"THROUGH ROMANS IN ONE EVENING" (or) (Survey & Outline)
ROMANS ON THE RUN"

1

INTRO: **A. General Views:**

1-It is essential to take a **general view** of the Epistle before proceeding to the study of details, for it has a logical sequence and a **completeness** of treatment which make it imperative for us to try to grasp and appreciate the Apostle's leading ideas.

2-By concentrating attention primarily on separate verses or even small sections, we are in danger of failing to understand the Epistle in **its entirety.**

3-We do not see the wood for the trees

4-Like most of Paul's writings, Romans consists of **3 parts**

--A Personal **Intro**duction--1:1-15
--Substance --1:16--15:13
--A Personal **Conclusion**----15:14--16:27

Like a LEGAL BRIEF

B. General Outline:

THREE PARTS

1-Personal Introduction---1:1-17
2-Doctrinal----------1:18--8:39
3-Dispensational---------9:1--11:36
4-Duty----------12:1--15:13
5-Conclusion.----------15:14--16:27

PROP:

Understanding enhanced by a "BIRDS-EYE-VIEW" — Paul's Treatise on SALVATION

I. INTRODUCTION---(1:1-17):

Deportment

A. Salutation--(1:1-7):

1-Writer--Paul
2-Subject--The Gospel concerning God's SON — 1:3-4
3-Addressees--Roman Christians

HUMANITY
DEITY

B. Expression Of Personal Feelings--(1:8-15):

1-Thanks for them
2-Desire to see them
3-Mutual benefit sought
4-Debtor to all men
5-Readiness to come to them

C. THEME of Romans--(1:16-17):

1-Gospel of Christ
2-Power of God
3-Revelation of the **Righteousness** of God + **Wrath** of God,
4-**Principle**--"The just shall live by faith"

II. DOCTRINE--(1:18--8:39):

A. Condemnation Because Of Sin--(1:18--3:20):

- Accusation - 3:9
- Proof - 3:10-20
- VIRGIN MARY also — LK. 1:47

1-**Immoral Humanity**--1:18-32 (CRUDE PAGANS)
2-**Moral** Humanity----2:1-16 (CULTURED PAGANS)
3-**Religious** Humanity--2:17-3:8 (RELIGIOUS PAGANS)
4-**ALL** Humanity------3:9-20 (UNIVERSAL PAGANNESS)

--14 point Inditement against mankind
--**Judge** of All the Earth; 6 charges---Verdict; GUILTY
--Great **Physician**; 5 charges----------Verdict; GUILTY
--Divine **Historian**; 3 charges---------Verdict; GUILTY
--**KIPLING**--"The Colonel's lady and Judy O'Grady are sisters under the skin."

--POEM:
"Your best resolutions must wholly be waived,
Your highest ambitions be crossed;
You never need think that you'll ever be saved,
Till first you have learned you are lost."
--CONCLUSION-----3:19-20; Sample case proves the sinfulness of all mankind-----3:23 ISRAEL

B. Justification By Faith In Christ--(3:21-5:11):

INTRO:
--Section "A" has shown Man's sin (1:18-3:20)
--Section "B" now shows God's salvation (3:21-5:11)
--Encouraging introduction in 3:21--"BUT NOW"
--Corrected rendering of the verse--"But now apart from the law a righteousness from God hath been manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;" (Scofield margin)
--This Righteousness is acquired "by faith"--3:22
*--Object of that faith is JESUS CHRIST--3:22.
--Def. of Justification--"Justification is the act of God that declares a sinner righteous by faith on the merit of Christ's sacrifice. It is the addition of the righteousness of Christ as well as the subtraction of sins." McG. (McGee's Def.)
--EXPLANATION--Justification by faith means that a sinner who trust Christ is not only pardoned because Christ died but that he stands complete in Christ before God. The saved sinner can never be more saved than at the moment he trusts Christ. Jesus did it all. "Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification." (More than "Just as if I'd never sinned")

The act of God in justification by faith is not an arbitrary decision on His part; in so doing, He does not disregard His Holiness and His Justice. Since God saves us by Grace, this means that there is no ground of merit in us. He saves us on no other ground than that we have trusted Jesus. God is in danger of impugning His own Justice if the penalty is not fully paid. He would either be acting from the motive of being big-hearted, or He would be actually be slipping sinners into heaven through the back way. None of these charges are true. God is not a "SOB SISTER", and salvation is NOT A SENTIMENTAL GESTURE. Salvation rests upon a righteous foundation, for "Being justified without a cause by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

Christ paid the penalty for our sin, and our salvation rests upon "through faith in His blood." The * BLOOD may be deleted from the hymns by some liberals, but it remains in the Scripture to furnish the grounds on which God can be "just and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus"

"Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow." Mrs. H. M. Hall.

1-Justification By Faith Explained--(3:21-31) (Martin Luther wrote in his Bible's margin "SOLA" = "ALONE")
--Description--3:21-26 FREELY
--"By Faith"---3:27-30
2-Justification By Faith Illustrated--(4:1-25)

--Introduction--3:31 (Transition Verse)
--Case of Abraham--4:1-5 (BEFORE THE LAW)
--Case of David----4:6-8 (UNDER THE LAW)
--Justification & Ordinances--4:9-12 — (3) Circumcision (or Baptism)
--Justification & Legalism----4:13-25 — Apart from the Law

3-Justification By Faith And Its Permanent Results--(5:1-11)

--Justification by faith is a permanent act of God. It is not an emergency measure nor is it a temporary arrangement. Certain eternal benefits become the immediate possession of the sinner who is justified by faith. In fact, there are eight wonderful possessions which accrue to the beneficiaries of justification by faith. Let us count these many blessings

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

1. --Peace with God--5:1
2. --Access to God---5:2
3. --Hope in God-----5:2
4. --Fruit of tribulations--5:3-4
5. --Love----------5:5
6. --The Holy Spirit-5:5
7. --Delivered from the wrath to come--5:9
8. --Joy----------5:11

3:21 5:11

C--Sanctification Of The Saint--(5:12--8:39):

1:18-3:20

INTRO:--

Now, we come to the third and last section of the first main division of DOCTRINE. First there was sin, then salvat' and now sanctification. We found that justification is judicial, & that it does not make a sinner righteous, but that it declares him righteous.

Now God begins a good work in the heart immediately to sanctify the sinner who believes in Jesus. There is a technique which God gives. The Christian life is not a "hit & miss" proposition. Neither is it attained accidentally. The conditions of God must be met. His formula must be followed.

--Simple Def.---Sanctification is "to be set apart for holy use and life."

1-Potential Sanctification Thru IMPUTATION--5:12-21

--This rests upon the 2 Headships of the first Adam & the last Adam

--Unquestionably one of the most difficult Biblical doctrines to understand & accept is the FEDERAL HEADSHIP OF THE RACE & of the imputation of sin.

--In this brief outline, only a word can be spoken on this great theme. The entire human family is "in Adam" As a result, the sin of Adam is imputed to the race, & the evidence is that death is the verdict upon all. From Adam to Moses, men died when there was no law, & therefore men were not sinners by transgressing the law. The sin of Adam is our sin. We all rest under the sentence of death. Most of the human family have died in infancy before committing an actual act of sin; they died because Adam sinned!

"Were you there when they crucified my Lord..." NB

---EPITAPH on the gravestone of 4 young children in St. Andrews churchyard in Scotland:

"Bold infidelity, turn pale and die.
Beneath this stone four sleeping infants lie:
Say, are they lost or saved?
If death's by sin, they sinned, for they are here.
If heaven's by works, in heaven they can't appear,
Reason, ah, how depraved!
Turn to the Bible's sacred page; the knot's untied:
They died, for Adam sinned; they live, for Jesus died.

IN CHRIST

---There is another head of the race now-----the LAST ADAM, Christ. His righteousness is imputed to us. It is a free gift received by faith ACT
---God not only declares us righteous, He has a process by which He wants to make us right as well.

2-Positional Sanctification thru UNION--(6:1-10)--"Know this"
--This section brings potentiality to a position where it can be realized in experience
--Rom. 6:1-10 is not something to do, but something to believe, for its already done!

"Not a drop of water in Rom.6"

P.T.L.!

3-Practical Sanctification thru OBEDIENCE--(6:11-23)--"Reckon this"
--"Write it down as true" & then live like it!
--You have been made free
--In order that you might have fruit unto holiness

YIELD
OBEY

4-Powerless Sanctification Thru "I" Being Prominent (7:1-25).
--REMEMBER---There is no good in the old man
And, There is no power in the new!
--Ch. 7 is the struggle of a saved man suffering from SPIRITUAL SCHIZOPHRENIA of wanting to do right & lacking the power to do it.
--He cries out in 7:24 — Explain metaphor of DESPAIR
--He gives his own answer in 7:25
--Ch. 8 is the explanation .....POWERFUL SANCTIFICATION

MONKEY WRENCH

5-Powerful Sanctification Thru The SPIRIT Being Prominent (8:1-39)
--The man who fought the battle in Ch 7 was the beneficiary of the victory in Ch. 8.
--Ch. 8 begins "NO CONDEMNATION" and ends with "NO SEPARATION"
--A "NEW" Life Thru The Power Of The Spirit
**8:1--New Place--"in Christ"
**8:2-4--New Law--"of Spirit"
**8:5-8--New Mind--disposition
**8:9-10--New Life--"in Spirit"
**8:10-13--New Death--"by Spirit"
**8:14-17--New Position--"Sonship"
**8:18-25--New Hope--"bodily redemption"
**8:26-27--New Help--"Spirit's intercession"
**8:28-30--New Purpose--"conformed to Christ's image"
**8:31-34--New Confidence--"God is on our side"
**8:35-39--New Assurance--"No separation"

III.-DISPENSATIONAL---(9:1-11:36):

Define this

Intro:--Answers the question of how this salvation now offered to all men fits into God's righteous dealings with His ancient people, **Israel**. — God Keeps His Word + Can be trusted!

A.-God's Part Dealing With Israel---ELECTION---Ch. 9:

B.-God's Present Dealing With Israel--REJECTION--Ch. 10:

C.-God's Future Dealing With Israel--SALVATION--Ch. 11:

"Yours to count on" — God's Signature!

IV.-DUTY---(12:1-15:13):

Intro:--Saved by FAITH; Saved to SHOWFORTH GOOD WORKS
--Not saved by law, but not saved to be lawless, either

A.-Duty Seen As Service---(12:1--13:14):

DEDICATION OF BODY

3 Steps
- DEDICATION
- SEPARATION
- TRANSFORMATION

1-Relation to God--12:1-2
--"present"=="yield"
--"So he died for his faith. That is fine--
More than most of us do.
But say, can you add to that line
That he lived for it too?" F. W. Boreham

2-Relation To The Gifts Of The Spirit--12:3-8: SERVE THRU GIFTS
One to a customer — or more.

3-Relation To Fellow-Believers--12:9-16: LOVE
--Love is the BADGE or "Fraternity Pin" of the church
--Here it is seen in action & interaction

4-Relation To Unbelievers--12:17-21: — LOVE them also!
--Not to "get even" when mistreated
--Leave the avenging to God
--Let God do the righting of wrongs.

5-Relation To Governments--13:1-7: OBEY THEIR LAWS
--Living in 2 worlds
--Citizens of Heaven & of our country ~~on earth~~
--Allegiances to both are proper — (Jesus + coin)

6-Relation To Neighbors--13:8-14: LOVE
--Probably best illustrated in Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan.

B.-Duty Seen As Separation---(14:1--15:13):

Intro: --Separation is not just FROM, BUT UNTO
--ILLUS--Marriage is UNTO one girl, but also FROM any and all others, too.

1-Four Guiding Principles About "Doubtful Things"--(14:1-15:3)
--CONVICTION---14:5
--CONSCIENCE---14:22 — CONSIDERATION -14:13-21
--CONDESCENSION--15:1-2

2-Race Relations---ONE in salvation---15:4-13:

V. CONCLUSION —15:14—16:27:

A.-Personal Feelings—15:14-33: (Paul ministers a Global Gospel)

B.-Page From The Lamb's Book Of Life—16:1-24:

1-37 persons named in Rom. 16
2-29 are in Rome
3-8 are in Corinth with Paul
4-9 of them are women

C.-Benediction—16:25-27: Read this

Boice's story from his surgeon father

Tremendous message of facts + faith to live in and by —
THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST. — Grand Message of FULL SALVATION IN CHRIST

Hymns:
Wonderful Story Of Love ——— #69
It's Just Like His Great Love. #70
"He Is Able To Deliver Thee" ——— #192

Westbrae 10/11/70
Merriam Xn. Chapel, Ind. 10/20/77
Portersville Bible Ch 11/22/78
Old Kanawha Bapt. Ch 10/21/84
Hilltop Bapt. Ch. 1/25/95

See outline for Overhead Projector

INTRO:

I.-PAUL, THE MAN:

A.-Parentage & Citizenship:

1-Jewish; of the tribe of Benjamin--Phs. 3:5
2-Father was a Pharisee by conviction--Acts 23:6
3-Lived in dispersion in Tarsus Acts 21:39
4-Apparently wealthy to some degree
5-Citizen of Rome & passed this "FREEBORN" status on to son--Acts 22:28
6-Thus, Paul often refers to his Roman citizenship (Acts 16:37) & claims its privileges before the law
7-Paul's citizenship
--rescued him in Macedonia--Acts 16:37-39
--rescued him in Judea--Acts 22:25
--led to conversion of a governor in Cyprus--Acts 13:12
--caused another governor in Achaia to protect him--Acts 18:14-17
--caused him to be sent to Rome by another Governor when he appealed to Caesar--Acts 25:12; 27:1
8-Date of Paul's birth---about 7 A.D.
9-High intellectual & moral endowment
10-Had at least 1 sister--Acts 23:16 (+ thru her a nephew)
11-CONYBEARE & HOWSON--"We should be glad to know something of the mother of St. Paul. But though he alludes to his father, he does not mention her. He speaks of himself as set apart by God "from his mother's womb," that the Son of God should in due time be revealed in him, & by him preached to the heathen (Gal. 1:5). But this is all. We find notices of his sister and his sister's son, & of some more distant relatives (Rom. 16:7, 11, 21) but we know nothing of her who was nearer to him than all of them. He tells us of his instructor Gamaliel; but of her, who, if she lived, was his earliest and best teacher, he tells us nothing. Did she die like Rachel, the mother of Benjamin, the great ancestor of his tribe; leaving his father to mourn and set a monument on her grave, like Jacob, by the way of Bethlehem? Or did she

live to grieve over her son's apostasy from the faith of the Pharisees, and die herself unreconciled to the obedience of Christ? Or did she believe and obey the Savior of her son? These are questions which we cannot answer. If we wish to realize the earliest infancy of the Apostle, we must be content with a simple picture of a Jewish mother and her child." P. 15

B.-Homeland:

1-Born in city of Tarsus
--"no mean city"--Acts 21:39
--"free city" according to history, which means it had the privilege of being governed by its own magistrates & was exempted from occupation by a Roman garrison

2-Roman province of Cilisia
--West ½ of Cilisia called "Rough Cilisia"; was mountainous & served as the home of robbers & uncultured folk
--East ½ of Cilisia called "Flat Cilisia" was fruitful farming land
--City of Tarsus was a seaport; "A city where the language of refinement is spoken and written, in the midst of a ruder population, who use a different language & possess no literature of their own." Conybear & Howson, P. 21

3-Located N. of Syria on the south of the Anatolian Peninsula

C.-Name:

1-SAUL--Jewish name =="asked for"
--Perhaps a son of desire like Samuel
--Perhaps named after tribe of Benjamin's most famous son

2-PAUL or PAULUS--Gentile name =="little"
--Perhaps a reference to being from Israel's smallest tribe

3-Probably given both names at birth or in youth since he was a Jewish lad living in a Gentile city

4-Change in useage of name after he began his first missionary journey and entered into Gentile territory--Acts 13:9

D.-Impact Of Civilizations:

1-HEBREW--distinguishing feature was its religion
--not a faith which reached only 1 level of nation, but reached the intellectuals and the simple
--Piety grew from faith in the one true God
--Morality grew out of religion; Judaism was a HOLY religion
--Expectation marked Judaism as they anticipated their Messiah

2-GREEK--distinguishing feature was its intellectualism & culture
--High forms of art, poetry, literature, philosophy
--Restless activity of mind & body in athletic games, subtle disputations, quick perception & indefatigable inquiry
--People of trade and commerce and intellect
--Retrospect maked Greece as they looked back to their "Golden age"

3-ROME--Distinguishing feature was its dominion by law and external government by force.

--Aims of universal conquest & permanent occupation
--Genius for strength and organization
--Follow the advance of legions, governors & judges along Roman Roads to the outskirts of empire
--Imperishable monuments: roads, ampitheatres, harbors, bridges, sepulchres, temples, baths, aqueducts, etc.
--Augustus, having found Rome a city of brick, left it a city of Marble
--Nero, on account of the great conflagration, was afforded the opportunity to re-plan Rome & lay it out anew
--Emperor was deified because men were enslaved
--Cruel suffering was a characteristic feature of the Roman Empire. Slave wars, civil wars, and wars of conquest had left their disasterous results behind them
--Acquisition of wealth, enjoyment of licentiousness, luxury and brutal pleasures meant that they lived for the present moment

5-SO.....
--Jewish parentage gave him his religion
--Greek environment gave him his culture
--Roman citizenship gave him his relation to the Roman Empire.

B.-Training:

1-Taught the trade of a tentmaker--Acts 18:3; 20:34
--"He that teacheth not his son a trade, doth the same as if he taught him to steal"--Rabbi Judah
--"What is commanded of a Father toward his son? To circumcise him, to teach him the law, and to teach him a trade." Talmud

2-Religiously (Acts22:3
--Brought to Jerusalem as a youth of 12-15 years of age/
--Taught by Gamaliel the Pharisee (Acts 5:34; 22:3)
--This was RABBINICAL AND FUNDAMENTALIST training
--Zealous for the traditions of his fathers--Gal. 1:14

3-University Training
--Probably in Alexandria
--Thorough acquaintance with philosophy--Acts 17
--Thorough acquaintance with poets--Titus 1:12; Acts 17:28
--Thorough acquaintance with natural science--Rom. 1:19-20
--Thorough acquaintance with Greek games--many illus.
--Thus, probably out of Palestine during the ministry of X
--2 Cor. 5:16
--Though some try to make Paul the "rich young ruler"

4-Linguistically
--Hebrew in home & synagogue (Bar-Mitzphah by age 13 when a Jewish youth was declared fully responsible for his sins in the sight of man & God)
--Greek in Tarsus & in schools
--Capable with equal interchangeability in both
--Acts 21:37--22:2
--Knew both the Hebrew O. T. & the LXX & quoted freely from both in writing the N. T.....from memory
--Greek was eminently a "theological language", rich in the phrases of various schools & suited to convey

Christian ideas to all the world. It was not an accident that the N. T. was written in Greek, the language which can best express the highest thoughts and worthiest feelings of the intellect and heart, which is adapted to be the instrument of education for all nations; nor was it an accident that the composition of these books and the promulgation of the Gospel were delayed, till the instruction of our Lord, and the writings of His Apostles could be expressed in the dialect of Alexandria." C.&H. P.9

--Hellenistic education made him, like Phillip, a successful disputant against the Grecians.

