

### Romans 3:19-20

**All the world is guilty before God and no one is justified by their works before God**

**3: 19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.**

Every mouth will be stopped. At the Great White Throne of Judgment, when God opens up the books, and judges man according to his works, NOBODY will be able to respond to the accusations against him. NOBODY will have an alibi for their sin. NOBODY will have an excuse. People lie, and deceive and play games now; but once they stand before the Holy God with tens of thousands of saints and angels as witnesses to the trial, they won't say anything! They will shut up.

\*What naturally happens to those that see the glory of God in its fullness (Ezekiel 1:26-2:2, Revelation 1:12-18)

To get a better picture let's look at Daniel 7:9-10, 1 Corinthians 6:2-3, Revelation 20:11-15. Heaven and earth flee from the presence of God when he is about to judge. They are afraid, and might I say understandably. So God is in New Jerusalem with all the redeemed, the Old Testament Saints, the New Testament saints (the church, the bride of Christ), with thousands and thousands and thousands of Angels, the Cherubim and Jesus Christ. He is about make the final judgment.

Men, both small and great, rich and poor, are brought up before the LORD one by one and are judged. Each man will have is day in court with God. They all will be judged according to their works and whosoever is not found in the book of life is cast into the lake of fire. This is how the judgment works. Their works are judged in light of the Bible to prove they have come short and have sinned. This is done to show that God is just in sentencing them to the lake of fire and eternal condemnation. Ultimately their works don't affect the outcome of their judgment at all, what matters are if their names are in the Lamb's book of life. If there name is there, they are not condemned, if there name is not there, they are condemned.

Before a man is sentenced to the lake of fire, he will get on his hands and knees and confess that Jesus Christ is LORD to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11), and likely say Amen to his sentence, and be thrown into outer darkness where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the next man will enter the court room.

Once all have been judged, the redeemed, like the angels of old, will watch God create a new heaven and a new earth with no more sea of separation and WE WILL ALL SING AND SHOUT FOR JOY (Job 38:4-7, Revelation 21:1)! Once God has created the new universe, the New Jerusalem (which we call heaven, i.e. the 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven (2 Corinthians 13:1-4)), will descend to earth. Isn't that amazing? That is why in the next verse some great voice in heaven cries out, Behold the tabernacle of God is with men!

Do you know what that means? That means, what we have all longed for, what we have all hoped for, what we have only dreamed of up until now, will finally come to pass. The Great God of heaven and earth, JEHOVAH, THE GREAT I AM, will dwell with man in all his fullness and glory clearly revealed. That

means I can walk down the streets of gold and follow that river, on which each side is the tree of life, all the way back to a throne where One sits upon that throne. I can walk up there and I see the face of my God (Revelation 22:1-4)! I can say Father and he will say, my son!

Praise God for the book of Revelation! We are going to live happily ever after!

**3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin (Psalm 143:2).**

Job 25:4

We saw last week that the Scriptures declare that both Jew and Gentile are under sin, there is none righteous, none good, none that understands, and none that seek after God (Romans 3:9-18). Therefore, before God, the whole world becomes guilty (Galatians 3:22, Romans 11:30-32).

Since the Scripture has concluded all under sin, by the deeds (works, performance) of the law no man will be justified in his sight. What does that mean? Your works cannot and will not justify you before God. Period. You need something else, or somebody else to justify you (Acts 13:38-39).

The Bible says the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). If you sin you die (Ezekiel 18:20). No amount of works disannuls the wages of sin. People think that good works forgive or take away sin. Where did you get that idea? That is a Catholic idea. That is not a biblical idea.

**Works are not, have not, and never will be a payment for sin.**

**Blood is the only acceptable payment for sin (Leviticus 17:10-12, Hebrews 9:22)**

We find in the story of Cain and Abel what is an acceptable offering to the LORD (Genesis 4:1-7, Hebrews 11:4, 12:24). When Adam and Eve sinned they sowed themselves a covering to hide their nakedness (Genesis 3:7). But this was not good enough; the Lord had to shed the blood of an animal to provide a sufficient temporary covering so that the shame of their nakedness would not appear. Now listen to this, the blood of the animal the LORD had slain, the same animal's skin was used to cover their nakedness.

You know what that is a type of right? It's a picture of the Father shedding the blood of his only begotten Son and giving you his skin (his righteousness) to wear instead of your own righteousness (Romans 3:22, 4:20-25). Now when the LORD sees you he sees the righteousness of his Son, which covers the shame of our nakedness (i.e. our sins). See 2 Corinthians 5:1-4. He also said when I see the blood I will pass over you (Exodus 12:13).

Abel must have learned from the LORD that he needed to offer blood to be accepted; while Cain unfortunately followed in his parents' footsteps.

That is why the Old Testament is filled with the shed blood of bulls and goats because the shedding of blood was necessary to sanctify their flesh (Hebrews 9:13), cover their sins, and expiate the wrath of God. Under the law, if you were unclean, you could not come into the sanctuary until you were clean

(Leviticus 12, Luke 2:21-24); and God would turn away from you (Deuteronomy 23:14). The shed blood of bulls and goats, when you were unclean, made you externally holy and clean, but not internally.

**Obeying the law prolonged your physical life (Deuteronomy 32:47) and caused the Lord to physically bless you (Deuteronomy 29:9). Obeying the law never gave you eternal life (John 5:39-40), it was never intended for that (Galatians 3:19-21, 1 Timothy 1:8-11). Obeying the law never gave you spiritual blessings either.**

The shed blood of animals did forgive sins in a temporal and earthly sense (Leviticus 6:6-7). We know it only temporarily forgave sins because they had to continually offer sacrifices (Hebrews 10:1-4). The Day of Atonement was done once a year and that forgave the sins of the entire nation for that whole year (Leviticus 16). It was a covering for their sins; it just never took them away. In fact we read in Hebrews 9:15 that the sins that were committed under the Old Testament were not redeemed until Christ's blood was shed. The Bible is clear, the blood of bulls of goats could never take away sins (Hebrews 10:4). Eternally and spiritually speaking, the blood of bulls and goats could do nothing for anybody.

So it is clear from Scripture, by the works of the law, you cannot be justified before God, because you have still sinned. James 2:10 says if you offend in one point, you are guilty of the whole law. Since good works do not cancel or forgive sins, you cannot be just before God on that basis. We have seen from scripture that blood is the only sufficient means for payment for sin. But unfortunately, the blood of animals only helped in the physical, earthly, temporal realm, not in the eternal, spiritual realm. We needed some help in that spiritual realm!

This is where Christ comes in (Psalm 40:6-8, Hebrews 10:5-18, Hebrews 9:11-15, 24-28).

Isaiah 45:20-25

- He is the only God, a just God, and a Saviour: there is none besides him
- If you want to be saved look unto him
- All will bow before him and confess
- People will say in the LORD they have righteousness and strength
- In the LORD we are justified and in the LORD we glory

**Next week:**

We are going to be talking about the righteousness of God, Justification, Propitiation, and God having to justify himself.