or takes part in ceremonies like the Jewish circumcision but does not do what is right
- Even the Jewish faith based on the law God gave through Moses was full of people like this
- It was in many cases leading to the further sin of hypocrisy and judging others and driving people away from God (v 24)

Romans 2 v 12 – 3 v 21 contd

- Unlike when we judge ,God will be perfectly fair and just because He sees the secrets of peoples hearts .
- So God will take account of whatever good is done
- But if I keep Gods law wont I earn Gods favour.....
- NO –that focus is all wrong Paul says
- Gods perfect law is there to show us how much ALL need Gods mercy. None of us can make it by earning -
- This is the crucial issue....
- All religious and non religious including me are included in Gods judgement – being silent not justifying myself is the only right answer- Read Romans 3v 9v20

Romans 3 v 9-18

- What shall we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin.
- ¹⁰ As it is written:
 - “There is no one righteous, not even one;
¹¹ there is no one who understands;
there is no one who seeks God.
¹² All have turned away,
they have together become worthless;
there is no one who does good,
not even one.”^[b]
 - ¹³ “Their throats are open graves;
their tongues practice deceit.”^[c]
 - “The poison of vipers is on their lips.”^[d]
 - ¹⁴ “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”^[e]
 - ¹⁵ “Their feet are swift to shed blood;
¹⁶ ruin and misery mark their ways,
¹⁷ and the way of peace they do not know.”^[f]
 - ¹⁸ “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”^[19] Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

What must be our response to this consciousness ? Jesus Teaching.....

- The Pharisee – “I fast twice a week ,I give a tenth of all I get” Justifying ourselves
- Or agreeing with God
- The Tax collector –”Lord have mercy on me a sinner”
- Leading to **PAUL’S GOOD NEWS Romans 3 v21-26**

PAULS GOOD NEWS

How to be right with God Romans 3v21-26

- **Righteousness Through Faith**

- ²¹ But now a righteousness from God apart from the law has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in His blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

How does PAUL'S GOOD NEWS apply to me -Gods part and our part ?

- **Gods Part**
- God has taken the initiative on (**justification**)-make you right before God –you can never justify yourself
- God has justified you for free by grace through (**redemption**) Jesus paying the price you deserve
- Christ 's death has met Gods justice requirement (**atonement**)
- **Our Part Faith 3 times –first to last**
- Verse 22 –through faith in Jesus Christ , Verse 25 faith in His Blood ,Verse 26 faith in Jesus –Gods final answer
- Faith is trust ,really trusting him with your life –story

Conclusion

- Are you convinced that you are accountable to God for yourself ?
- Are you convinced that Jesus death is the answer and faith in Him is the way the truth and the life ..
- Have you come to this understanding and commitment to repentance and faith ??
- Do you still have questions ?
- Go to Jesus and kneel by your bed (be silent)and then ask him to come to you to save you from your sins and be Lord of your life
- He will answer
- And we are here in Healing Streams to help you and support you in this ... Thank you