F.-Religious Spirit:

1-Pharisee (second generation at least--Acts 23:6)
- --staitest sect--Acts 26:5
- --literalist & fundamentalist
- --held firmly to the hope of the resurrection
- --enthusiastic in seeking proselytes
- --influential with the masses of the people
- --characterized by
  - **ostentatious religion
  - **liberality in alms-giving
  - **frequency of long prayers in public
  - **theological distinctions made clear
  - **accumulating of articles of faith
  - **multiplying of requirements of devotion

2-Contrast with Sadducees
- --disbelieved in any future life
- --denied the bodily resurrection
- --moralistic religion; not formal or ritualistic
- --ancient "modernists"

3-Paul was zealous & persecuted those of "the way"
- --Phs. 3:6
- --Acts 8:1-4
- --Acts 9:1-2
- --Acts 26:9-12

4-Member of Sanhedrin---Acts 7:12 & 8:1)
- --Supreme court & council of Jewish people
- --originated when Moses appointed the 70--Num. 11
- --Usually consisted of 71 members
  - --High Priest--usually the President
  - --Chief Priests over 24 "courses"
  - --Elders--men of age & experience
  - --Scribes--men learned in Jewish law
- --Widespread authority, even beyond Palestine--Acts 9:2
- --This membership was limited who were or had been married so Paul must have been a widower by the time we meet him (1 Cor. 7:6-8). Also had to have fathered a child for this would instill mercy into a man's judgment.

II.-PAUL THE CONVERT:

A.-Best Man Who Ever Lived---Religiously Speaking:

1-Acts 23:1
2-Acts 24:16
3-Phs. 3:4-9
4-Yet, even Paul--the world's BEST man--needed Christ as his Personal Savior

B.-Worst Man Who Ever Lived---Sinfully Speaking:

1-1 Tim. 1:14-15

2-Spoke with a knowledge of himself--Rom. 7:18

3-Thus, WORST man who ever lived has already been saved

4-So.....there's hope for everyone else!

C.-Conversion Experience:

1-Occurred about 37 A. D. when Paul was approximately 30 years of age

2-This involved the 12th or 13th appearance of Christ after His resurrection

3-Details in next message---Acts 9.

4- We cannot dissociate the martyrdom of Stephen from the conversion of Saul. The spectacle of so much constancy so much faith, so much love could not be lost. It is hardly too much to say with Augustine that "the church owes Paul to the prayer of Stephen"

STUDYING THE BOOK OF ROMANS

INTRO: A.-Testimonies To Its Importance:

1-CHRYSOSTOM--Had this Epistle read to him once a week

2-LUTHER speaks of it as "the chief book of the N. T."

3-S.T. COLERIDGE--"I think the Epistle to the Romans the most profound work in existence." Table Talk, P.252

4-Melanchthon, in order to become thoroughly acquainted, copied it twice with his own hand, & it was the book which he lectured on most frequently.

5-GODET remarks that "in studying the Epistle to the Romans we feel ourselves at every word face to face with the unfathomable."

6-DR. ROBERT C. McQUILKIN in the forward to his book on Romans wrote: "Paul's letter to the Romans has more influence in the world than any other letter that has ever been written."

7-DR. IRONSIDE wrote: "The Epistle to the Romans is undoubtedly the most scientific statement of the divine plan for the redemption of mankind that God has been pleased to give us."

8-DR. WM. L. PETTINGILL in his forward to Lovelace's book on Romans put it this way: "The importance of Paul's Letter to Rome cannot be overestimated...Its thorough study should be counted as a 'must' for every child of God."

9-C. NORMAN BARTLETT says: "No other writing (of Paul's) has so powerfully influenced the thinking of the ch."

Intro: Liberalism gets its start by speaking "ABOUT the Word" + forgetting to "PREACH the Word". I'll do something of that tonight. I'm not "turning liberal" but laying the foundation for a study of the Word itself in weeks to come.

B.-Influence Of The Book Of Romans:

1-Nearly 80 years ago Godet, that great Pastor & Professor in Switzerland made the following statement: "When the Epistle to the Romans appeared for the first time, it was to the church a word in season. Every time that, in the course of the ages, it has recoved the place of honor which belongs to it, it has inaugurated a new era. It was so a half a century ago, when that revival took place, the powerful influence of which remains unexhausted to this hour

2-These are no exaggerations!

I.-REASONS FOR STUDYING ROMANS:

A.-Intellectual Value:

1-Romans is concerned with a number of the deepest problems of Christian thought

2-These are worthy of our deepest attention

3-Logical arrangement lends itself to intellectual pursuit.

4-Studying Romans is a mental gymnastic of the finest type

5-GARVIE (P.35) "...the logical method of the Epistle will repay study,"

6-DAVID BROWN (P.xviii) "Its texture is so firm, its every vein so full, its very fibres & Ligatures so fine & yet strong, that it requires not only to be again & again sur-

veyed as a whole, and mastered in its primary ideas, but to be dissected in detail, and with unwearying patience studied in its minutest features, before we can be said to have done it justice. Not only every sentence teems with thought, but every clause; while in some places every word may be said either to suggest some weighty thought, or to indicate some deep emotion."

B.-Historical Value:

1-Romans gives the "great thoughts" of Christianity in Paul's day
2-Romans gives succinct expression of Pauline Christianity
3-Has evoked several books entitled "THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. PAUL"
4-See Christ as He was understood by Paul when we study Romans
5-It has often been pointed out that the modern cry "BACK TO CHRIST" does not, and cannot mean "AWAY FROM PAUL"
6-Paul's experience with the Christ of heaven amply justifies & vindicates the records of the 4 evangelists
7-In Romans we have a non-controversial presentation of one of the great controversies of Paul's ministry---the Galatian error; the relation of law and grace
8-In Romans we have what SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY has rightly called St. Paul's "Philosophy of History"
--in Ch. 9-11 as it relates to Israel
--in the universal need of mankind for the Gospel which can meet the need of all men

C.-Theological Value:

1-Not a totally complete Theology in Romans
--no special emphasis on Christology as in Col. & Eph.
--no special emphasis on Eschatology as in Cor. & Thess.
2-Yet it deals with more theological areas than any other New Testament book
3-Major contribution in Romans on:

--Sin	--Love
--Righteousness	--Sanctification
--Grace	--Glorification
--Law	--Dispensational truth
--Justice & Justification	--Practical Christian living

4-Studying Romans is almost a theological education in itself
5-W. H. GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"And lest we should be repelled by the thought of theology as something abstract, remote from life, and unpractical, it must be noticed that the theology of Romans is always based on the exegesis of the Apostle's words. Nothing in its way is more striking than the fact that the theology which deals with some of the profoundest truths of the christian religion comes directly out of the grammatical and accurate interpretation of the Apostles' teaching. The more it is studied from a theological standpoint, the more it will be seen that it is of the very highest value for Christian doctrine." P. 24-25.

D.-Spiritual Values:

1-This follows as a natural consequence of its theological values.

2-Dr. J. AGAR BEET, the leading Wesleyan commentary says: "A careful study of the words and arguments of this Epistle will enrich greatly the student's own spiritual life. And this spiritual enrichment will shed imprtant light on the meaning of the Apostle's words. For it will enable us to see the matters about which he writes from his own point of view." P. 27.

3-In Romans will be found some of the prime secrets of the spiritual life:

--Redemption by blood
--Renovation by the Spirit
--Holiness of the Believer
--Expressions of this holiness
**loyalty
**love
**obedience

4-As LUTHER said of this Epistle: "It is the true masterpiece of the New Testament, and the very purest Gospel, which is well worthy and deserving that a Christian man should not only learn it by heart, word for word, but also that he sh should daily deal with it as the daily bread of men's souls. For it can never be too much or too well read or studied; and the more it is handled the more precious it becomes, and the better it tastes."

5-In summarizing the Spiritual value of Romans, the words of ARTHUR PRIDHAM are succinct: "Men theorize. God never does. His doctrines are also His commands." (P. ix.)

F.-Practical Value:

1-GODET goes as far as to say that "...the probability is that every great spiritual revival in the Church will be connected as effect and cause with a deeper understanding of this book." (P.1, Vol. 1)

2-Church History amply bears this out

--Reformation movement of the 16th Century
--Evangelical Revival of the 18th Century
--Evangelistic Movements of the 19th Century

3-DAVID BROWN--"While all Scripture has stamped its impress indelibly on the Christian world perhaps it is scarcely too much to say, that--apart from the Gospels--for all the precision and strength which it possesses, and much of the spirituality and the fire which characterize it, the faith of Christendom in its best periods has been more indebted to this Epistle than to any other portion of the living oracles." (P.18)

4-As Arthur PRIDHAM put it, "...like all other teaching which is truly Divine, it addresses itself to the conscience of the reader not less forcibly than to his understanding." (P. ix).

5-W. H. GRIFFITH-THOMAS "This may be said without the slightest qualification, and certainly without the faintest fear of contradiction; that a christian life nourished on the Epistle to the Romans will never lack the three great requisites of-----clear preception,
--strong conviction
--and definite usefulness."(P.26)

II.-METHODS OF STUDYING ROMANS:

A.-Reading Romans:

1-Romans should be studied with all possible intellectual attention & concentration
2-It is worthy of all the consideration we can give it
3-Read it right through
4-Use a variety of versions
5-Keep at it for a month or more----thru Romans entirely each day, or at least large sections daily
6-Thus, become thoroughly accustomed to its major lines of thought & pattern of structure
7-Don't try to study it deeply at first
8-Just give it the care & attention you would to a chapter in a book
9-Gradually your mind will become accustomed to its teaching & gain a general impression of its contents & meaning.

B.-Devotionalizing Romans:

1-Study with earnest prayer & personal trust
2-Intellectual attention alone is insufficient
3-Regard the letter as a personal letter from Paul to you !
4-Romans' deepest secrets will only be revealed to the heart that is willing to submit to its teaching and translate it into action.
5-Dr. J. Agar BEET was right when he wrote: "Access to the inmost sanctuary of Holy Scripture is granted only to those who come to worship." (P.27)

C.-Doctrinalizing Romans:

1-Romans should be studied with an earnest endeavor to grasp its leading ideas
2-The early chapters teach the profound truth that man has always failed to manifest righteousness in his life, & the Epistle deals with this universal failure & brings before us the message of a new DIVINE righteousness for guilty man.
3-Thus, the leading ideas may be summarized as:

--Sin
--Guilt
--Propitiation
--Righteousness
--Faith
--The Holy Spirit
--Consecration
--These indicate in turn man's need of righteousness, his responsibility for it, and all the attendant truths, including the proof that Divine righteousness has been provided for us By God in and through Christ.

D.-Themizing Romans:

1-Great theme or thesis is stated in Rom. 1:16-17
2-7 terms used in these 2 verses

--God
--Gospel
--Power
--Salvation
--Righteousness
--Faith
--Life

3-These 7 terms are found all the way thru Romans
4-Like the warp & woof of a piece of cloth, these great thots are the very substance of the Epistle.

E.-Helps In Understanding Romans:

1-Read it thru often

2-Feinberg--"It's remarkable how much of the Bible people can learn just by reading it"

3-Meditate on it.....let it sink in!

4-Make a notebook--------Take notes

**from your reading the Bible

**from Pastor's messages

**from other reading

5-Be faithful in attendance

6-Use all available helps

--Wm R. Newell

--Barnhouse--How to mark your Bible

--7 volume set

--Wright--Right in Romans

--Wuest

--Harrison

7-Expect to WORK AT IT

Expect to listen to the Spirit of God

Expect your life to be CHANGED !

Hymns: Amazing Grace

At Calvary

INTRO: A.-Paul's Introduction To Romans:

1-Reaches from 1:1-7.....ONE sentence in the Greek

2-C. Norman Bartlett--"The Introduction in Romans is longer than in any other of the Pauline Epistles. And yet every sentence & phrase is so weighty with meaning that we can ill afford to glide over the passage hurriedly, for if we do so, we shall miss a good deal of treasure" P. 18.

3-There is a great deal of maturity, depth & breadth of theological teaching in these first 7 vss.

4-Written by Paul:

--From Corinth
--Probably from the house of Gaius (16:23)
--In the winter of 58 or 59; Possibly as late as February of 60.A.D.
--Probably in the early years of Nero's reign
--While Paul was on his 3rd missionary journey, which was Paul's hardest journey & also his most productive journey
--Written to Rome before Paul ever went there.

5-Throughout Church history, to depart from Paul has been heresy. To receive Paul's gospel & hold it fast, is salvation(1 Cor. 15:1-2).

6-The late FRANCIS L. PATTON, Godly & able President of Princeton University----"The only hope of Christianity is in the rehabilitating of Pauline Theology. It is back, back, back to an incarnate Christ and the atoning blood, or it is on, on, on to atheism and despair."

B.-Paul's Person:

1-Paul's name

--Paul means "little one"
**Perhaps a reference to his diminutive stature (2 Cor. 10:1, 10)
**Perhaps a reference to his "last" position among the Apostles (1 Cor. 15:8-9)
--Changed from SAUL, which means "GREAT", "Asked for"
--Only one of the Bible writers who discards his JEWISH name for a GENTILE one.
--Change possibly due to his position as the APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES.

2-Paul's position

--Others greet the Romans in this Epistle (16:21-23)
--But Paul's name ALONE is given in its writing
--NEWELL--"when essential doctrines & directions are being laid down, no one is associated with the Apostle in the authority given him."

3-Paul's relations

--His Master--------CHRIST
--His Office--------APOSTLE
--His Work----------GOSPEL MINISTRY

4-Let's look at Paul for a description of his status:

--Paul the Servant
--Paul the Sent One

--Paul the Separated
--Paul the Specialist
--Paul, His Sphere & Sufficiency

I.-PAUL THE SERVANT:

A.-Greek Term

1-δουλος ==="bondman"==="love-slave"
2-Paul only uses this term to introduce himself in Romans, Titus, and Philippians, though he uses it incidentally elsewhere.
3-Shares this term of "blessed bondage" with James, Peter, Jude and John (Rev. 1:1)
4-Perhaps related to the στιγματος ("marks") of Gal. 6:17

B.-History Of Term "Servant":

1-Used often in O. T. to designate the Prophets
--Moses in Josh. 1:1
--Joshua in Josh. 24:29
--Many prophets in Jer. 29:19
--The Lord Jesus in Isa. 42:1
2-Speaks of PROPERTY & SERVICE
3-Indicates that Paul considered his strength, his time, his all belonged to the Lord

C.-How To Become A Servant, Or Bondman:

1-By birth
2-By conquest
3-By Purchase
4-By voluntary choice — EXPLAIN
--Acts 9:6--"And he trembling & astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"
--2 Cor. 4:5--"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake."
--1 Cor. 9:19--"For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more."
5-Historic Pattern----Exodus 21:1-6
6-Historic Example----Mark 10:35-45
7-Paul did not feel himself a SERF, but thus expressed his ABSOLUTE LOYALTY
8-N.B.--Paul's servidtude is to Jesus Christ
--Not to self
--Not to church alone
--Not to the "churches" which he had the care of
--But to the Lord of Glory; His Savior & His Messiah
9-ILLUS--In ancient Rome to be a "SLAVE OF THE EMPEROR" was a position of honor higher than most "free men" held. So, to be a "SLAVE OF JESUS CHRIST!
10-Acts 20:19 — "SERVING THE LORD" characterized Paul

D.-A Bondman, Yet FREE!:

1-John 8:32--"And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."
2-John 8:36--"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

3-FOUR FREEDOMS of F. D. R. & Churchill in W. W. 2 (Atlantic Charter)
--Freedom from want
--Freedom from fear
--Freedom of speech
--Freedom of worship

4-God's BONDMAN is truly a FREE MAN ! (Charter of salvation)
--Freedom from WANT--Ps. 23:1; 37:25
--Freedom from FEAR--Heb. 2:14-15; 2 Tim.1:7; Ps. 56:3-4 34:4
--Freedom of WORSHIP--Jn. 4:23-24; 14:6; Rev. 4:10
--Freedom of SPEECH--Ps. 49:3; 107:1-2

II.-ME, THE SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST:

A.-What Is It To Be A Christian?:

1-To be a Christian is to be a servant of Christ--a slave of Christ!

2-To be a Christian is to belong to Christ--body and soul--as a slave belongs to his master; it is to belong to Christ by our own consent-----VOLUNTARILY

3-It is not to serve Christ as a laborer who is hired by the hour, or by the day, or by the week, but to be in His service always, like a slave in the service of a master who has bought him in the market or has taken him captive in war.

4-No doubt, in the old days of slavery, there was a great difference in the moral worth of slaves: some were faithful & some were unfaithful; some were industrious & did their very best to serve their master; some were indolent & cared very little for their master's interests; but even the most careless knew that he was a slave & thought of himself as a slave: it was his master's work that he had to do & it was his duty to do it well. He might run away, & if he was not caught might so become free; but till then he was a slave & belonged to another---not himself.

5-And so is the Christian man--as long as he is alive he is a servant of Christ---Christ's slave! He may not be worth much to Christ, & he may know it. He may be an incapable & inefficient servant, & he may know it. He may steal a large part of his Master's time, & he may know it. He may be careless about his Master's interests, & he may know it. But since he is a Christian he knows that his first duty is to do the will of Christ---always & in everything; & that he ought to serve Christ to the utmost of his strength. He is ill at ease if he is not serving Christ earnestly. His conscience is restless. His self-indulgence brings him no real happiness. He, too, may run away--may apostatise to the world--but even then he is not free, for he has exchanged the bondage of FREEDOM for the bondage of SIN ——The freedom to "DO YOUR OWN THING" is an illusion

B.-Serving A Living Savior:

1-Now to be the servants of Jesus Christ, we must believe & know that He is ALIVE.

2-We cannot in any natural sense of the word be said to be servants of the dead; we may serve the living for the sake

of the dead, but the dead themselves we cannot serve
3-If we are to serve Jesus Christ we must know that He is living & that He has a real & effective interest in the affairs of this present life & this visible world.
4-For us--if we are truly His servants--He does not belong to a PAST GENERATION like the statesmen, orators, writers & teachers who have exerted an immense influence on history, but have passed away & left only a memory.
5-HE IS STILL LIVING: HE BELONGS TO OUR OWN AGE! The Great CONTEMPORARY!
6-He is alive, & we are His servants----His slaves!
7-His claims upon us come first--take precedence of all others. They are not claims of a speculative kind, but are most real & practical.
8-Your relations to Christ, if you are a workman are just as real & just as practical as are your relations to your employer. If you're a businesse man, your relations to Christ are just as real as your relations with your banker or your customers.
9-You are His servants-----His slaves!

C.-Following Or Serving?:
1-It is very easy to miss this obvious truth. The faith of Christ has taken its place among the great religions of the world, & the truths which Christ has revealed concerning God & man have exercised the speculative intellect of genius, have been organized into theological systems & formalized in definite creeds.
2-Those who accept that account of God & of the human race & of the relations between God & the human race, which is given in the Bible--the Christian revelation--may very naturally call themselves Christians, just as those who accept the Platonic theory of ideas may call themselves Platonists, & those who accept the doctrine of predestination may call themselves Calvinists, & those who accept Darwin's theory of evolution & development may call themselves Darwinians.
3-BUT to really be a Christian, more & a radically different step is required than the mere intellectual acceptance of a Christian creed.
4-Plato, Calvin & Darwin are all dead men. I cannot be their SERVANT, and neither can you!
5-Even if they were living men, though I might serve them from affection or from reverence--or they might purchase my service --their claim upon me would be very limited.
6-They could not claim me as their property; & if they attempted to put restraints upon me & my freedom, I would resist it.
7-BUT Christ's authority over me is absolute; as absolute in this world as in the next. I am His servant---His slave!---
--And that VOLUNTARILY!

