

God: The Just and the Justifier

(Romans 3)

Scripture Reading: *Matthew 18:21-35*

- A. Words **YOU** don't ever want to hear from **GOD** — "Your condemnation is just."
- B. What led to such a terrible sentence for some via an inspired apostle in *Romans 3:8*?
 - 1. "*The Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God.*" (3:2)
 - 2. "*What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithfulness nullify the faithfulness of God?*" (3:3)
 - 3. Paul's use of David as Exhibit-A — *Psalms 51:4*
 - 4. The mind-games people play and the words people twist (3:5-8)
- C. The **foundation of Paul's argument** — God is righteous, true, faithful, and holy.
- D. In contrast to God, Paul clearly points out the plight of all human beings (3:9-20)
 - 1. In relation to our own rebellion
 - 2. In relation to "*the law*"
- E. If God is just, and that is the end of the story, there is no "good news." But.... (3:21-26)
 - 1. At the cross of Christ, the righteousness of God was shown.
 - 2. Through the cross of Christ, God continues to be "*just and the justifier.*" (3:26)
- F. "*Then what becomes of our boasting?*" (3:27-31)
- G. Our attitude must be the same as Paul's — *Galatians 6:14-15*.
- H. Circumcision counts for nothing before God. Physical lineage counts for nothing before God. Only being a "*new creation*" counts for anything. So what must I do? (*Galatians 3:23-29*)