

Lesson 6: Justification

Today's Bible Story

As the Apostle Paul traveled from place to place, he would write letters to people of the churches. One of these churches was in the City of Rome. Paul had not yet visited Rome in person, so he wrote to them about the basics of the Christian message:

God did not give us his commandments so that we could brag about how good we are! We are no different from any other sinners. God gave us his rules to show us that the whole world is guilty. The law can't fix us; the most it can do is show us our sins.

That is why God decided to make us right with him apart from the law! Throughout the Bible, God has shown us that no one can make themselves right in God's eyes by obeying the Law of Moses.

Since we are all sinners, God himself must make us right. We trust and believe that he makes us right because of what Jesus Christ has done for us!

All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, he freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins.

God sent Jesus to be our sacrifice on the cross. Jesus offered his own blood, so by faith in him we could come to God. God was patient with us, and did not count our sins against us. He did this to show that he is the one who is good and right!

So what is left for us to brag about? Not a thing! Is it because we obeyed some law? No! Salvation is God's gift to us in faith. The Good News in Jesus is that people are acceptable to God because they have faith, not because they obey the rules.



From Romans 3:10-28

Bible Rhyme

Of the letters that Paul wrote,
he sent the Romans one long note.
He taught them all about Christ Jesus,
and how from our sins he frees us.
Paul made sure they understood
God loves us *not* because we're good.
No one's perfect; no one's right.
All are sinners in God's sight.
God's the one who makes us good.
He's the only one who could.
God forgives us of our sins —
that is why we trust in him!

The Region around the Mediterranean Sea



The map shows some of the biblical cities to which Paul sent letters.

By looking the map, see if you can figure out the region in which each city was located.

Paul wrote to churches in:

Region where these cities were located:

- a) **Corinth** _____
- b) **Ephesus** _____
- c) **Philippi** _____
- d) **Rome** _____
- e) **Thessalonica** _____

The map also shows some of the important bodies of water in that area of the world:

- 1) Which sea on the map is the largest?

- 2) Which sea did Paul travel completely around?

- 3) Which sea is just east of Rome?

- 4) Which sea is just north of Asia Minor?

- 5) Which sea is between Jerusalem and Rome?