D.-Christ's Last Words:
1-Do any of you say that in describing ourselves as the servants or slaves of Christ, I am forgetting the gracious words of the Lord in His last discourse?
2-Jn. 15:15--Ye are my friends, if ye do the things which I command you. No longer do I call you servants (slaves); for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I heard from my Father I have made known unto you."

3-I have not forgotten those words. Who that has read them can ever forget them?

4-But the infinite kindness & condescension of Christ cannot abolish the real relations between Him & me or justify me in disregarding them

5-ILLUS ---Suppose for a moment that the Revolutionary War for the Independence of the U.S.A. had never taken place. Further suppose that Elizabeth II, Queen of England was our queen. Further suppose that I was graciously called by her not by the title of "subject", but by the title "FRIEND". In such a case, I trust that I should not be guilty of the presumption of forgetting that I was her subject still. And if I did forget, I should incur her just rebuke.

6-Nor can I forget that Christ is my LORD and that I am His SERVANT, OR SLAVE, though He treats me with the confidence of a friend.

7-On that very evening when our Lord spoke the words of Jn. 15:15, He also said to His disciples:

8-Jn. 13:13--"Ye call Me Master, And Lord: and ye say well; for so I am."

9-And when He called them friends, the graciousness of His condescension could not conceal His authority

10-Jn. 15:14--"Ye are my friends if ye do the things which I command you."

11-"WHICH I COMMAND YOU ! !

12-He is still our Lord though He makes us His friends

13-It is impossible for us to call ourselves by any other name than "HIS SERVANTS", whatever may be the name by which He graciously calls us.

14-We are infinitely grateful for His goodness in calling us His friends: but for us it is our joy & our glory that He is our LORD; & if He were anything less than that, our blessedness would be far less.

15-THUS,

The greatest thing that can be said of Paul is that he voluntarily owned himself to be the servant of Jesus Christ

AND,

The greatest thing that can be said of you, and of me, is that we have voluntarily owned ourselves to be the servants--the bondslaves, the love-slaves--of Jesus Christ.

Is that your confession and your practice?

Westbrae – 9/20/70 PM

What A Wonderful Savior – 116
I Love To Tell The Story – 155
Have Thine Own Way, Lord – 438

INTRO: A.-The Gospel of God:
1-So designated in 1:1
2-Defined
--Good news about Jesus Christ
--1 Cor. 15:3-5
3-Four parts to the gospel
--Christ died
--Christ was buried
--Christ was raised
--Christ was seen

GOOD NEWS
1- Baby
2- Raise
3- Promotion
4- Awards
5- Grandchild
6- Visit of an important person.

B.-Other Designations:
1-"The gospel"--1:15
2-"Gospel of His Son"--1:9
3-"Gospel of Christ"--1:16
4-"My gospel"--2:16
5-"Gospel of peace"--10:15
6-"Christ's gospel"--2 Cor. 2:12
7-"Our gospel"--2 Cor. 4:3
8-"Glorious gospel"--2 Cor. 4:4
9-"Gospel of uncircumcision"--Gal. 2:7
10-"Gospel of your salvation"--Eph. 1:13
11-Gospel centers in CHRIST
--not, WHAT is the gospel
--but, WHOM is the gospel
PROP 12-Gospel is about a PERSON--Good news about Jesus X

I.-THE PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL (1:1-2):

A.-The Gospel's Origin: (1:1--IN GOD)
1-Not in man
2-Not in earth
3-But in GOD----"the gospel of God" 1:19-20
4-Plan was "before the foundation of the world (ages)" 1 Pet
5-Then, we were "chosen in Him"--Eph. 1:4

B.-The Gospel's Revelation: (1:2--BY PROMISE)
1-Subject of O. T. Promises
2-Golden cord of the O. T. is the GOOD NEWS of the coming of God's Son
3-Not a "new thing", but connected with previous revelation
--Lk. 24:25-27
--Paul's basis of defense in Acts (24:14-16; 26:22-23)
4-DENNY--"The gospel is not in principle a new thing, a subversion of the true religion as it has hitherto been known to the people of God. On the contrary, God promised it before, through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures. It is the fulfillment of hopes which God Himself inspired."

C.-The Gospel's Channel: (1:2--BY HIS PROPHETS)
1-There is much that is new in Paul's writings; these things are known as MYSTERIES, but the foundation truths came from the O. T.
2-VINCENT**"Paul's O. T. training is manifest. Natural-

ly in beginning a more precise description of the new revelation, he refers to its connection with ancient prophecy."

3-WRITINGS, not writers were inspired

4-2 Pet. 1:20-21--"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

5-Heb. 1:1 is a parallel---"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets

6-Final revelation is in His Son---Heb. 1:2--"hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son..."

7-But.....the preview was "by His prophets unto the fathers

8-Sometimes the O. T. writers didn't understand all they wrote---1 Pet. 1:10-12
---Dan. 12:8-10

D.-The Gospel's Repository: (1:2--IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

1-As in 1 Cor. 15:3-5

2-Reference is to the collection of authoritative, canonical books accepted by the Jews
--The O. T. as we know it today
--39 books, though the Jews divided them somewhat differently
--Did NOT include the apocrypha
--Apocrypha included by the R. C. Ch. in 1545 at the Council of Trent in CounterReformation

3-Scriptures"--Gk. term is
--Used 51 times in N. T.
--God's technical term for His inspired Word
--"always denotes inspired writings" NEWELL
--2 Tim. 3:14-16

4-Holy Scriptures
--Gk. text omits the definite article
--Thus, the emphasis is upon their essential quality
--They are HOLY writings because they convey GOOD NEWS

5-AUGUSTINE--"The New Testament is in the Old concealed; The Old Testament is in the New revealed."

II.-THE THEME OF THE GOSPEL (1:3-4):

A.-Introduction:

1-"Concerning" refers back to "gospel of God" in 1:1 before the parenthesis of 1:2

2-THEME of the Gospel has SEVEN PARTS--all illuminating our Christ:
1--His Divine Sonship
2--His Official Name & Title
3--His Lordship
4--His Human Nature
5--His Resurrection
6--His Designation to be the Son of God & Fount of Power
7--His ~~divine Nature~~ Heavenly Power

3-THUS, we see that the GOSPEL is not
--an idea
--an ideal
--or even a doctrine.....
--but salvation is a PERSON

ONE
B. His Divine Sonship: ("Concerning His Son...")

1-Son was Promised
--Ps. 2:7--"I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee."
--Prov. 30:4--"Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? Who hath gathered the wind in his fists? Who hath bound the waters in a garment? Who hath established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?

2-Son Came in the INCARNATION
--Jn. 1:1-14
--Heb. 1:2

3-CALVIN--"Here is a beautiful passage which teaches that the gospel is contained in Christ so that he who withdraws from Christ withdraws from the Gospel. Heb. 1:3. Since Christ is the living image of the Father, we should not be astonished that God should call us to center our faith in Him."

4-Apart from news from heaven about Jesus Christ, God's Son, there is no news except of impending judgment & woe

TWO
C. His Official Title: ("...Jesus Christ our Lord...")

1-Father has a title--Eph. 1:3--"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

2-Spirit has no title, but is known by His attributes--"The Holy Spirit of God"

3-Son has a title

4-It is "JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD"
--Used 90 times in N. T.
--Used in almost every Epistle
--Used 10 times in Romans
--It is His FULL NAME & TITLE
--Jesus=="Savior"; Mt. 1:21
--Christ=="Messiah", "Anointed"; "Promised One"
--Our--Personal relation to Him
--Lord=="Master"; "Commander in chief"--Mt. 23:10--"Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ."

THREE
D. His Lordship: ("...our Lord...")

1-Term used in LXX as a common substitute for JEHOVAH
2-Employed in N. T. in same sense as applied to Jesus Christ
3-So, we see Jesus Christ as the God of the Old Testament
4-So acknowledged by Thomas--(Jn. 20:28)--"...My Lord and my God."
5-Position of pre-eminence as LORD to the universe & the Church

FOUR
E. His Human Nature: (...which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh."

1-"Made"=="became"=="was born"=="was begotten"
2-"Of the seed of David"

--One of the proofs of Jesus being TRUE MESSIAH--His incarnation
--2 Genealogies in N. T.-----Both thru David
**Joseph's thru Solomon--(Mt. 1:1-16)
**Mary's thru Nathan--(Lk.3:23-31)
--Joseph's line disqualified & cursed in Coniah (Jer. 22 & 36
3-N. T. BEGINS with this truth--Mt. 1:1--"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David..."
4-N. T. ENDS with this truth--Rev. 22:16--"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David..."
5-Repeated references in between over a dozen times
6-Teaching is about CHRIST'S HUMAN NATURE
--"acc. to the flesh"=="fleshwards"=="on the side of His humanity."
--shows His BODY
--as 1:4 shows His SPIRIT
--describes Him PHYSICALLY as "spirit of holiness" describes Him ethically
--HODGE--This wording "...obviously implies the superhuman character of Jesus Christ." (P. 26)
7-GRIFFITH-THOMAS**"...we cannot for a moment doubt that any flaw in the line of descent would have quickly been detected & revealed by the inveterate hostility of the Jews (Jn. 7:42; Heb. 7:14)." (P.45)

FIVE

F.-His Resurrection: ("...by the resurrection from the dead.)"
1-This is the DYNAMIC of the gospel
--Resurrection follows incarnation
--Second of the pillars upon which the Christian faith stands
2-This makes the Christian faith DIFFERENT from the religions of the dead
3-This is resurrection "with power" or "in might"
4-MOULE --"The true resurrection was not such as that imagined by e.g. Schleirmacher; the creeping forth of a half-slain Man from His grave. It was a miracle & a triumph" (P.51)
5-Resurrection is the SEAL OF TRUTH of the reality of Christ's being what & Who He claimed to be
6-DENNY--"...a resurrection exemplifying, & so guaranteeing that of others..." (P. 586)
7-ILLUS---Man who came to H. A. Ironside & said he didn't like his message of Christ & faith in Him. So he thought he'd found a new religion. Yet, he did notice that Ironside had a way with a crowd, so he wanted him to be a "preacher of his new religion." Ironside suggested that the man claim to be God's Son, get himself crucified & be raised from the dead----and then maybe he'd consider it. "No other message is worth preaching," said Ironside.

SIX

G.-His Designation To Be The Son Of God & Fount Of Power: ("And declared to be the Son of God with power...")
1-Declared to be the Son of God
--Reaffirmation in 1:4 of truth of 1:3
--"marked out" thus by many witnesses before
**Satan questioned it--"If thou be..." Mt. 4:6

**God said it--"This is my beloved Son.."Mt. 17:5
*Gabriel declared it--"He shall be called the Son of God."--Lk. 1:35
**Demons admitted it--"...thou Son of the Most High" Mk. 5:7
**Peter confessed it--"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God"--Mt. 16:16
**Mark wrote it--"The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God"--Mk. 1:1
**Nathaniel believed it--"Thou art the Son of God" Jn. 1:49
**Martha said it--"Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God"--Jn.11:27
**Paul preached it--"He is the Son of God"--Acts 9:20
**Jesus' own word on it--"He that speaketh unto thee is He"--Jn. 9:35-37

2-He Was this--the Son of God--FROM ALL ETERNITY PAST
3-So described--at Baptism--Mk. 1:11
--at Transfiguration--Mk. 9:7
--At Resurrection--Acts 13:33

"God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that He hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the 2nd Psalm--Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee!"

4-Because of this POWER being demonstrated in the RESURRECTION of Christ, we see Him as the FOUNT OF POWER for us
5-His power is AVAILABLE.....FOR US ALL ! !

SEVEN

H.-His Heavenly Power ("...according to the spirit of holiness...")

1-"spirit"--with a small "s" in KJV
--not a reference to the HOLY Spirit
--not to the HUMAN spirit of Christ Himself
2-Parallel between BODY of Christ in 1:3 & SPIRIT of Christ (1:4
3-This is a reference to that holiness in which He had existed & walked on earth all His life--Power of the H.S.
4-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"On the one side He was of the seed of David, and on the other He was the Eternal Son of God." (P.45)

III.-WHY IS THIS "GOSPEL OF CHRIST" GOOD NEWS?:

A.-Seven Fundamental Facts:

1-These 7 fundamental facts concerning the Person & work of Jesus Christ should be carefully noted. Their agreement with the statements of the Apostle's Creed, as now held by the Church Universal, is close and striking. Sometimes men discuss "WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?" and seek to discover what they call "primitive Christianity".
2-Here it is, quite evidently set before us. These profound truths about our Lord were believed & obeyed as early as 30 years after His death & resurrection. Nothing could well be more primitive than this.
3-As we ponder these verses we can readily understand how fully & heartily the Apostle Paul believed that his message was one of "good news"
4-Let us dwell upon some aspects of the Gospel as here presented

B.-Seven Aspects Of The Gospel:

1-It has a Divine Source: It comes from God; it speaks of God; it contains God's message; it tells of God's gift; it provides God's guarantee; it is the Gospel of God from first to

last

2-It agrees with the Old Testament: The Gospel in the O. T. is a fruitful theme, whether we think of the prophet, the priest, or the king. "Christ is all." The earnest, humble, thoughtful soul will ever take a delight in pondering the O. T. teaching in type, history, parable, & prophecy, to find therein the footsteps of the Messiah.

3-It has a Divine Savior: Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and nothing short of Deity would suffice for our salvation. As Bishop Moule so aptly says: "A Savior not quite God would mean a broken bridge on the farther side". Here is our rock foundation. "God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself."

4-It has a Human Savior: This is as necessary as the other. Jacob's ladder was "set up on the earth," & if man is to be saved he must be saved by One Who is Man as well as God. Let us bind this closely to our hearts. Jesus Christ is "bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh." He was "touched with the feeling of our infirmities." He was "Perfect Man" for our redemption

5-It has a Risen Savior: The Resurrection is the divine proof that the work of Christ is complete, & by it Jesus Christ was designated to be our Divine Redeemer. "The Church of Christ is built on an empty tomb," & in the Resurrection our salvation finds its full assurance

6-Its Practical Effects: Thus early does the Appstle strike his keynote of "POWER", for this beyond all else is the characteri tic of the Gospel. Christ possesses power & bestows it on His people, & herein is the secret of all that is worth knowing & possessing in Christianity.

7-Its Personal Requirements: "Jesus Christ our Lord." It is only as we realize & recognize the Lordship of Jesus Christ that we find Him to be "SON OF GOD WITH POWER". Submission & surrender are essential to the full reception & enjoyment of the Gospel of God in X.

Hymns: Tell Me The Old, Old Story 229
My Redeemer 488
Christ The Lord Is Risen Today #137

3/29/70 - Easter P.M. - Westbrae
Daniels M.B. Ch. - 3/26/78
Old Kanawha Bapt. Ch. 11/4/84

CONCLUSION:

A.-And Remember--Its Outreach Is Universal:

1-Rom. 1:16
2-Rom. 10:13
3-Acts 1:8

B.-And Remember--Its Outreach Is Thru You

1-2 Cor. 3:2--"Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known & read of all men."
2-Even as the Lord Jesus was "The Word in flesh"
3-So are we to be vessels meet for the Master's use"
4-Only as we fulfill this obligation will the gospel become a reality in the midst of the world of our day

C.-And Remember--Its Message Is Christ:

1-Isa. 53:11--"He shall see the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall my righteous Servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities.

PAUL---SPECIALIST IN THE GOSPEL — Rom. 1:1, 5

INTRO: A.-What did Paul look Like:

1-A number of ancient writings give us some descriptions of Paul's physical appearance. A 4th century writer speaks of him as "the bald-headed, hook-nosed Galilean" Some early writers have described Paul as "an ugly Jew"

2-A document which is said to have come to us out of the 1st or 2nd century, ACTS OF PAUL AND THECLA, contains perhaps the fullest portraiture of the Apostle to the Gentiles. This particular document found wide circulation in the Syriac, Latin, Greek & Armenian languages

3-A description of Paul in the Syriac version reads: "A man of middling size, & his hair was scanty, & his legs were a little crooked & his knees were projecting (or far apart); and he had large eyes, & his eyebrows met, & his nose was somewhat long; & he was full of grace& mercy; at one time he seemed like a man, & at another he seemed like an angel."

4-Some of the other versions speak of Paul's blue eyes, crisp and curly hair, & an aquiline nose.

B.-Paul's Appearance To Us:

1-Not really sure of his physical "looks"

2-Know him well---thru his writings — This the IMPORTANT Remembrance Of Paul

3-Therein we get an "image" of him

Rom. 1:1
- --Paul the Bondservant of Jesus Christ
- --Paul the Sent One (Apostle)
- --Paul the Separated

Rom. 1:5
- --Paul the Specialist
- --Paul, his Sphere & Sufficiency.

4-Thus, we can know him better than his contemporaries who only "saw him" with the seeing of the eyes.

I.-PAUL THE SENT ONE (APOSTLE):

A.-An Apostle:

1-English term is not a translation, but a transliteration of ἀπόστολος

2-Meaning=="sent one"=="one sent"=="messenger"=="ambassador" =="envoy"

3-Thus, an apostle was an immediate messenger of Jesus Christ with full credentials from the court of heaven—

- --Residing in a foreign country — ON ASSIGNMENT
- --Representing a Sovereign — AUTHORITY
- --Reaching those to whom he is sent — COMMUNICATING
- --Revealing the truth — EFFECTIVE

B.-The Apostles:

1-Term applied to "the twelve"---Lk. 6:13-16 (named here)
---Mk. 3:13-14 (progression)

① —He called them
② —They came unto Him
③ —He ordained 12
* To be with Him
* To be sent forth

2-Barnabas--Acts 14:[redacted]4

3-James-----Gal. 1:19

4-Andronicus & Junia (s)--Rom. 16:7?

5-Matthias--Acts 1:25-26

6-Essential qualification--Acts 1:22--"...must one be ordained to be a witness with us of His resurrection"
7-Thus, Paul was included--1 Cor. 9:1--"Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are ye not my work in the Lord?"
8-Paul was designated "AN APOSTLE" in all his letters except Phillippians, 1 & 2 Thess. & Philemon

C.-An Apostle By Calling:
1-The term "by calling" or "called" (Κλητος)
2-A Divine calling, not human
--1 Cor. 1:1-"Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God..."
--Gal. 1:1-"Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father..."
--Rom. 11:29--"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance."
--Heb. 5:4--And no man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God..."
3-Calling was PERSONALLY given to Paul by Jesus Christ
--Gal. 1:11-12--"But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."
4-Calling was RESPONDED to willingly by Paul--1 Cor. 9:16-18
--"For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me. What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel
5-What a contrast with JER. 23:16-22
6-Notice the usage of this term "called"
--Used of Paul--Rom. 1:1
--Used of Saints in Rome--Rom. 1:6, 7
--Used of All believers--Rom. 8:28, 30(twice), 1 Cor. 1:24, Jude 1
--Used of Corinthian believers--1 Cor. 1:2, 9
--Used of those associated with the Lord Jesus in His triumphal return to the earth--Rev. 17:14
--We are all JUST AS 'CALLED' as Paul was!
7-SOVEREIGN GRACE of the Lord is seen in Christ calling Paul, His greatest enemy, to be His greatest Apostle.

II.-PAUL THE SEPARATED:

A.-Definition:
1-Greek--αφωρισμενος = "Separated"
--Perfect Participle indicating a PAST action with a CONTINUING result
=="separated"=="permanently set apart"=="marked off"=="horizoned out"
2-Might suggest a TRUE PHARISEE=="one truly and permanently separated unto God"

B.-Three Senses Of Paul's Separation:

1-At birth--Gal. 1:15-- "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mothers womb, + called me by His grace."

