

GOOD NEWS!

(Romans 3:1-4 NLT)

Then what's the advantage of being a Jew? Is there any value in the Jewish ceremony of circumcision? Yes, being a Jew has many advantages. First of all, the Jews were entrusted with the whole revelation of God.

True, some of them were unfaithful; but just because they broke their promises, does that mean God will break his promises? Of course not! Though everyone else in the world is a liar, God is true. As the Scriptures say, "He will be proved right in what he says, and he will win his case in court."

(Romans 2:5-7 NLT)

“But,” some say, “our sins serve a good purpose, for people will see God’s goodness when he declares us sinners to be innocent. Isn’t it unfair, then, for God to punish us?” (That is actually the way some people talk.) Of course not! If God is not just, how is he qualified to judge the world? “But,” some might still argue, “how can God judge and condemn me as a sinner if my dishonesty highlights his truthfulness and brings him more glory?”

(Romans 2:8-9 NLT)

If you follow that kind of thinking, however, you might as well say that the more we sin the better it is! Those who say such things deserve to be condemned, yet some slander me by saying this is what I preach! Well then, are we Jews better than others? No, not at all, for we have already shown that all people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin. As the Scriptures say,

(Romans 2:10-14 NLT)

“No one is good—not even one.

No one has real understanding;
no one is seeking God.

All have turned away from God;
all have gone wrong.

No one does good, not even one.”

“Their talk is foul, like the stench from
an open grave.

Their speech is filled with lies.”

“The poison of a deadly snake drips
from their lips.”

(Romans 2:14-18 NLT)

“Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”

“They are quick to commit murder.
Wherever they go, destruction and
misery follow them.

They do not know what true peace is.”

“They have no fear of God to restrain
them.”

(Romans 2:19-21 NLT)

19 Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses and to bring the entire world into judgment before God. 20 For no one can ever be made right in God's sight by doing what his law commands. For the more we know God's law, the clearer it becomes that we aren't obeying it.

But now God has shown us a different way of being right in his sight—not by obeying the law but by the way promised in the Scriptures long ago.

(Romans 2:22-24 NLT)

We are made right in God's sight when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done. For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet now God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus, who has freed us by taking away our sins.

(Romans 2:24-26 NLT)

For God sent Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to satisfy God's anger against us. We are made right with God when we believe that Jesus shed his blood, sacrificing his life for us. God was being entirely fair and just when he did not punish those who sinned in former times. And he is entirely fair and just in this present time when he declares sinners to be right in his sight because they believe in Jesus.

(Romans 2:27-29 NLT)

Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on our good deeds. It is based on our faith. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

After all, God is not the God of the Jews only, is he? Isn't he also the God of the Gentiles? Of course he is.

(Romans 2:30-31 NLT)

There is only one God, and there is only one way of being accepted by him. He makes people right with himself only by faith, whether they are Jews or Gentiles. Well then, if we emphasize faith, does this mean that we can forget about the law? Of course not! In fact, only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law.

#1: Good News

**There is a loving God who created you
in His image.**

The Creator

(Romans 1:25 NIV) They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised. Amen.

In His Image and Likeness

(Gen 1:26 NIV) Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

#2 Bad News:

There is sin in your life and sin separates us from God.

All have sinned

(Romans 3:23 NIV) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

No one does good

(Romans 3:10-12 NIV) As it is written:

"There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

Have you ever broken God's law?

- Have you ever lied? (#9 Exodus 20:16)
- Have you ever stolen anything?
(#8 Exodus 20:15)
- Have you ever looked at a woman with lust? (#7 Exodus 20:14 & Mat 5:27-28)
- Have you ever called someone a fool?
(#6 Exodus 20:13 & Mat 5:21-22)
- Have you ever dishonored parents?
(#5 Exodus 20:16)

#3 Worst News:

All will face judgment, and those who have sinned will face eternal punishment.

God will judge the world

(Romans 3:6) Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world?

Sowing and Reaping

(Rom 6:23a NIV) For the wages of sin is death,

Trouble and Distress

(Romans 2:9 NIV) There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile;

Eternal Punishment

- Daniel 12:2,
- Mathew 25:41,
- Matthew 25:46,
- Mark 16:16,
- John 3:18, 36,
- John 5:29,
- 2 Thessalonians 1:9,
- Jude 1:7,
- Revelations 20:14-15,
- Revelations 21:8,

#4 Really Good News:

Jesus came to take away our sins.

Saved from God's wrath

(Rom 5:9 NIV) Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

Comes through faith in Jesus

(Romans 3:22-24 NIV) This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

A gift we can not earn

(Rom 6:23 NIV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Walk in Him

(Col 2:6-7 NIV) As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

#5 More Good News:

God gives us the Holy Spirit.

The gift of the Holy Spirit

(Acts 2:38 NIV) Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

God works in us.

(Phil 2:13 NIV) for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Helps us obey the Law

Romans 3:31 Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.

He is our deposit of Heaven

(Eph 1:13-14 NIV) And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory.

We become God's children

(John 1:12 NIV) Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--

CONCLUSION

(Acts 16:30-31 NIV) He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household."