2-At conversion--Acts 9

3-For service--Acts 13:2-- "... Separate me Barnabas + Saul for the work where-unto I have called them."

4-At birth & conversion it was by God alone

5-At "call" which Paul responded to, it was by God & Church (for service)

C.-Purpose Of Separation:

1-Specific--"separated unto the gospel"
--This was Paul's life work

2-Heartfelt separation---"THIS ONE THING I DO"--Phs. 3:13

3-True separation
--is first UNTO God
--as a result it is also FROM the world
--1 Thess. 1:9--"For they themselves show of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, & how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God."
--ILLUS --Marriage---UNTO A BRIDE
FROM ALL OTHER GIRLS
--True separation is from the heart & not just geography
--ILLUS--Israelites were separated from Egypt, but were still lusting in their hearts for the flesh-pots, leeks, & garlic of that world-centered life in Egypt, instead of being satisfied with God & His provision.

4-Others who've been God's "separated ones"
--Jacob, from his mother's womb
--Moses, from the river Nile
--Samson, as a Nazarite
--Samuel, lent to the Lord from before birth
--Jeremiah, from his mother's womb
--John the Baptist, as a Nazarite & in miraculous birth to the "barren one"

5-Separation is a SOVEREIGN ACT OF GOD

6-You.....and I.....are as sovereignly called to live a separated & "different" life as Paul ever was

7-Titus 2:11-15--READ !

III.-PAUL, THE SPECIALIST:

A.-Introduction:

1-LEHMAN STRAUSS (Former Pastor, Highland Park Baptist Church, Highland Park, Michigan)--"Let every believer make certain he understands the Gospel. Romans is the place to begin, for here Paul is not preaching the Gospel to sinners, but rather teaching the Gospel to saints. The Apostle's entire life from the time of his conversion was devoted to making clear the Gospel. Paul was a specialist in the Gospel (1:1), for to him was committed by God 'the mystery of the Gospel'(Eph. 6:19)".

B.-What Is The Gospel?:

1-Dictionary Definition:--
--From Anglo-Saxon "good spell", "good tale", "good story"
--Hence, "GOOD NEWS"
--Not just "good advice", which can be ignored w/o peril

2-"Gospel"--Not an O. T. term
--Not used in the LXX
--N. T. concept entirely
--Mark 1:1, 14-15----READ
--Gospel is something to BELIEVE! N.B.
--Gospel is not DO, but DONE!

3-Biblical definition of the Gospel
--1 Cor. 15:3-5--"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: and that he was seen...."
--FOUR points to the Gospel; not just THREE:
**Christ died
**Christ was buried
**Christ rose again
**Christ was seen

4-Term "gospel" used 13 times in Romans
5-Romans begins (1:1) with the gospel & closes with the gospel in 16:25-------" " of the gospel around Romans!

C.-"The Gospel Of God":

1-Paul's characteristic term for the GOSPEL
2-Sometimes called it "MY GOSPEL"
3-Only ONE Gospel
--Source is in God
--Message is of God's Son
--Gospel is God's "Good News" for lost men
4-Gospel is a HEAVEN-MADE, not a MAN-MADE message
5-Emphasis (19 times) in John's gospel is that GOD initiated this GOOD news for BAD sinners!.....HALLELUJAH !
6-Gospel must FIRST be presented to the lost of this world
7-1 Cor. 2:2--"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, & Him crucified."
8-Need to "go on"beyond TRUST, TANK, & TITHE
S.B.C. "Cycle" in the south
9-Peter warns against despising Paul's words or wresting them to one's own destruction------2 Pet. 3:14-18

IV.-PAUL, HIS SPHERE & SUFFICIENCY: (Rom. 1:5)

A.-Among All Nations:

1-Paul's was not a limited sphere of ministry
--not among Jews only
--not to a single nation or a few nations
-but to all Gentiles
--Gal. 2:8 "(For He that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, the same was mighty in me toward the Gentiles").
--Acts 9:15; [redacted]
"...for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, + Kings + the children of Israel."

2-Declaration of "the FAITH way"
3-Contrast with "the WORKS way"----Rom. 3:20; 10:3
4-Issue was OBEDIENCE TO THE FAITH, regardless of
--race
--religious background
--national origin
--condition of freedom or servitude

B.-Equippage For The Task;

1-"By whom" == lit., "thru whom"
--Ref. to 1:3-4 shows Christ to be the bestower
--Christ is the channel for all we are & have
--1 Cor. 8:6--"But to us there is but one God, the Father of whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him."
--Paul's authority is from Christ, not man
--Already seen in Gal. 1:1, 11-12...

2-"We"--Paul & all other Apostles

3-"Have received"
--can accurately be rendered "have taken"
--implies both a DIVINE gift and a HUMAN acceptance
--BARLETT--"God's gifts are God's calls" (P.20)
--"Blessings entail duties" (P.20)

4-"Grace and Apostleship"
--Perhaps "apostolic grace
--compends both qualification & commission
--"Grace"**21 times in Romans
**leads to obedience
**personal grace precedes service ALWAYS
**Unmerited favor.....and more!
--"apostleship"--True Apostolic Church is made up of "sent ones"
--No denomination has the right to use "Apostolic", "Catholic","Church of God", or "Church of Christ" as though they were the only ones so qualified

5-Paul's apostleship was as a result of having "seen the Lord" (1 Cor. 9:1) and having "the signs of an Apostle"(2 Cor. 10:8; 13:10; 12:12)

CONCLUSION:

A.-Paul And His Status:

1-Paul the servant; bondslave
2-Paul the Sent One; apostle
3-Paul the Separated
4-Paul the Specialist in the Gospel
5-Paul, his Sphere & Sufficiency

B.-Characterization Of Paul:

1-Man of ONE LORD----His Passion
2-Man of ONE BOOK----His Message
3-Man of ONE CALLING----Sharing Christ
4-Am I.....Are you.....that kind of man?; of woman?; of child?; of young person?

C.-Breadth Of Commission:

1-"For obedience"--Like quotation marks around Romans(1:5;16:26)
--"To obey God's good news is simply to BELIEVE IT" Newell.

2-"To the faith"--That body of truth which is God's revelation
--ILLUS--Acts 6:7

3-"Among all nations"
--To the ends of the earth & wherever God sends you to do your witnessing
--"The apostles were not diocesans restricted in juris-

diction to a particular territory. Their commission was general. It was to all nations." Hodge, P. 31

4- ILLUS --Obedience---Gk. word is one which indicates HEARING that issues in DOING
--Reminds of the instantaneous response when the phone rings.
--May God find in us that response of obedience .....immediately!

My Savior — 154 9/27/70 - Weatbrae
O For A Thousand Tongues - 222

INTRO: A.-City Of Rome:

1-Predominantly a Gentile city
2-Population of 1½ million in Paul's day
3-Ratio of 5 slaves to each 2 free men
4-60,000 Jews there in spite of Claudius' edict banning Jews from Rome (Acts 18:2)
5-BARTLETT---"Rome was by no means a heavenly city. It was a sink of iniquity. Wickedness abounded" (P.21)

B.-Origin Of The Church In Rome:

1-No founder or date are known
2-Believed by some to have been founded by some who were present in Jerusalem at Pentecost (Acts 2:10)
3-NO SUPPORT for view that Peter founded the Ch. in Rome
--Acts doesn't mention Peter in Rome
--In Acts 15 Peter is in Jerusalem & in 1 Peter 5:13 Peter is in Babylon
--Peter is not mentioned or saluted by Paul in Romans
--Paul didn't build on other men's foundations
--Rom. 15:20--"Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation."
--MOULE---"The silence of our Epistle, and of the Epistles afterward written from Rome, is itself sufficient evidence against the legend (recorded by St. Jerome) of St. Peter's Episcopate at Rome." (P.17)
4-Paul's influence on the church's founding (Andronicus Junias Herodion)
--3 of Paul's kinsmen were there (Rom.16:7,11)
--Paul was the Apostle to the Gentiles; Peter to the Jews
--DENNY---"Beyschlag...supposes that the Church consisted mainly of proselytes--that is, of persons who were Gentiles by birth, but had passed through the Jews religion. This would explain the great difficulty of the epistle, that Paul addresses his readers as if they were Gentiles, but argues with them as if they were Jews." (Expositors II, P. 561)
--MC GEE---"Paul, as much as any other man, was responsible for the origin of the Church in Rome, due to his having been responsible for the conversion of at least two of the people addressed in Ch. 16."
5-In Acts 28 the Jews in the Roman Synagog seemed ignorant of Christianity, so it may have been a predominantly Gentile Christian community.
6-Let's look at a 4-fold description of these believers (ALL are addressed; Known + UnKnown.)

I.-THEIR FOUR--FOLD DESCRIPTION (1:6-7a):

A.-"The Called Of Jesus Christ (EFFECTIVE SALVATION):

1-"Called" is used in the Gospels & in the Epistles in a very distinctive way
2-Three calls:
--General call**Emphasis of the GOSPELS

**ILLUS---Mt. 9:13---"...for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

--Effective Call**Emphasis of the EPISTLES
**ILLUS--Rom. 8:28-30

--Special Call**Special Service "call"
**ILLUS--Acts 13:1-2; Gal. 1:15-16

3-These 3 calls are:
--From the Father
--Without repentance
--Rom.11:29--"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance."

4-HODGE---"The word Κλητός ("called") is never in the epistles applied to one who is merely invited by the external call of the gospel...the effectually called." (P.31)

5-Same word---"CALLED" as in 1:1
---"called to be an apostle"
--Paul was "called"
--Roman believers were "called
--one was just as "called" as the other
--AND SO ARE WE ! !

6-SO, we see that to be "called of Jesus Christ" implies both the invitation by God and the acceptance by us!

7-That gives a guarantee of EFFECTIVE SALVATION — GOD DOES IT ALL !

B.-They Are "Beloved Of God" (ELEVATED PORTION):

1-GODET--"ALL men are, in one sense, beloved of God, (Jn. 3:16), but outside of faith, God's love can be nothing but love that is compassion. For no creature that can love become intimate, a love that is communion, such as that which unites Father and child, until there is a reconciliation based on faith

2-What an inspiration to realize that they were objects of God's love because they belonged to Jesus Christ

3-God the Father delights to call us His beloved ones
--1 Jn. 3:1--"Behold what manner of love..."
--Jn. 17:23--"...loved them as thou hast loved me."
--Gal. 2:20--"...loved me and gave Himself for me."
--Eph. 2:4--"...great love wherewith He loved us..."
--1 Jn. 4:10, 11, 19--"...He loved us...so loved us...He first loved us."
--Rom. 8:35-39--"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ

4-God takes us just as we are.....HALELUJAH ! !

5-God loves us with an everlasting love

6-What a joy and rest to rejoice in that ELEVATED PORTION

7-What comfort, encouragement & peace are MINE.....and THEIRS.. ....and YOURS

C.-They Are "Called Saints"--(ETERNAL POSITION):

1-Three Conceptions of Sainthood:
--Individuals canonized by the Church (R. C. View)
--Individuals characterized by holy living (World's View)
--Individuals converted by saving faith (Biblical View)

2-ALL saved people are (not, "will be") saints !

3-Sainthood is an eternal condition & position of the believer

4-Sainthood is a GIFT OF GOD

5-World originated the term "christian" (Acts 11:26)
6-God calls us "saints" (Rom. 1:7; Eph. 1:1; Phs. 1:2; Col. 1:2)
7-Word "saints" means "holy ones" & relates to sanctification. Thus, we are consecrated, SAINTS BY CALLING or COMMISSIONED SAINTS
8-We are separated, dedicated & belonging to God
9-"They were not called because they were saints, but they were saints because they were called." GRIFFITH-THOMAS
10-Our lives may not yet be perfect & holy, but our POSITION is, for we're already SAINTS. This is our ETERNAL POSITION in the sight of God.
11-Therefore, our lives need to "measure up" to that position

D.-They Are "In Rome" (EARTHLY PLACE):
1-Other designations were spiritual
2-This one is geographic
3-On the one hand--"called of Jesus Christ"
--"Beloved of God"
--"called saints"
4-On the other hand--in the Roman metropolis
--surrounded by heathenism
--working for unsaved masters
--ruled by a totalitarian power
--some in slavery
--some high & some low positions
--some rich & some poor
--Yet, all were co-heirs of these spiritual realities
5-IN ROME---Geographically
6-IN CHRIST---Spiritually
7-Two-fold environment of a Christian----Living in 2 worlds simultaneously
8-Whatever may be the problems, the difficulties, the trials, the temptations of our "ROME".....our EARTHLY PLACE.....
...Remember.....yeah, never let us forget....that we are IN CHRIST ! !

II.-THEIR TWO--FOLD GREETING (1:7):

A.-"Grace To You":
1-Greek form of greeting---"GRACE"
2-Most characteristic word of the gospel
--Eph. 2:8-9---"For by grace are ye saved..."
--Tit. 2:11--"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."
3-All the free, loving, unmerited favor of God toward those who deserve His wrath------UNDESERVED KINDNESS
4-Jn. 3:36--"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."
5-Grace must precede peace
6-Reject grace, and you'll never have peace
7-Accept God's grace & "peace with God" is assured
8-Very simple formula.....isn't it?
9-Do YOU have PEACE, now?

B.-"And Peace":

"PEACE"

1-Hebrew form of greeting----"SHALOM"---"Well being", "Peace"
2-Peace is repose in God's favor which issues in serenity of heart, life & intercourse
3-Peace grows out of grace experienced---Then hostilities CEASE !
4-There is no peace for those who are still under the wrath of God
5-Isa. 57:21--"There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked"
6-RUTHERFORD---"All other peace than that extended by God and possessed by the saints will break up at last in a sad war."
7-These 2 words---"Grace & Peace"---sum up the whole gospel. They are CAUSE & EFFECT
8-The 3rd word----"MERCY" is not here. It is included only in letters to individuals (1 & 2 Tim., Titus, 2 John), for we need mercy individually (Heb. 4:16)

C.-Source Of These Blessings:

1-"from God our Father"
2-Father in O. T. to Nation of Israel
3-Now in N. T., He is Father to the church
--"Our Father"---20 times in N. T.
--"My Father"----23 times in N. T.

D.-Channel Of These Blessings:

1-"and the Lord Jesus Christ"
2-Linked in Paul's mind as equal with the Father according to the Greek construction
3-Grace & peace originate with God the Father
4-Grace & peace are channeled to us through Christ
5-N.B.---Omission of Spirit
--Father & Jesus Christ are absent from believers in Rome, thus, they are linked in the greeting
--But, the Spirit was with them & in them
--Spirit is wherever a believer is
--Therefore this epistle (& others also) are not in His Name

E.-Scope of These Blessings:

1-"To all that be in Rome..."
2-Paul included them all
3-Jew & Gentile alike
4-We are ALL possessors of an equal spiritual heritage
5-Our inequality stems from the use we make of it

CONCLUSION:

A.-Dr. BEET---"Notice the beauty and symmetry of Paul's opening sentence (1:1-7). It is a crystal arch spanning the gulf between the Jew of Tarsus and the Christians at Rome. Paul begins by giving his name: he rises to the dignity of his office, and then to the Gospel he proclaims. From the Gospel he ascends to its great subject matter, to Him Who is Son of David & Son of God. From this summit of his arch he passes on to the apostleship again, and to the nations for whose good he received it. Among these nations he finds christians at Rome. He began to build by laying down

his own claims; he finished by acknowledging theirs. The gulf is spanned. Across the waters of national separation Paul has flung an arch whose firmly knit segments are living truths, and whose Keystone is the incarnate Son of God. Over this arch he hastens with words of greeting from his Father and their Father, from his Master and their Master." (P.38)

B.-As we ponder Paul's wonderful words shall we not pray afresh for grace to follow St. Paul, even as he followed Christ

C.-May we not recall that all are equally endowed by their Redeemer, and that any inequality results from unequal application of themselves to the full utilization of their spiritual inheritance-----as-----"called of Jesus Christ"
"beloved of God"
"called saints"
"in Rome".....or where ever we may be.

Westbrae — 10/4/70

Hymns: My Name's Written There — 159
Tell Me The Story of Jesus — 113

"PAUL'S LONGING HEART" Romans 1:8-10

INTRO:

A.-Purposes For Writing "Romans":
1-Phebe contemplated a trip to Rome (16:1-2) & could carry a letter for Paul from Corinth
2-Conviction that his work in the east was don (15:19,23)
3-Desire to visit Rome on his way to Spain (15:28)
4-Need to prepare their hearts & minds for his visit
5-Paul had "heard" of their faith & wanted to be an eye-witness of it (1:8)
6-Desire for "some fruit" among them (1:13)

B.-Content Of Romans:
1-Called by some "a transcript of Paul's gospel"
2-No sharp occasion or situation which caused the writing of this letter----Merely a "preparatory epistle"
3-MOULE---"The Epistle was evidently written not under pressure of anxiety, but with calm deliberation "(P.20)
4-Quite a contrast with 1 & 2 Corinthians & Galatians

C.-Introductory Remarks To Epistle:
1-His delight in them----1:8
2-His devotion toward them----1:9-10
3-His desire for them----1:11-13

I.-HIS DELIGHT IN THEM---(1:8):

A.-Thankfulness Comes First:
1-Some think Paul planned a "SECOND" thought in parallel, but that it was interrupted
2-More likely, the "FIRST" was to indicate the prominent place he gives to thanksgiving
3-THANKS must precede any MESSAGE
4-Paul's principle----1 Thess. 5:18--"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."
5-Not just in good times & ideal circumstances, but in every thing
6-Is that possible?----Paul found it so!
7-Eph. 5:20--"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."
8-DENNY---"Nothing can take precedence of thanksgiving, when Paul thinks of the Romans, or indeed of any Christian church in normal health." (P. 589)

B.-Thankfulness Is Personal:
1-Note the personal pronouns--I thank
--MY God
--for YOU all
2-Thankfulness--For the privilege of praying
--For them as people
--For their faith & testimony
--Deals with the offering of HUMBLE APPRECIATION
3-Thankfulness is to "MY GOD"
-Luther speaks of Christianity as a religion of possessive pronouns. Anyone can say "GOD", but only a Christ-

ian can say "MY GOD"
--Paul uses the term "My God" only 8 times (1 Cor. 1:4; 14:18; 2 Cor. 12:21; Phil. 1:3; 4:9; Phile. 4)
--Used by Thomas---"My Lord and My God"--Jn. 20:28
--Used by Christ on the cross--Mt. 27:46--"My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?"
--BARNHOUSE--"One must have permission to call God, "MY GOD". Jer. 30:22; Jn. 1:12. The doctrine of the Universal Fatherhood of God is not in the Bible. See Jn. 8:44"

4-Thankfulness is "through Jesus Christ"
--Never thru any "saints" of the church
--Never thru any preacher
--Never through the Apostles
--Never through Mary
--ONLY Christ serves as Mediator
--1 Tim. 2:5--"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."
--Rom. 8:34--"Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

5-Thankfulness is "for you all"
--Paul was interested in people
--Paul was interested in them----in Rome
--Wonderful! Could be thankful for every one of them!
--Why? ? ----Because of their faith
--They stood as a UNITED CHURCH
--Acts 4:32--"And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common."
--Who couldn't rejoice over that kind?
*--Can your Pastor rejoice over that kind of a church?
--Can your Pastor rejoice over YOU because of your faith & faithfulness?

C.-Thankfulness Is For Their Reality Of Testimony!:
1-"Your faith" is the practical equivalent of "your christianity"
2-Evidence in their lives of the faith in their hearts
3-For what is YOUR CHURCH famous? ? ?
--Architecture ?
--Music & Choir ?
--Zeal ?
--Antiquity ?
--Denominational relationship?
--Human founder ?
--Crowds it draws ?
--Pastor it has ?
--OR, the christianity of the people ?

4-"Your faith is spoken of through the whole world"
=="is spread throughout with commendation"=="is announced as a wonder"
--As with any genuine revival, the whole world soon knows of it
--Paul's hearing of their faith arouses his desire to be a witness of it.
--ILLUS---Infidel coming to church when it was burning down. Asked by a christian friend why he'd never come

to church before. Infidel replied, "Well, the church has never been on fire before!".

--SIMILAR INCIDENT.....Several years ago I witnessed the blaze of an oil truck which had overturned & caught fire on the N. Y. Turnpike. The crowd watching the blaze was immense. Several months later an ice truck over turned at almost the same spot. Passers-by hardly even slowed t down to watch the ice melt.

--Church is to be a RADIATING CENTER for the gospel message

--1 Thess. 1:6-8---"And ye became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost; so that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia & Achaia. For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia & Achaia, but also in every place for your faith to God-ward is spread abroad..."

5-BARTLETT----"Rome was the capitol city of the Empire, & so the church in that center would, other things being equal, have a wide influence for good or ill by virtue of its strategic position. The greater the prominence of a church, the heavier is the obligation resting upon it to see that its light of witness be undimmed by any remote flaw or weakness." (P.25)

6-Isn't there a parallel for OUR CHURCH in its strategic location? ?

7-Do we measure up to that standard?

8-MATTHEW HENRY----"The Church at Rome was then a flourishing church; but since that time, how the gold is become dim! The epistle to the Romans is now an epistle against the Romans."

9-Let it never happen that we fail, and the Epistle to the Romans become an epistle against us !

II.-PAUL'S DEVOTION TOWARD THEM (1:9-10):

A.-Paul's Prayer Life (1:9):

1-"For God is my witness"

--shows his intense sincerity

--BENGEL--"There could be no other witness to his practice in his secret prayers, but God, and as the assertion of a habit of incessantly praying for the Roman christians, whom he had never seen, might seem to savor of an exaggerated expression of affection, he solemnly appeals to this only possible testimony."

2-"Whom I serve"

--Not an institution,, but a PERSON is served.

--Term, "Serve" (λατρεύω) was used in LXX of the service of the priests of the true God

=="to render religious service or homage, to worship, to perform sacred services"

--Paul's was intelligent & reasonable service (12:1; 15: 15-16)

3-"With my spirit"

--Paul's human spirit; his God-consciousness

--Not an external service, but internal & sincere service

--In the realm of the gospel ("in the gospel of His Son)".

4-"That without ceasing"

==without intermission

--Takes own doctrine seriously

--1 Thess. 5:17---"Pray without ceasing"

--A. T. Robertson indicates that from this phrase he believes Paul prayed from a prayer list

--Praying was habitual with Paul

--ILLUS----Have you ever coughed with a hacking cough? When in the morning you were asked how you spent the night, have you never said: "I coughed all night?" Now, what did you mean? That you never stopped coughing? NO ! Rather, that your night was characterized by coughing

-----So, to pray "without ceasing" is to have a life characterized by prayer---HABITUAL PRAYER.

5-"I make mention of you in my prayers"

--Prayer was a prominent feature of Apostolic ministry

--Acts 6:4--"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the Word."

--BARTLETT---"Neglect of intercessory prayer, like a protracted drought, is retarding the progress of Christ's kingdom." (P.24)

--WENHAM---"Preaching is a rare gift---prayer is a rarer one. Preaching, like a sword, is a weapon to use at close quarters; those far off cannot be reached by it. Prayer, like a breechloader, has longer range, & under some circumstances is ever more effective." (P. 7)

B.-Paul's Prayer Request (1:10):

1-Paul pleads with God for this privilege & joy--"making request"

2-Paul practiced in his own example what he taught in precept

--Phs. 4:6

--1 Thess. 2:13--"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, ...

--1 Thess. 5:17

3-While Paul reached multitudes with his preaching, certainly he reached far more by praying, for "prayer moves the Arm that moves the world."

4-"If by any means now at length"

--shows Paul's earnestness & eagerness

--"now at length" == "now after all this waiting"

5-Content of that request---"I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you."

6-Take up that journey in next study---"JOURNEYING OF THE WILL OF GOD."

CONCLUSION:

A.-Purposes In Writing Romans:

B.-Paul's Delight In The Romans:
1-Thankfulness comes first
2-Thankfulness is personal
3-Thankfulness is for their REALITY of testimony

C.-Paul's Devotion Toward Them:
1-Paul's Prayer Life
2-Paul's Prayer Request

D.-Paul's Desire For Them (next message)-----JOURNEYING IN THE WILL OF GOD

E.-What Have I Learned In This?
1-Facts ? Thanks + Prayer
2-Heart ?
3-Life of prayer & faith .....and action!

A Passion for Souls
Are Ye Able, Said The Master

"JOURNEYING IN THE WILL OF GOD" Romans 1:10-13
Acts 20:22-24; 21:4, 10-14, 18-27; 23:11; 25:10-12; 26:32; & Chapters 27 & 28

INTRO: A.-We've Seen:
1-Paul's Description Of Them (1:6-7)
--"the called of Jesus Christ"
--"beloved of God"
--"called saints"
--"In Rome"
2--Paul's Delight In Them (1:8)
3-Paul's Devotion Toward Them (1:9-10)
4-NOW-----Paul's Desire For Them (1:11-13)
5-Read-----1:10-13

I.-REASONS FOR PAUL'S DESIRE TO GO TO ROME:

A.-To Impart:
1-Root of Paul's desire to go to Rome was not merely to gratify his own desires, but to satisfy his deep longing to impart blessing
--in person
--in absentia--1 Cor. 5:3
--in epistle--13 of them
--fulfilment of Jn. 7:38
2-To IMPART, we must first POSSESS
3-Jn. 7:37-39
4-Paul was"homesick for them" so he could have this privilege of imparting
5-"Some spiritual gift"
--Used 2 ways in N. T.
***Technical sense of an extraordinary power & gift of the Spirit for ministering
***Ordinary sense of "a favor received without merit on the recipient's part." VINCENT
--NEWELL---"Paul knew that there was in him by the grace of God peculiar apostolic power, by both his presence & the ministry of the Word, to 'impart a gift' or spiritual blessing....So it has been in their measure with all the great men of God."
--REMEMBER---"God gives gifts to men and gifted men to the Church"--L. S. Chafer
6-"To the end that ye may be established"
--Paul already considered them "established" in the faith (1:8)
--But he desired to ENLARGE & SETTLE them
--Perhaps best considered "brought to a new plane of devotion"
--Paul wanted to contribute his ministry to this end, yet knew that such "establishing" as was accomplished would be by God's hand
--Rom. 16:25-27 (Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel..."
--POEM....."MY PASTOR"

"My Pastor shapes his sermons from A to final Z
In clear and forthright language, and aims them straight at me.
And when he gets to preaching I look around to see
If there might be another deserving more than me
But every soul looks saintly----their hearts to heaven turn,
While I, in my convictions, can only sit and squirm.
You know, I often wonder if I should miss a day
Would he without his target have anything to say?

Poem

B.-Mutual Comfort: (1:12)

1-Paul's modest & delicate explanation of his desire to impart to them his spiritual ministry does not imply their weakness or instability, but his desire for a MUTUAL strengthening by MUTUAL INTERCOURSE.....AS explained in 1:12

2-SUCH TACT !

3-"That I may be comforted together with you"

--Expects that not only will he impart to them (1:11), but that they will impart to him as well

--Avoids any airs of superiority; doesn't speak from a PEDISTAL

--K. S. WUEST--"'Comforted' usually carries the idea of consolation, but here it is with the idea of mutual strengthening."

--Fellowship moves BOTH WAYS ....."Concurrent encouragment"

--Paul's gracious spirit is seen here, though doubtless their blessing would be greater than his.

--CALVIN---"In Christ's Church no one is so poor as not to be able to confer upon us some important benefit; but our pride hinders us from reaping these mutual advantages."

--Mutual faith should lead to mutual blessing

--Who is my Pastor's Pastor?-------BARNHOUSE said: "The PEOPLE are the preacher's PASTOR!"

C.-Have Some Fruit: (1:13)

1-Previously hindered from coming (discussed under II, A, "Hitherto")

2-Paul speaks to the Roman Christians as "BRETHREN"

--Paul doesn't address them from the lofty pinacle of his apostleship, but shows himself a fellow-believer in spirit

--J.A.BEET --"Our spirits bowed before one who stood so high in the service of so great a Master. But now the ambassador of Christ comes to us as one like ourselves. Across the waters which roll between him & us, we hear a brother's voice & see a brother's face." (P.47)

3-"That I might have some fruit among you also"

--Jn. 15:16

--Had such fruit among others before them

--Yearned for fruit among them too !

--This was Paul's PASSIONATE DESIRE

--ILLUS --John Welch (Son-in-law of John Knox)--"Give me .. Scotland, or I die."

--FRUIT***of souls saved (Seeking the LOST)
***of christians furthered in their spiritual life (Feeding the SAINTS)

--BARTLETT---"Paul had fruit because he prayed & planned & worked. Fruitlessness may often be charged to aimlessness & shiftlessness. There is no such thing in the spiritual realm as a spontaneous generation of harvests. The fruit we reap comes from the seed we plant & cultivate under God. Toiling goes before reaping."

D.-Partial Payment On His Indebtedness:
1-Romans 1:14-15
2-Steward of the gospel
3-TRUSTEE with a TRUST to perform
--1 Cor. 4:1-2--"Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."
--1 Cor. 9:16-17--"For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me."
4-GRIFFITH-THOMAS ---"The man who in heart & conscience realizes that 'I AM A DEBTOR', is the one who will do the most & best work for Christ." (P.57)
5-Paul desired to discharge his debt of love to Christ by reaching men for Christ
6-Spiritual obligations had heavy weight to his conscience

II.-HINDRANCES TO PAUL'S DESIRE TO GO TO ROME:

A.-"Hitherto" (Previously):
1-1:13
2-"Now I would not have you ignorant"
--Paul doesn't want any mistaken conclusion that his absence from them was due to lack of a longing heart toward them.
--Characteristic Pauline phrase (1:13; 11:25; 1 Cor. 10:1; 12:1; 2 Cor. 1:8; 1 Thess . 4:13)
3-"That oftentimes I purposed to come unto you"
--Not a new resolve, but an old longing
--Purpose & continued determination show thru
--Eagerly craves fresh opportunities
4-"But was let hitherto"
--"let"==Old English for "hindered", "prevented", "cut short"
--Hindered by SATAN (1 Thess 2:18)
--Hindered by WORK (Rom. 15:19-23)
--Hindered by GOD (Acts 16:6-7, 9)
--Hindered by WILL OF GOD (2 Cor. 12:8-9)

B.-Thereafter Hindered:
1-No Biblical blueprint of God's perfect plan for how Paul was to get to Rome, though it does appear Paul's desire to go to Rome was "of the Lord."
2-Paul made his own plans-------Acts 20:22-24

3-Remonstrance by the Spirit thru Disciples
--Acts 21:4
--"should not go up to Jerusalem"==(Margin) "should not set foot in Jerusalem"
--Not now a mere warning (as was 20:23)
--But now an imperative command from the Spirit

4-Remonstrance by the Spirit thru Prophet Agabus
--21:10-14
--Second direct word from the SPIRIT, also
--Warning is enlarged to forewarn of imprisonment by Gentiles if Paul persists in his own wilful way
--Paul replies of his willingness for anything that happens
--BUT, willingness isn't the issue
--The will of God is the issue
--Yet, Paul "would not be pursuaded"
--"A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still"
--"WE" indicates Luke tried to dissuade him too, but failed

5-Paul takes a Jewish vow involving a Jewish sacrifice
--Acts 21:18-27
--Author of 5:1-4 acts in OWN WILL

6-Another warning
--Acts 22:17-19
--Received privately after Paul reached Jerusalem
--God graciously warns again & again--LONGSUFFERING
--22:19--talking when he should have been listening

7-Grace upon grace
--23:11
--Reassurance of God's overriding plan for Paul
--We, too, have sinned against God's love & plan at times
--But God is able to overcome it for our good & others' blessing

8-Paul appeals to Caesar
--25:10-12
--26:32
--Whether or not this was God's way of extricating Paul from this perdicament, Paul used it
--Chapters 27 & 28 show Paul on his way to Rome, but not without many difficulties & incidents

9-NOTICE
--Even while out of God's perfect plan, Paul continued to minister & be a blessing, for God's gifts & calling were upon him
--28:15--Paul took his courage from the saints & not from the wine at "Three Taverns"
--Paul lived to experience that "mutual comfort" with the Romans. The help of the humble is often a great encouragment even to the "GREATS" in the work of the Lord

III.-JOURNEYING IN THE WILL OF GOD----PRINCIPLES:

A.-Determine That Will:

1-By Word
2-By Prayer
3-By Circumstances
4-By Godly Advice
5-By Common Sense

B.-Follow That Will:

1-Keep preparing
2-Keep practicing, working, & perfecting
3-Keep "fresh" with God
4-Don't allow side-tracks
--by own fleshly desires
--by an "easy" short-cut
--by wrong marriage

C.-Do It God's Way:

1-1 Sam. 15:22
2-Isa. 55:8-9
3-Prov. 14:12
4-AVOID YOUR OWN WAY
5-Ps. 18:30a & 32

D.-And Remember-----Journeying In The Will Of God Means:

1-Being privileged to IMPART spiritual truth & blessing
2-Being COMFORTED TOGETHER
3-Having SPIRITUAL FRUIT
AND
4-Making PARTIAL PAYMENT on your INDEBTEDNESS.

Hymns:
A Charge To Keep I Have
It's Just Like His Great Love

PAUL'S "I AM'S" or "HOW GREAT A DEBTOR" Rom. 1:14-16

INTRO: A.-Debtorship:

1-ILLUS---In 1803, near the end of his first term as President, Thomas Jefferson wrote to a creditor asking for more time to pay a debt of $558.16. During the depression year of 1936 the Morris Plan Bank of Virginia printed 30,000 copies of Jefferson's letter "as proof that even the best of us borrow and sometimes have trouble making good." Ever since then copies of Jefferson's letter have kept turning up all over the United States. It would seem that history is determined to remember Jefferson's debt.

2-When writing to the Christians of Rome in the first century, Paul put down on parchment the fact that he was in debt, in debt to all peoples & races, & that his debt could be paid only by his zealous communication of the Gospel.

3-Paul thus reminds us that each believer is in debt, & that there is no way of honorably discharging that debt but by sharing of the good news. And let us solemnly remember: If we fail to pay our debt to th e unreached nations of the earth, future generations will have just cause to remember that we did not discharge our duty to God & to them.

B.-Paul's Three "I Am's":

1-I am DEBTOR
2-I am READY
3-I am NOT ASHAMED

PROP: 4-Convey singly & unitedly a sense of Paul's feeling of stewardship with the Gospel.

I.-I AM DEBTOR------ADMISSION----(1:14):

A.-A Debt Of Love (1:14a):

1-Because of love for Christ
2-Desired to discharge that debt
--1 Cor. 4:1-2
--1 Cor. 9:16-17
3-GRIFFITH-THOMAS --"The man who in heart & conscience realizes that 'I AM DEBTOR', is the one who will do the most & best work for Christ." (P.57)
4-"Oh to grace, how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter
Bind my wandring heart to Thee" --COME THOU FOUNT by Robert Robinson
5-BARTLETT--"Our discernment of debt governs our enrichment in grace. We are no more affluent spiritually than the indebtedness we acknowledge. Our privileges yield us revenue only in so far as we convert them into obligations. Not until we feel & know that our privileges in Christ constitute an inescapable responsibility to serve Him with all we are & have will the fabulous treasures

NB

that God has for us in Jesus enrich our souls as they can & should. In the spiritual realm, if not in the material, we keep what we give and lose what we keep." (P. 28)

6-NEWELL--"Just as definitely as Moses received the Law for Israel, so Paul received the gospel for us & he was a DEBTOR, both to God & to us, till he had that gospel committed to all."

7-ILLUS---A missionary got ready to go to Africa some years ago. After examination, they told him he shouldn't go, for he wouldn't live. But he said, "The Lord has called me, & I must go." They said, "You'll die if you go."

He said, "It isn't necessary for me to live. It is necessary for me to go!"

8-What part have we had in paying our DEBT to the world still without Christ?

9-An honest man pays his debts! ARE YOU HONEST?

10-2 Cor. 5:14-15

B. A Debt To All---(1:14b):

1-"Both"--spiritual obligation not limited to 1 class or nation
--Divided Gentiles (1:13) into language & culture classes
--But responsible to them ALL

2-"To the Greeks"--N.T. designation for any nationality conversing in the "universal tongue"
--Universality seen in that Ep. to Romans was written in Greek, not Latin
--Jews not mentioned. On Paul's heart (9:1-5; 10:1), but not his distinct commission

3-"And to the Barbarians"
--Speaker of an unintelligible tongue
--That is, one who does not read & speak Greek
--Division according to LANGUAGE.

ALL RACES
ALL PEOPLES

4-"Both"--reiterates this inclusivist term

5-"To the wise"--the ultimate in being cultured

6-"And to the unwise"--ultimate in lacking culture
--all extremes & all in between are "fair game" for the gospel

Still very much in need of the gospel

7-Paul knew he was SAVED TO SERVE---not---SAVED TO SIT or SAVED TO SOAK

8-Paul had yet to fully discharge the trusteeship of the Gospel which had been committed to him.

9-ILLUS---A young woman had been working in a movie studio in Hollywood for several years. One night she wandered into an evangelistic service & was brought face to face with Christ and took Him as her Savior. She found new life and peace & joy in Him.

The Lord led her to enroll in a Bible School to prepare for service, but Satan was not so easily defeated. He persuaded her to keep her job at the studio; he told her it would be ridiculous for her to leave a good job. She believed the sensible thing was to attend Bible School in the daytime & work at the movie studio at night. This continued for a year and a half, but M she had no victory in her life, lost her vision of Christ & finally dropped out of Bible School. After that she spent a miserable year in the world, living it up. The Holy Spirit would not give her peace, so, in desperation, she prayed "LORD, SHOW ME DEFINITELY IF IT IS THY WILL THAT I GO INTO DEFINITE CHRISTIAN SERVICE."

She was crossing a street one day shortly thereafter.

when suddenly she heard the **screeching of brakes** & saw a car careening toward her. Terrified & unable to move, she closed her eyes and waited, but **nothing happened**! The car had stopped just in time-----with the **bumper touching her skirt**, but **not her**.

After recovering from the shock, she walked on, but the experience had told her one thing-----**God had saved her life FOR HIS SERVICE**. She realized she must go all the way with Christ so she resigned her job & waited on the Lord for guidance. He did not fail. She enrolled in Moody Bible Institute; her life wholly yielded to Him.

10- "Praise the Savior, Ye who know Him!
Who can tell how much we owe Him?
Gladly let us render to Him (PRAISE THE SAVIOR)
All we are and have." (Thomas Kelly)

II.-I AM READY-----COMMISSION---(1:15):

A.-His Readiness!

1-"So"=="Hence"
--Since I'm already bound to preach to all men, I am therefore also bound to preach **to you, too**

2-"**As much as in me is**"
--eagerness
--"so far as it rests with me"
--To Paul's **utmost**!
--There was **no other path** for **Christ**, Nor is there any other for **us**, His servants, but 'as much as in me is'!
--ILLUS---**Race horse** chomping at the bit in the starting gate.

3-"**I am ready**"
--GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"These **two confessions**, 'I AM **DEBTOR**' & 'I AM **READY**', are at the **very heart** of all true work of God. **We owe** men the gospel which we have received & everything in life demands that **we should pay our debt** & place ourselves in readiness to obey the Master's call." (P. 58)
--NEWELL--"**Rome** despised the Jews, & Paul was 'little of stature', with 'weak' bodily presence, & with 'speech', or, as we say, 'delivery', 'of no account' in the carnal opinion of men (2 Cor. 10:10). Moreover, he would be opposed by any **Jews** of wealth or influence in Rome. Furthermore, Rome was the center of the Gentile world: its emperors were soon to demand--and receive--worship; it was crowded with men of learning & culture from the whole world; it had its mighty marchings;--great triumphal processions flowed thru its streets. **Rome shook the world**. Yet, here is Paul, utterly weak in himself, & with his physical thorn; yet ready, **eager, to go to Rome!**....**Talk of your brave men**, your great men, O world! Where in history can you find one like **Paul**? **Alexander, Caesar, Napoleon**, marched with the protection of their armies to enforce their will upon men. Paul was **eager to march with Christ** alone to the center of this world's greatness entrenched under Satan, with 'the Word of the cross', which he himself says is 'to Jews, an offence; and to Gentiles, foolishness'" (P.16-17)

--ILLUS--At the time of the Indian Mutiny, Lord Clyde, then known as Sir Colin Campbell, when asked how long it would take him to get ready to start for India, is said to have replied, "I AM READY NOW!"
--Spirit of Mt. 10:9--"Provide (go get) neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses."
--Doubtless, Paul was hopeful that his readiness to share the gospel would elicit an equal readiness by the Romans to receive it.

NB

B.-His Preaching:
1-"To Preach"--not to conquer by sword, as did Mohammedans
--but to herald the Lord
--not arguing, but procaiming; DECLARATION
--ILLUS--As with Jonah in Nineveh--"Yet 40 days & Nineveh shall be overthrown"
2-"The gospel"--Theme of Paul's ministry & life
--1:1--"the gospel of God" -- "MY GOSPEL" -2:16
--The message of a Savior whom the Jewish nation had officially rejected
--The message of a Savior who was crucified by a Roman governor. 1 Cor. 15:3-4
3-"To you that are in Rome also"
--preached elsewhere before then
--wants to go on fulfilling Acts 1:8
--wanted to come to the IMPERIAL city to preach the DIVINE gospel
--This was the climax of the Apostle's courage; to assault the very capital itself. This took courage
--Difficult place, but he counted upon sufficient grace

III.-I AM NOT ASHAMED---SUBMISSION---(1:16)!

A.-Not Ashamed (1:16a):
1-First of 4 "Fors" of explanation of 1:14-15
--FOR I am not ashamed
--FOR it is the power of God
--FOR therein is the righteousness of God revealed
--FOR the wrath of God is revealed from heaven
2-"I am not ashamed"
--The inherent glory of the message of the Gospel, as God's life-giving message to a dying world so filled Paul's soul, that, like his blessed Master, he 'despised the shame'
--WHY****because of what the gospel had done for him
****because of what the gospel had done for others
****because of what the gospel could do for the Romans.
****ILLUS--A young convert tried to preach in the open air. He could not preach very well, but he did the best he could. Someone interrupted him & said: "Young man, you cannot preach; you ought to be ashamed of yourself!"
Replied the young man, "I am, but I am not ashamed of my Lord, because He has done so much for me."
--No need to blush for the power of God!

--And **we** must not be ashamed
**Mk. 8:38--"Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me & of my words in this adulterous & sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."
**2 Tim. 1:12--"For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I ahve believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."
--N. B. HARRISON--"The Gospel of Christ, however suffused with Divine power, must have the **human personality** as the **sub-station** thru which to flow." (P.28)

3-"**Of the gospel**"--**Message of Christ**
--Crucified, Buried, Risen, Seen & Coming again
--**When BELIEVED**, this message is the power of God unto salvation.
--**NOT** the emaciated **mish-mash** being served up in the "popular" pulpits of our land

B.-Power of God:

1-"**Power**"--Gk. is δυναμις, from which we get our words "dynamo" & dynamite
--Ultimate word for **power** in the Greek, out of 6 different words for power
--A-Bomb------H-Bomb------**Gospel Bomb** unto salvation
--**No wonder** Paul was bold & **unashamed!**
--Christianity is not just an **IDEAL** or an **ETHIC**, but a **DYNAMIC** that produces reality to our ethic & ideals
--Like any force in nature, one must **test it** in order to **know** its power

2-"**Unto Salvation**"
--**purpose** of the gospel
--NEWELL--"God does not say unto reformation, education, progress, nor development; nor fanning an innate flame! Salvation is a word for lost man, & for none other. Men are either **In SALVATION**, or in its opposite, **PERDITION**" (P.21)
--The Gospel **believed**, leads to salvation
●-Thru reading Romans 1:16-17, **Martin Luther** was brought out into the light of faith in Christ.
●-Thru hearing Luther's commentary on 1:16-17 read in a Bible study group, **John Wesley** accepted Jesus Christ---"unto salvation"

3-"To every one that believeth"
--Isn't that **simplicity!**
--Not a lot of conditions---only **ONE**, Believing in Christ
--Isa. 55:3--"Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live;"
--**Only "religion"** of the world that's **really open to all** people to become a partaker---"to every one"
--GODET--"**Faith**, in Paul's sense, is something extremely **simple**, such that it does not in the least impair the freeness of salvation. God says: **I give thee**: the heart answers: **I accept**; such is faith. The act is thus a receptivity, but an **active receptivity**. It

NB.

brings nothing, but it takes what God gives;..."It is the hand of the heart." (Vol. I, P. 152, Romans)

DEF. of FAITH — Forsaking All I Trust Him

--ILLUS --As an electric appliance must be connected, before it will work, so each one must be personally connected to Christ to receive the power of the gospel. Unbelief is a non-conductor of spiritual energy. Faith wires the soul for grace

4-"To the Jew first & also to the Greek"

--PRECEDENCE, no PREFERENCE

--"first" is in order of historical sequence

--But remember Acts 28:28--"Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, & that they will hear it."

--The gospel is for all.....the same gospel — And it includes YOU

CONCLUSION:

A.-PAUL'S TESTIMONY:

1-I am debtor----------ADMISSION
2-I am ready----------COMMISSION
3-I am not ashamed----------SUBMISSION

B.-Your Testimony And Mine:

1-Debtor? ----------Admit it?
2-Readiness? ----------Acknowledge our commission
3-Ashamed? ----------Submitted to His will?
4-Sharing it? ← Responsible as a steward

Illus — Mattie J. Mobley's will + estate.

Westbrae 2/2/64 - P.M.
8/24/69 - P.M.

Old Kanawha Bapt Ch - 11/11/84

— At the Cross -55
As A Volunteer 167
— Praise the Savior 144
Come Thou Fount -405

"TWO DIVINE REVELATIONS" Rom. 1:17-18

INTRO: A.-Personal Spirit Of Romans:
1-Seen in Paul's
--personal greeting to Roman believers
--personal committment
**DEBTOR
**READY
**NOT ASHAMED
2-Needs to be remembered by us, if we are to be truly benefited by studying Romans. So, we shall seek not only to teach doctrine with Paul, but to exhort response with him. We must not only teach "Paul said so and so to the Roman Christians," but, "Paul said so and so TO US!"
3-And we must remember that as Paul told Timoty to teach, exhort, command, rebuke, to be instant in season and out of season, so we must exhort, command, & rebuke, who teach Paul to others.

B.-Now We'll See TWO DIVINE REVELATIONS:
1-The Righteousness of God revealed (1:17)
2-The Wrath of God revealed (1:18)
3-And, let's remember these are PERSONAL revelations to ME, to YOU, and to OUR GENERATION !
4-Moreover, these are REVELATIONS from heaven, not DEDUCTIONS from earth. God is telling us what we could not otherwise know.

I.-THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD REVEALED (1:17):

A.-WHERE Is The Righteousness Of God Revealed?:
1-"For therein"--reference to the GOSPEL
--1:16
2-GOSPEL--1 Cor. 15:3-4 is OBJECTIVE
--Rom. 1:17 is SUBJECTIVE
--Source of this Gospel is in God (1:1)
3-PRIDHAM---"Grace was God's primal promise to fallen man. But as the world grew on in wickedness that promise was forgotten, with the God who spake it, by all but the faithful few of God's elect. It is now republished, no longer as a distant promise, but as an effectual work. God shows no longer what He will be, but what He is. The Gospel is the revelation of God's righteousness as a Savior." (P.13)

B.-WHAT Is This Righteousness Of God Which Is Revealed?
1-Definition--not a reference to man's righteousness
--Rom. 10:3--"For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."
--not a reference to Christ's righteousness
--But a reference to God's acting righteously upon the basis of Christ's redeeming work.
--So, its source is in GOD

2-Useage--38 times in Romans
--ESSENCE of the whole Epistle to the Romans
--More thoroughly explained in Ch. 3
--Forensic or legal term
--Not "to make righteous" or "to infuse righteousness"
--But "TO DECLARE RIGHTEOUS"
--Forgiveness is not enough! Must also have the Righteousness of Christ put to our account

3-ILLUS--Lk. 7:29--"And all the people that heard him, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John."
--Lk. 15:22--"But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet."
--Deut. 25:1--"If there be a controversy between men, & they come into judgment, that the judges may judge them; then they shall justify the righteous, & condemn the wicked."
--P.C.R. before the Judge in Anaheim over the traffic ticket, as he "justified" me & scathingly castigated the officer.

4-NEWELL--"God could have come forth in righteousness & smitten with doom the whole Adamic race. He would have been acting in accordance with His holiness; it would have been 'the righteousness of God' unto judgment, & would have been just. But God, who is love, though infinitely holy & sin-hating, has chosen to act toward us in righeousness, in a manner wherein all His holy and righteous claims against the sinner have been satisfied upon a Substitute, His own Son." (P.24)
--Gal. 3:13--"Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:"
--2 Cor. 5:21--"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."
--Therefore, the revelation of the righteousness of God is GOOD NEWS !
--For this Gospel brings us to SALVATION!

C.-BY WHAT PRINCIPLE Is This Righteousness Of God Revealed?:
1-First off--it is not by works ! !
--1:17
--FAITH is repeated 3 times
2-"Revealed from faith to faith"=="out of faith to such as have faith
3-It is a GIFT, not an ACHIEVEMENT
4-The only "merit badge" related to salvation, belongs to X.
5-NEWELL--"...God declares men righteous not by faith as the procuring cause, for the blood of Christ was that; not by faith as the putting forth of a certain faculty innate in man, much less by the keeping of divine commandments, however holy and just; but out of reliance upon His own Word as true, & on that alone." (P.23)

D.-WHY Is This Righteousness Of God Revealed?:

1-"...as it is written, 'The just shall live by Faith'"

2-"as it is written"--phrase borrowed from Christ
--Mt. 4:4, 7, 10
--indicates a quotation from Hab. 2:4

3-Quoted 3 times in N. T.

--Rom. 1:17**"THE JUST" is the emphasis in Romans
**in contrast with the unjust & unrighteous
**Those whom God has declared Righteous are "the just"
**This is the spark that lit the Reformat'n

--Heb.10:38**"SHALL LIVE" is the emphasis of Heb.
**"made alive & kept alive"
**This is the OUTCOME of the Gospel
**Faith brings power to the new life in X.

--Gal. 3:11**"BY FAITH" is the emphasis of Galatians
**"by the principle of faith"
**in contrast to "by works"
**trust & confidence in ANOTHER

4-This phrase is the secret of the happy effective Christian life----"THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH"

5-Also gives a Summary of Romans
--1:17 to 3:20---The Righteous
--3:21 to 4:25---By Faith
--5:1- to 16:26--Shall live

II.-THE WRATH OF GOD IS REVEALED (1:18):

A.-WHAT Is This Wrath Which Is Revealed?

1-Paul has set forth his theme that the Gospel is God's power unto salvation because it reveals the Divine Righteousness to be received by faith. Now he vindicates his statement. WHY is righteousness necessary? BECAUSE WE HAVE NONE OF OUR OWN !

2-"Wrath"--Greek word ὀργη
--Shows God's attitude toward defiant sin
--Not an arbitrary outburst, but the eternal repulsion of evil by Good
--Hab. 1:13--"Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity:"
--God's righteousness (holiness) demands such a hatred of sin
--Evidences of this wrath---Rom. 1:24, 26, 28
--ILLUS---Gen. 19:23-25
--TRENCH--"...a wrath of God who would not love good unless He hated evil, the two being inseparable, that He must do both or neither"

3-Righteousness (1:17) & wrath (1:18) are correlatives, & both are in a way revealed in the Gospel, wrath being the alternative of righteousness. Christ is either SAVIOR or JUDGE !

4-All must choose------before it's too late

5-All must meet Him one day.....one way or the other !

6-Acts 17:31--"Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; wherof he that given assurance unto

all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

B.-WHERE Is This Wrath Revealed From?:
1-BISHOP MOULE--"The wrath is 'revealed' as about to be afflicted from heaven; by Him 'who sitteth in heaven', and who 'shall descend from heaven' in 'the day of wrath & righteous judgment'" (P.59)
2-The revelation is true though it is not yet a wrath that has been consummated upon mankind
3-God's wrath is presently being restrained
--2 Pet. 3:9--"The Lord...is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
--but He'll not restrain that wrath forever!
--ILLUS ---One day the wrath of God will no longer be restrained & it will flood over mankind with an overpowering flood which cannot be restrained. Just as an example.....the overflowing destruction resulting from the breaking of the restraining dam in the Baldwin Hills section of L. A. the end of 1963.
--Rev. 6:16, 17--"And said to the mountains & rocks, 'Fall on us, & hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, & from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand
--Rev. 19:15--"And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."
4-This is a HEAVENS-EYE-VIEW.....Wrath is coming !
5-As white looks whiter against black, so God's holiness appears vividly in contrast to man's sin.

C.-WHO Is This Wrath Revealed Against?:
1-"against all ungodliness & unrighteousness of men" (1:17b)
2-Terms "ALL" and "MEN" indicate universality. God is wrathful against the race of sinners for their sins.
3-"Ungodliness"--INWARD expression (where a man knows himself)
--ασεβεια =="lack of reverence", "irreligiousness", "disregard of God", "impiety"
--Import**absence of the 'fear of God'
**no reverence for holy things
**Rom. 3:18
--Awful opposite to the 1st Great Commandment
--God will judge this rejection of Himself
**whether in militant atheism (in the head)
**or in practical atheism (in the life)
4-"Unrighteousness"--OUTWARD expression (where a man shows himself to others)
--"wrong doing", "wickedness of conduct", "injustice"
--Awful opposite to the 2nd Great Commandm't
5-"Of men"--not a class, but the race
--NEWELL--"It will not only fail to help us, but will seriously harm us, to study the awful arraignment of God against human sin, unless we apply it against outselves, thereby discovering OUR OWN STATE

BY NATURE" (P. 25)
--Rom. 3:23--"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God"
--Gal. 3:22--"But the scripture hath concluded all under sin..."

D.-WHY Is This Wrath Revealed ?:
1-"who hold the truth in unrighteousness"(1:17c)
2-"who hold"=="pervert", "suppress", "hold down"
--HOW??? **By unrighteous living
**By wilfull opposition to the truth
--Human sin is DELIBERATE !
--same word in 2 Thess. 2:6
3-"the truth"--Almost all men know more truth than they obey
--They call themselves "truth-seekers"
--But they manage to stay away from where the truth is preached
--Their opposition is TO THE TRUTH OF GOD
4-"in unrighteousness"
--NEWELL--"The more you discover yourself to be a common sinner, the more you will discover of God's uncommon grace." (P.26)
--Paul is not describing the FINALLY DAMNED, But the AT-PRESENT-LOST !
--PRIDHAM--"It may be necessary to warn some readers against the common notion, that in the present chapter the apostle is drawing a picture of Roman sinners merely. No doubt the qualities of our corrupted nature were displaying themselves in fearful distinctiveness in that city, at the time he thus wrote; but it is man as a species whose apostasy he is describing, & not the result of that apostasy in a particular instance." (P16)
--Paul steps out on Gaius' balcony in Corinth & in describing the common sights of the city, describes men everywhere.

CONCLUSION:

A.-Two Revelations:
1-RIGHTEOUSNESS of God in the gospel
2-WRATH of God in judgment
3-All the world is included in one or the other

B.-Clear Answer To An Oft-Asked Question:
1-"Are the heathen lost?"
2-What else could they be?
3-Before you were saved, you were a heathen
4-Before you were saved, you were lost
5-It is no different with any other stranger to the grace of God.
6-EITHER------Saved or lost
-------Possessors of the Righteousness of God or the Objects of the Wrath of God
7-May God enable us to faithfully share this message & understand its awesome implications.

OVER

Hymns — How Firm A Foundation
Wonderful Words Of Life.

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT THE HEATHEN
or
ARE THE HEATHEN REALLY LOST?

Rom. 1:16-32
John 3:16-19

1

INTRO: A.-"Relevancy" Demanded Today:

1-In magazines & books we are today bombarded by the cry for "RELEVANCY" from the Church of Jesus Christ
One of the spheres in which this is most evident is in the realm of DOCTRINAL TERMINOLOGY versus RELIGIOUS JARGON
--Plea to jettison "sin", "saved", "lost", "hell" and "heaven" from our vocabularies if we are to COMMUNICATE with the modern world
--Reasoning is that "modern man" does not understand these terms and is offended by them

May be omitted

2-Perhaps some do not understand, and so need careful explanations
3-But many more do understand them & are offended by the offense of the cross that "TELLS IT LIKE IT IS", for they are not rejecting the terms, but the SAVIOR !!
4-Relevancy--Not primarily a matter of terminology
--But rather a matter of issues that are FOR REAL

B.-Today's Message--What The Bible Teaches About The HEATHEN:

1-We sometimes hear of--"Christian America"
--"Heathen Africa"
--BUT...what is meant?
2-"HEATHEN"--In O.T. Hebrew the term is "GOYIM"
--Translated either "Gentiles" or "heathen"
--Used to distinguish all other nations from God's chosen people, ISRAEL
--In N.T. it is the Greek term "ETHNE"
- "Heathen" in Gal. 1:16
- "Gentiles" in Gal. 2:2

3-Enlargement in New Testament meaning
--Because God removes any difference between Jews and Gentiles as far as their LOST CONDITION is concerned
--Rom. 3:22c-23--"...for there is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."
--JEW AND GENTILES are alike, slaves to sin and in need of salvation.....so, "HEATHEN"

4-ILLUS--A strong young man dressed in a LOINCLOTH steps off the mountain path & disappears into the dense jungle. His hand grasps a sharp machete. Over his shoulder hang two beautifully carved hardwood cups. Up the same steep trail comes another tribesman---there is a flash of steel, & without a cry he drops to the ground, HEADLESS. The young warrior fills the cups with the warm blood & quickly makes his way back to the village where his bride awaits him. The headman calls the villagers together. Bride & groom kneel on a red cloth placed on the floor of the small hut. As the tribespeople begin their

strange chant of joy, the bride and groom DRINK the human blood. The marriage ceremony is over. No one will argue with me over whether or not this is a heathen custom.

(2)

I pick up my daily paper in the Bay area, and find on the front page: "Brilliant college senior kills coed who refuses his lustful advances." Another headline screams "Well-respected Doctor shoots wife in order to live with lover" The papers of America are today filled with items of murder, rape, decay of morals, robery and crime. Is not all this JUST AS HEATHEN ?? There is only one answer---YES!!

5-Some will object, but WEBSTER'S DEFINITION of "heathen" is accurate: "Unbelieving, Gentile, pagan. One who is not a believer as in the Christian religion."
- --True in "dark lands"
- --True in atheistic communist lands
- --True in "religious" lands of non-christian religions
- --True of pseudo-christian cults
- --True of Bible-denying modernists
- --True of many Catholics
- --True of hypocrites within Protestantism
- --ALL THESE are "heathen"

6-OUTLINE--I.-The Heathen KNEW GOD
II.-The Heathen REJECTED GOD
III.-The Heathen NEED GOD

7-Prop:--See what God says about the heathen
--See men as they really are------LOST IN SIN
--Appreciate "the cure" of the gospel of Christ
--Abandon ourselves to the task of proclaiming Christ as Savior

I.-THE HEATHEN KNEW GOD (Rom. 1:19-20):

A.-Light Of Conscience (Rom.1:19)--(SUBJECTIVE KNOWLEDGE)

1-God is knowable & comprehendable; not unknown & unknowable

2-HOW??--"IN them" as well as "UNTO them"
- --The first is the light of conscience
- --The second is the light of creation
- --This is a divine witness to all men
- --Aorists indicate past completed action

3-Seen in Rom. 2:14-15--"For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these having not the law, are a law unto themselves: which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another;)"

4-LIGHT OF CONSCIENCE is universal

5-But, remember, LIGHT is not a means of SALVATION, but of judgment--Man is responsible for what he does with the light he has
- --With the light of conscience alone, they could & should have KNOWN GOD, even though that knowledge wouldn't save them.
- --ILLUS--Cornelius in Acts 10 & 11
  - ** Devout man who responded inwardly to the light of conscience, so that he asked for more light

** AND, God sent it, through Peter
** Cornelius heard the gospel, believed it, and was saved.

3

B.-Light Of Creation (Rom. 1:19-20)--(OBJECTIVE KNOWLEDGE):

1-"UNTO THEM" of 1:19
2-Rom. 1:20
3-Man knows, IF HE CARES TO, that the Infinite Majesty made and controls this universe
--Design implies a DESIGNER
--Architecture implies an ARCHITECT
--Creation implies a CREATOR
--Effect must have a FIRST CAUSE
--Acts 14:17--"Nevertheless He left not himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, & fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness."
4-Ps. 19:1-6--19:1--GLORIOUS instruction
--19:2--CONTINUOUS instruction
--19:3--SILENT instruction
--19:4-6--UNIVERSAL instruction
--Thus, THIS WORLD that is made is the "TEXTBOOK" to show mankind the invisible God Who made it.
** --KEPLER--"...the undevout astronomer is mad"
5-Thus, God is CLEARLY SEEN thru the physical world
--ILLUS--Napoleon on a warship in the Mediteranean on a star-lit night, passed by a group of his officers who were mocking the idea of a God. He stopped, & sweeping his hand toward the stars, T said, "GENTLEMEN, YOU MUST GET RID OF THOSE FIRS
--"clearly seen".....
--WHAT is clearly seen ??
** "Eternal Power"; The argument from the nature of the created world to the nature & character of the Author is as old as Job, Psalms and Isaiah
** "And Godhead"=="And Divine Personality"
Connects the observance of the mighty and beautiful things of the universe with the conscieusness of a PERSONAL GOD.
Eccles. 12:1--"Remember now thy creators in the days of thy youth..."
Divinity is Known thru Creation BY ALL
Godhead is known thru REVELATION by saints

C.-Consequence Of Light The Heathen Have:

1-Remember--The heathen are not without light
---The heathen are not "innocent"
2-VERDICT of God's Word since the heathen have
--Light of conscience
--Light of creation
--Various degrees of light (Rom. 2:12) & therefore variou degrees of punishment (Mt. 11:22; Lk. 20:47)--BUT....
--They are WITHOUT EXCUSE"-----all of mankind
--BECAUSE no man has lived up to the light he has
3-ILLUS--There is no reason for any man in the world to say: "THERE IS NO GOD"

An unbeliever met a friend on the street & stopped to talk. After conversing a few minutes, they both **looked at** their **watches** to check the time. The friend of the unbeliever remarked that he possessed a wonderful watch. He said: "I seldom have to wind it, or or even touch it. It keeps excellent time without any attention."

The unsaved friend asked: "WHAT **MAKE** IS IT?"

"No make at all," replied the believer.

The unbeliever said: "What **company** manufactured it?"

His friend answered: "NO COMPANY".

Somewhat chagrined, the unsaved man snorted: "**HOW** DID IT GET **MADE**?

"Oh, it wasn't made. It **just happened**."

The infidel told him there was **no reason** in that, **no sense** in such an answer.

The friend now replied to the unbeliever, "Do you mean to argue from the fact that the watch is so well made, and seems so seldom to need attention, that there is **ABSOLUTE PROOF** that there must have been a **designer** & someone to execute that design?

He replied, "**WHY CERTAINLY.**". . . . . .Then his friend said: "Then you have absolutely no reason being an unbeliever. God has put us in a world where there is absolute **design everywhere**.....

.....

And that is **true**----Man is "**WITHOUT EXCUSE**"

II.-THE HEATHEN REJECTED GOD (Rom. 1:21-32)

A.-The Stages Of Rejection (Rom. 1:21-22):

1-Begins at a time "when they **KNEW GOD**"
- --ILLUMINATION of mankind is obvious
- --Refers to a primordial revelation & knowledge
- --All since then has been **degeneracy** & decline

2-"**Glorified** Him **not** as God"
- --IRREVERENCE toward God
- --Did not give God **His due** place in their lives
- --He deserves and demands **FIRST PLACE**
- --Anything less is blasphemous

3-"**Neither** were **thankful**"--INGRATITUDE
- --Always follows after a loss of respect & reverence
- --Widespread evidence of mankind's **debased** condition
- --**No** "**thanks**" to the GIVER of every good and perfect gift

4-"But **became vain** (empty) in their imaginations (reasonings)"
- --IRRATIONALITY
- --Reasons in a circle and without point because they are reasoning without God
- --No "FIXED" point of reference
- --**Relativism** is man-oriented — Rationalism
- --Degeneration affects the mind

5-"And their foolish **heart** was **darkened**"
- --INSENSIBILITY
- --Degeneracy affects the emotions too
- --No longer perceiving God in their experience
- --**Leave reality** for a "**dream world**"

6-"Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools"
--INSOLENCE
--Puffed up with their human importance
--Forsaking God in all their ways
--Raised their fist of defiance
--LOST to any relationship of intimacy with their Creator

5

B.-The Consequences Of Rejection (Rom. 1:23-27):

1-"They changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image"--Rom. 1:23
--IDOLATRY
--Note the degeneracy of its representatives
** Man
** Birds
** Four-footed beasts
** Creeping things
--Transferred their devotion & adoration from God to Satan-inspired worship
--Rejected Deity, and then deified creation
--AUDACITY of robbing God of the glory which is His due
--Some say idolatry is MAN SEEKING GOD in his primitive, fumbling way. Is that so???
--Rom. 3:11--"There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God."
--Converts from heathen idolatry say: "...they were merely resorting to religious ceremonies to appease certain deities & evil spirits they feared. The fear stemmed from the sense of condemnation because of the breaking of divine laws written in their hearts." (Dick Hillis, "Are The Heathen Really Lost?" P. 25)
--We conclude that idolatry is the direct result of turning one's back on revealed light
--What is the consequence of idolatry ???
--Rom. 1:24--"Wherefore God also gave them up..."

2-"Who changed the truth of God into a (the) lie..."
--Rom. 1:25
--MATERIALISM
--They made God a liar
--Since God is TRUTH, in rejecting truth they rejected God
--All restraint is then gone!
--With all barriers down, men live for "NOW", for "THINGS" and for "PLEASURE"
--See it all about us in the hedonism of our age, which is the result of leaving God out of man's life.
--What is the consequence of materialism ??
--Rom. 1:26--"For this cause God gave them up..."

3-They "...did change the natural use into that which is against nature"
--Rom. 1:26b
--IMMORALITY: Sex obsession & deviation

--All sorts of perversion ** Homosexuality
** Lesbianism
** Promiscuity
--**LUST** that is contrary to God's order for the proper & pure use of sex within marriage bounds
--One doesn't have to look far to see the plentiful evidences of such deviations
--What is the **consequence** of immorality ??
--Rom. 1:28--"...God gave them over..."

III.-THE HEATHEN NEED GOD:

A.-State Of Man (A Resume'):

1-He has **possessed light**
--Light of conscience (Subjective witness of God)
--Light of creation (Objective witness of God)
2-He has **rejected the light** of the truth
--Degeneration characterizes this **physical** world, as seen in the 2nd law of thermodynamics
--Degeneration characterized **mankind** as well, as seen in Romans one
--Man is **not seeking God**
--Rather, Man is **LOST**----alienated from the life that is in God
3-Therefore God has "**given man up**" to his own way & lusts
4-**BUT**--Though man abandons God
--God never abandons man
** Light of conscience continues
** Light of creation continues
** **Light of the gospel** of Christ has been sent into a lost world

NB

B.-Solutions By Man To His Heathen Condition:

1-**UNIVERSALISM**--Teaching that eventually all will be saved *
--Some thru history have held this view, even including Church Fathers Origen & Clement of Alexandria
--Concluding that even the **Devil** would ultimately be saved
*--Considered a **HERESY** by the Church--Both Protestant and Catholic
--And rightly so !!
--Mt. 7:13-14--"Enter ye at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, & broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because straight is the gate, & narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, & few there be that find it."
--CLEARLY, universalism cannot be the answer

2-**ANNIHILATIONISM**
--Half-way house between universalism & Bible doctrine
--Wicked are "**burned up**", completely annihilated, THEY SAY
--Taught by **SDA** & some **90 %** of Modern religious liberalism in apostate Protestantism

--BUT ** Rev. 20:10, 15--"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire & brimstone, where the beast & the false prophet are, & shall be tormented day & night for ever and ever....And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (7)

** Note "TORMENTED DAY & NIGHT FOR EVER & EVER"

--And Jesus' words in John 5:28-29--"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; & they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of condemnation."

--By these we see that the wicked are not annihilated, but endure eternally the punishment & judgment of God on their sin

--Same word "ETERNAL" used for salvation & for punishment of the wicked

3-SOCIAL GOSPEL & SOCIAL ACTION:

--Forte' of modern religious liberalism

--Co-ordinate part of the message of New Evangelicalism

--Puts the Church's message, ministry & impact to work on meeting the needs of the HERE AND NOW

--Why this ??

--Because they've FORSAKEN THE AUTHORITATIVE MESSAGE from the Bible ** Man's lost condition
** God's love in spite of man's ungodliness
** Christ's substitutionary death & atonement for sin--PRICE FULLY PAID
** Salvation by grace thru faith

--Often they "re-define" terms & almost sound like fundamentalists, but they aren't at all---though still using an orthodox vocabulary without Biblical meanings

C. STAGGERING Implications To Man's Views (Universalism, Annihilation, Social Gospel & Social Action)

1-WHY Christ's BIRTH ??

--If the heathen are not LOST, then Christ's birth is of little significance

--Mt. 1:21c--"..for He shall save His people from their sins"

--Lk. 2:10--"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people"

--Did He come to SAVE THE LOST, or not ??

2-WHY Christ's ANNOUNCEMENT ??

--Forerunner; John the Baptist's witness

--John 1:29--"Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world"

--Was Jesus the sin-bearer.....or not ??

3-WHY Christ's TEACHINGS ???

--If the heathen are not lost, then why did Jesus teach about heaven, hell & salvation ??

--These would be absurdities, if man is not LOST.

--John 3:16

--Unexplainable, except that the world NEEDS salvation

4-WHY Christ's DEATH ??

--1 Cor. 15:3-4

--If we are sinner, Christ died for those sins

--If we are not sinners, Christ's death was a mistake, a tragedy

--Gal. 2:21--"I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."

5-WHY Christ's COMMISSION ??

--Matt. 28:19-20

--To EVERY creature

--To EVERY nation

--In EVERY generation

--"If the heathen do not need Christ, and His salvation, neither do we. Conversely, if we need Him, so do they."

6-Perhaps we can agree, we'd all like to believe that somehow God will eventually save all---even those who've never heard the gospel, yes, even those who've heard & rejected the gospel

7-BUT---beyond all our wishing or postulating, the Word of God stands-----

--"They are WITHOUT EXCUSE"

--"God gave them up"

--Jn. 3:36--"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see live; but the wrath of God abideth on him"

CONCLUSION:

A.-The Solution By God:

1-ONE way of salvation, and ONLY ONE:

--John 14:6 --1 John 5:11-12

--Acts 4:12 --1 Tim. 2:5-6

2-Salvation provided

--Because no man has "LIVED UP TO THE LIGHT" he had

--Because salvation is needed by heathen, lost mankind

--Because man cannot save himself

--Because God loves us and gave Christ for our salv.

--Because Christ came to reveal the saving righteousness of God, as well as his condemning righteousness.

3-The offer is OPEN--John 1:12

--Eph. 2:8-9

4-"Certainly God created Hell, but the Scriptures state that He prepared Hell not for man, but for the devil and his angels'. If man goes to Hell, he goes by his own free will. Somewhere along the line he rejects light, sides with Satan, and refuses Heaven." (Hillis, P. 29)

5-The issues are ETERNAL; today is the day of salvation !!

B.-The Sharing By Men:

1-Sharing by receiving Christ as God's love-gift and full salvation from sin

2-Sharing by telling others of free salvation in Christ

--Based on knowledge that the HEATHEN ARE LOST

--Based on knowledge of the ONE MESSAGE that can save

--Based on the love of Christ working in our hearts.

--ILLUS--I see a man dying of what medical science calls an incurable disease. The only doctor in all the world who knows the cure is my doctor. I once had the disease and he gave me life. I KNOW he has the remedy because I experienced it. If I do not tell the dying man about my doctor and his cure, I am guilty of criminal neglect!!

All men everywhere are afflicted with the soul-destroying disease of sin. Christ has the only cure, and have experienced this cure---HIS SALVATION. It is now my responsibility to share this remedy with others.

3-THAT IS MISSIONS to the heathen in every part of the world

--Every heart without Christ is a MISSION FIELD

--Every heart with Christ is a MISSIONARY

"This is the gospel that we preach; anything less mocks the cross and the crown of the Savior." (Dr. Edmund P. Clowney, Pres. of Westminster Seminary)

9

WESTBRAE--11/15/70--#470--Jesus Shall Reign
Druid Park Blvd. Bible Ch, #467--Go Ye Into All The World
Augusta, GA. 5/1/77 #480--From Greenland's Icy Mountains
Old Kanawha Baptist Ch, WV - 11/18/85
Grace Gospel Ch, Beaver - 11/22/98 - SS

"WITHOUT EXCUSE BEFORE GOD" Rom. 1:19-20

INTRO: A.-ILLUS.---"Father", said Tom, looking up from his studies, "How do you know there is a God? I heard one of the professors say that we couldn't be sure there is a God. Is there any way really to know?"

"Well, my boy, do you remember laughing about Robinson Crusoe's dismay at discovering there were other persons on the island beside himself? Did he see them? NO! He discovered one track of a bare foot in the sand which could not be his own. He knew that only a human being could have made it, & he knew that whoever made it could not be far off, for the tide had not yet reached it. All those things he knew to be true, although he had not seen a human being within miles of the island. And the knowledge was all gained from a mark in the sand.

"If one print of a bare foot in the sand is absolute proof of the existence & presence of a human being, what are we to suppose when we see those millions upon millions of prints of the Master's shoe, as Bunyan calls it, upon the clay of the world."

B.-Therefore Mankind Is "Without Excuse Before God":
1-"Because" of 1:19
2-Explanation of the necessity of a division of mankind into those---under the righteousness of God thru the Gospel (1:17)
---OR under the wrath of God thru rejection of that Gospel (1:18)

I.-GOD'S PRONOUNCEMENTS AGAINST THE HEATHEN:

A.-They Supressed The Truth:
1-1:18
2-"hold"=="hold down"=="supressed"
3-Deliberate & wilful & sinful oppposition to the Truth as it is in Christ Jesus
4-What they knew, they fought against with open hostility to God
5-Lived their lives as PRACTICAL ATHEISTS by a choice of the will & active opposition to the Truth

B.-They Subverted The Truth:
1-1:25
2-Knew the truth-----1:19, 21
3-Yet they chose falsehood over truth
4-READ John 3:16-21
5-They didn't come to God, but CHANGED THE TRUTH OF GOD
6-HOW?--1:21-23
--7 steps in Getting Away From God (next message)
--Abandoned God in favor of the Devil's "line"
7-"unto a lie"=="unto THE lie""
--Jn. 5:43--"I am come in my Father's name, & ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."

--Origin of THE LIE is Satan
--Jn. 8:44--"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, & abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, & the father of it."
--Leads to Demon worship instead of God worship
--Exalts the creature above the CREATOR
--READ Isa. 14:13-15

C.--The Spurned The Truth:
1-1:28
2-Began with a knowledge of God--1:19, 21
--Hosea 4:1, 6--"Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land...My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge..."
3-It wasn't their desire to retain God in their knowledge
4-They spurned the truth
5-Closed their minds to that which they knew--and know--is true
6-ILLUS--Today those who had a godly upbringing & know the facts but they labor to put them out of their minds in order to live for themselves & not for God
--Knowing there is a heaven to be gained & a hell to be shunned, but living as though the ALMIGHTY PRESENT were all there is to life.

D.--They Seduced From The Truth:
1-1:32
2-Not content to go to hell alone
3-Take pleasure in their rejection of God
4-AND are eagerly seeking converts to their evil ways, so they'll have company in hell
5-Evil seems so much more contageous than good; its so much easier to pull down to the gutter than to lift up to heaven.
6-ILLUS--P.C.R. and my leading astray of Ken Lindquist at U.of Nebraska-----EVIL LOVES COMPANY.

II.--GOD'S PROVISIONS FOR THE HEATHEN:

A.--The Legacy Of Comprehension:
1-1:19
2-"That which may be known"=="IS KNOWN"
--Known to ALL mankind
--Stone agers in Borneo
--Atomic agers in USA
--This legacy of comprehension is universal
3-So we see, God is NOT UNKNOWN or UNKNOWABLE at all!
4-The first step of wisdom is to listen to what God says about us, for He (wonder to say) is the Lover of man, sinner though he be.

5-Moreover--Since God is KNOWN
--Since Man does KNOW
--Men are accountable for what they do with that innate consciousness of the reality of God---their legacy of comprehension.

B.-The Light Of Conscience:
1-1:19
2-Men have MORE than the dim light of nature
3-They have conscience too--"IN them"(=="within them")
--"UNTO them"
--Acts 14:17--"Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, & gave us rain from heaven, & fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food & gladness"
4-God has given this light to men
--to ALL men
--"God is manifest in them"
--"for God hath shewed it unto them"
--AORISTS***Past completed action
***But with a continuing light today
--John 1:9-10--"That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, & the world was made by him, & the world knew him not."
--Isa. 1:2--"Hear, O heavens, & give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished & brought up children, & they have rebelled against me."
5-But remember, LIGHT is not a means of SALVATION, but of JUDGMENT ! !
6-Man is responsible for what he does with that light
7-The light of conscience was such that they should have KNOWN GOD, even though that wouldn't have saved them
8-ILLUS---Cornelius in Acts 10-11. Devout man who responded inwardly to the legacy of comprehension & light of conscience so that he asked for more light------and God sent it to him thru Peter----and Cornelius believed the Gospel unto the saving of his soul.
9-But to reject the legacy of comprehension & the light of conscience is to be hardened more & more against God. AS WAS PHARAOH

C.-The Light Of Creation:
1-1:20
2-Man knows, if he cares to, that an Infinite Majesty made & controls this universe--Design implies a DESIGNER
--Architecture implies an ARCHITECT
--Creation implies a CREATOR
--Effect must have a CAUSE
3-Ps. 19:1-6--19:1--Glorious instruction
--19:2--Continuous instruction
--19:3--Silent instruction
--19:4-6--Universal instruction
--Thus, this visible world is the world that is made.

Insert here the Poem on P. 6

--This world that is made is the "textbook" to show us the invisible One Who made it.

--CALVIN--"But since the meanest & most illiterate of mankind, who are furnished with no other assistance than their own eyes, cannot be ignorant of the excellence of the Divine skill, exhibiting itself in that endless, yet regular variety of the innumerable celestial host,---it is evident, that the Lord abundantly manifests his wisdom to every individual on earth" INSTITUTES, I, 5, 2.

--Or, to put it in the much more succinct words of KEPLER, "...the undevout astronomer is mad."

4-Thus, indeed, God is CLEARLY SEEN thru the physical world which He has made--

--"things that are made"==Same Gk. word as "WORKMANSHIP" in Eph. 2:10

--ILLUS--Napoleon, on a warship in the Mediterannean on a star-lit night, passed a group of his officers who were mocking the idea of a God. He stopped, & sweeping his hand toward the stars, said, "Gentlemen, you must get rid of those first."

--CLEARLY SEEN !

--ILLUS--Josh. 2:9-11---(Rahab knew of the God of the Israelites thru the witness of what He had done for them)

--CLEARLY SEEN ! —— WHAT IS CLEARLY SEEN?

5-"Eternal Power"--The argument from the nature of the created world to the nature & character of the Author is as old as the Psalter, & Job and Isaiah.

--PHILO--"Admiring & being struck with amazement at these things, they arrived at a conception consistent with what they had seen, that all these beauties so admirably in their arrangement have not come into being spontaneously, but are the work of some Maker, the Creator of the world, & that there must needs be a Providence; because it is a law of nature that the Creative Power must take care of that which has come into being." De Praem. et Poen 7

6-"And Godhead"=="and DIVINITY"=="and DIVINE PERSONALITY"

--connects observance of the mighty & beautiful things of the universe with the consciousness of a PERSONAL GOD

--Eccles. 12:1--"Remember now thy creators in the days of thy youth..."

--Divinity is known thru Creation by ALL

--Godhead is known thru Revelation by saints

--C. NORMAN BARTLETT--"We do not really see the visible & temporal creation unless we see it thru the invisible & eternal. He, for example, who does not perceive the glory of the ocean, the majesty of the mountains, or the splendor of the sunset, does not really see these masterpieces of nature even though they be objectively presented to his organs of vision. In their pride men allow the world of nature to conceal the Creator from their eyes & remove Him from their thoughts." (P.32)

III.-GOD'S VERDICT AGAINST THE HEATHEN;

A.-Re-Capitulation Of The Case:

1-Their Crimes--They SUPRESSED the Truth (1:18)
--They SUBVERTED the Truth (1:25)
--They SPURNED the Truth (1:28)
--They SEDUCED from the Truth (1:32)

2-Their Provision By God
--Legacy of COMPREHENSION
--Light of CONSCIENCE
--Light of CREATION

B.-Obvious Verdict:

1-"...so that they are WITHOUT EXCUSE"

2-What else could they be?
--actively rejected God's full provision
--wilfully avoided the logical & obvious implications of the world about them
--This is the only possible outworking, for in spite of light, men choose the darkness in which to persist in their dark deeds and evil ways.
--God can only mete out WRATH to such who reject SALVATIO

3-Divine revelation (in comprehension, conscience & creation) IS SUFFICIENT, & removes any validity from a claim of inevitable ignorance.

4-SANDAY & HEDLAM--"God did not design that man should sin; but He did design that if they sinned they should be without excuse: on His part all was done to give them a knowledge of Himself" (P.44)

5-PRIDHAM--"Ignorance is not the primary cause of human opposition to God. It is the instinctive force of evil desire, which leads men to gratify the nearer & more importunate lusts of the flesh & the mind, without reference to the will of God. But to act independently is practically to deny Him. Atheism is involved, in principle, in the very first departure of the creature from the position of simple dependence upon the Creator. It is the assertion of an independent will, & thus the exercise, as it were, of an independent life. But man is God's creature--his life is God's breath. Hence, to live without God--in defiance or even in forgetfulness of God--is virtually Atheism. It is the heart-Atheism of the fool, who, under many forms of outward profession, still says within his heart, 'There is no God'. BUT THIS IS UTTERLY WITHOUT EXCUSE!" (p. 17-18)

6-God has spoken.....clearly.....WITHOUT EXCUSE!

7-What do we say?-----Yielding & believing?

OR

-----Rebelling & rejecting?

8-And what shall we do? ILLUS - Reverse side.
--If the light of creation is sufficient to bring men to God, then the taking of the gospel to them (as the Lord commanded) is a DASTARDLY CRIME, bringing condemnation where none previously existed.
--But, they are WITHOUT EXCUSE!
--And they are without the light of the Gospel, TOO!
--And we ARE DEBTORS to take that gospel to them!

POEM: (Joseph Addison's beautiful hymn)

Use This Poem in Bulletin When Preaching This Message!

The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue ethereal sky,
And spangled heavens, a shining frame,
Their great Original proclaim.
The unwearied sun, from day to day,
Doth his Creator's power display,
And publishes to every land,
The work of an Almighty Hand.

Soon as the evening shades prevail,
The moon takes up the wondrous tale,
And nightly to the listening earth
Repeats the story of her birth;
Whilst all the stars that round her burn,
And all the planets in their turn,
Confirm the tidings as they roll,
And spread the truth from pole to pole.

HYMNS
"On Jordan's Stormy Banks"
"Oh, How I Love Jesus"

What though in solemn silence all
Move round this dark terrestrial ball?
What though no real voice or sound
Amidst their radiant orbs be found?
In reason's ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious voice:
Forever singing, as they shine,
"The Hand that made us is Divine."

****

ILLUS (see other side for placement)--There is no reason for any man in the world saying "There is no God". An infidel met a friend on the street & stopped to talk. After conversing a few minutes, they both took out their watches to look at the time. The friend of the infidel remarked that he had a wonderful watch. He said, "I seldom have to wind it, or even to touch it. It keeps excellent time without any attention."

The infidel asked, "What make is it?" "No make at all," answered his friend. The infidel said, "What company manufactured it? "No company" replied his friend. Somewhat chagrined, the unbeliever snorted, "How did it get made?".....Oh, it wasn't made. It just happened."

The infidel told him there was no reason in that, no sense in such an answer. He said to the infidel, "Do you mean to argue from the fact that the watch is so well made, and seems so carefully designed, that there is absolute proof that there must have been a designer and someone to execute that design?"

He replied, "WHY, CERTAINLY."....Then his friend said, "Then you have absolutely no reason being an unbeliever. God has put us in a world where there is absolute design everywhere.

AND THAT IS TRUE.....Man is "WITHOUT EXCUSE"

"GETTING AWAY FROM GOD" or Rom. 1:21-23
"SEVEN STEPS IN MAN'S DEGENERACY"

INTRO: A.-Recapitulation:
1-Choice has to be faced
--Righteousness of God thru the Gospel (1:17)
--Wrath of God against all ungodliness & unrighteousness (1:18)
--Depends upon our reaction to the GOSPEL OF CHRIST
2-"Without excuse" before God (1:19-20)
--Because of a legacy of comprehension
--Because of the light of conscience
--Because of the light of creation
3-Therefore, mankind is responsible for its state & future before God
4-There is no evading that responsibility, for God's power and divinity are "clearly seen" (1:20)
5-The light mankind has, makes them responsible

B.-What Happens In The Face Of Light?:
1-Does man RISE to this light or FALL away from it?
2-Degeneration is invariably the rule!
3-The direction is always DOWNWARD
4-ILLUS--Parking lot for new cars & the wrecking lot for old ones. Which way do the cars move? Do the "junkers" get prettier & sleeker & faster?.....OR ....do they move from the sales lot to the junk lot? Modern cars don't evolve from wrecks! Modern cars deteriorate into wrecks.
5-AND, modern man has deteriorated from his original state of a "new model" created in the image of God
6-7 stages in man's apostasy as he has been "GETTING AWAY FROM GOD"---Illumination
--Irreverence
--Ingratitude
--Irrationality
--Insensibility
--Insolence
--Idolatry

I.-STAGE ONE----ILLUMINATION--"WHEN THEY KNEW GOD"---(1:21):

A.-Man Knew God:
1-Innate within him--1:19-20
--legacy of comprehension
--light of conscience
--light of creation
2- γινώσκω ="experientially knew"
--as primevally revealed
--as continuously witnessed to in creation
--BUT that doesn't say man "savingly knew" God
--Every man knows of God, but that doesn't prove that he has a personal relationship
--ILLUS***Pharoah in Egypt
***King in Nineveh

***Philistines in 1 Sam. 4:7-8
***Cain in early days
***Balaam in desert

3-Paul here assumes our acceptance of the truth---proved in 1:19-20---that mankind knew God, though they neglect & reject that truth.

B.-But Man Rejected The God Whom He Knew:

1-"The apostasy of man from God is an action of the will" PRIDHAM (P.18)---1:18--SUPRESSED the Truth
--1:25--SUBVERTED the Truth
--1:28--SPURNED the Truth
--1:32--SEDUCED others from the Truth

2-Cannon LIDDON--"All religious truth which is not acted upon is on its way to forfeiture."

II.-STAGE TWO--IRREVERENCE----"GLORIFIED HIM NOT AS GOD"---(1:21):

A.-Worship Is Normal For Man:

1-Created by God
2-Trichotomy---BODY is earth (or sense) consciousness
---SOUL is self-consciousness
---SPIRIT is God-consciousness
3-Nature shows that God is GOOD & GREAT
4-Normal reaction is worship, for man is ανθρωπος --"the upward-looking creature"
5-Humans know they ought to give themselves over to worship & service of God, & be thankful.....BUT.....

B.-Irreverence Sets In:

1-They step downward instead of upward
2-"...they glorified Him not as God"=="they failed to ascribe honor & glory to Him as God"=="they failed to adore Him as God"
YOUR GOD IS TOO SMALL!
3-MOULE --"The process of declension from the truth is not dwelt upon, so much as the fact that it did take place, at whatever rate"(P. 60)
4-MOULE--"God unworshipped rapidly becomes unknown." (P. 60)
5-This failure to adore & worship & reverence God is indifference. Indifference soon leads to declension. Indifference to known truth leads soon to false notions & false speculations.
6-ABUSE of a God-given faculty leads to IMPAIRMENT.
7-Matt. 6:23--"But if thine eye shall be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness."
8-Irreverence is an attitude of independence from God !

III.-STEP THREE--- INGRATITUDE---"NEITHER WERE THANKFUL"--(1:21)

A.-Sin Of Ingratitude:

1- Receiving from God's hand
--food & clothing
--shelter
--life itself
--all things that pertain to life & godliness.

2-Eating daily from God's hand, yet refusing to thank Him
3-Refusal of the common courtesy of saying "THANK YOU"
4-Wide range of "traveling company"
--Fail to heed words of Ps. 100:4--"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, & bless his name.
--Ungrateful nine of Luke 17:14-18
--Samuel Liebowitz, serving until recently as a famous judge, but formerly a great criminal lawyer, saved 78 persons from the electric chair. Yet not one of the 78 ever bothered to send him a word of thanks
5-Mankind lives "like pigs at a trough"
6-POEM (Author not known)
"All they who eat and ask no blessing
Who rise from meat no thanks confessing
Are like the oxen and the swine
Which at heaven's table shall not dine"

B.-Outworking Of Ingratitude:
1-Ingratitude never leads UPWARD
2-Ingratitude never leads to a nobler life
3-Ingratitude always leads DOWNWARD !
--to senselessness (1:21b-22)
--to Godlessness (1:23-24)

IV.-STEP FOUR---IRRATIONALITY---"VAIN IN THEIR REASONINGS"---(1:21):

A.-False Philosophy:
1-PRIDHAM--"His will being disregarded, the imaginations of the human heart become substituted for the wisdom of God."(P.20)
2-"Vain"==not, "proud" as it is used in today's language
==but, "devoid of force, truth, sucess"=="FUTILE"
--"Vanity of vanities, all is vanity"--Solomon in Eccl.
3-"Imaginations"=="reasonings"=="speculations"
--evidence of a self-willed nature
4-1 Cor. 1:19-21--READ

B.-Result:
1-Further steps downward--irreverence leads to ingratitude
--ingratitude leads to irrationality
--irrationality leads on to insensibility, insolence & idolatry
2-On a "tobaggan slide" to which there is no stopping place until man hits the bottom!
3-Couldn't free themselves from the need to worship & the fear of separation from God------SO,---they fall futher; ultimately into IDOLATRY.....the worship of the creature instead of the Creator.

V.-STEP FIVE---INSENSIBILITY---"FOOLISH HEART WAS DARKENED" (1:21):

A.-Warped Affections:
1-"Heart"=="the whole inner man"=="the seat of knowledge, feeling & moral choice"
--the most comprehensive term for all human faculties

2-Heart is important
--understand with the heart--Mt. 13:15
--believe with the heart--Rom. 10:10
--enlightened with understanding in the heart--2 Cor. 4:6
--eyes of the heart are opened--Eph. 1:8

3-Heart became "FOOLISH"
==="senseless", "without moral understanding"
--affections became warped to the point that they do not react right

4-Heart became dark--that is, lost the light it had
--Eph. 4:18--"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of the heart."

B.-Result:

1-Unable to any longer distinguish truth from falsehood

2-C. NORMAN BARTLETT--"Failing to thank God for His revelation of Himself in conscience & in nature, it was not long before the heathen fell into abysmal ignorance, & lost the knowledge of God they had once possessed. Error thrives when truth is spurned." (P. 32)

VI.-STEP SIX---INSOLENCE---"PROFESSING THEMSELVES TO BE WISE THEY BECAME FOOLS"-----(1:22):

A.-Their Alleged Status:

1-"Professing themselves to be wise"

2-"Professing"==="alleging"==="PRETENDING"

3-This wisdom is all in the MOUTH, & not in the BRAIN

4-Act & talk as if knowledge had its one seat in them

5-Act & talk as if only they could render an altogether correct judgment

6-PRIDE is an open evidence of their walk apart from God, for HUMILITY is a mark of godliness

7-They magnify SELF rather than glorifying of God for the works of His hands.

8-They claim WISDOM
--Aristotle defined wisdom as "mental excellence in its highest & fullest sense"
--But, they exhibit FOLLY by their living their lives apart from God

B.-Their Actual Status:

1-"...they became fools"

2-"They"==the very same ones who make a showy pretnse of their alleged wisdom

3-"Became fools"==to become STUPID
--Our English word "MORON" comes from this word μωρανθῶσιν
--Whenever human wisdom sets itself against God, the result is soon seen in human foolishness.

4-STIFLER--"This is Paul, the writer's (that is to say, God's) estimate of the philosophers & religious leaders of the race. Paul knew the boasted wisdom of the Euphrates & of the Nile

the learning of Hellas, & of Rome. We know it today. But there is a difference: there are those in our time who see no generic difference between these ethnic sages & the prophets of God, while Paul declares the former to be but fools."

5-PRIDHAM--"But is man, thus sunk, aware of his condition? Nay, it is while professing themselves to be wise that the profoundness of their folly most appears." (P.20)

6-SUCH INSOLENCE !

7-HODGE---"What greater folly can there be, than to worship beasts rather than God." (P.58)

VII.-STEP SEVEN----IDOLATRY---"CHANGED THE GLORY...INTO AN IMAGE (1:23):

A.-Corrupting The Incorruptible:

1-"Changed"=="EXCHANGED"
--turned in glory for idolatry

2-Couldn't stand the gloriousness of God when their heart was corrupt----utter degradation
--Human development is DOWNWARD

3-Unable to escape the consciousness that God exists, men, like Israel later, "changed their glory for the likeness of an ox that eateth grass" (Ps. 106:20)

4-YES---"...the same heart which is by nature fundamentally averse from holiness, is constitutionally prone to religious observance." PRIDHAM (P.19)

5-C. NORMAN BARTLETT--"Just as a vine, if it be not provided with a trellis to climb, will cling to something else, even so men who will not yield to the truth are bound to fall victims of the false."

6-"Into An Image"--/KOV/ =="a derived likeness"
--Acts 7:41--"And they made a calf in those days, & offered sacrifice unto the idol, & rejoiced in the works of their own hands."
--Isa. 42:8-22---READ
--PRIDHAM--"A god, in some shape, is a principle necessity of man." (P.19)
--The more you reflect upon the infinite glory & majesty of the eternal God, the more hideous will the unspeakable insult to Him of any kind of idolatry appear to you
--ILLUS---Mahatma Gandhi, he of the horrible toothless, diabolical grin of conceited folly; having been educated in England, & having heard the gospel & having read the Scriptures, & rejected this light: sits on the deck of the steamer returning from England to India----DOING WHAT? Forming mud images with his own hands! A self-advertised illustration of the idolater's heart conception of the glorious incorruptible God.
--Man has made God in his own image

B.-Downward Trend Of Idolatry:

1-HODGE--(P. 59)--"...idolatry is made to include not merely the worship of false Gods, but the worship of the true God by images..."

2-"...made like unto corruptible man, & to birds, & to four-footed beasts, and creeping things"

--RAMSAY--"For my own part I confess that my experience & reading show nothing to confirm the modern assumptions of religious history, & a great deal to confirm Paul. Wherever evidence exists, with the rarest exceptions, the history of religion among men is a history of degeneration....Is it not the fact of human history that man, standing alone, degenerates; and that he progresses only where there is in him so much sympathy with & devotion to the Divine life as to keep the social body pure & sweet & healthy." (P.17, Cities Of St. Paul)

--VINCENT--"Deities of human form prevailed in Greece; those of bestial form in Egypt; & both methods of worship were practiced in Rome. Serpent-worship was common in Chaldea, & also in Egypt, where the asp was sacred."

--Rushing madly downward-----DEVOLUTION !

--GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"Instead of growing better in things religious, man has ever been growing worse. This truth which is clearly taught in Scripture is confirmed by scientific research.

--All is Deterioration & Debasement

3-EVIL IS PROGRESSIVE !

--Neglect leads to Thanklessness
--Thanklessness leads to Darkness
--Darkness leads to False profession
--False Profession leads to changing God's glory
--Changing God's glory leads to degenerative idolatry
--AND, Degenerative idolatry leads to the SENSUALITY of 1:24-32

Hymns: Pentecostal Power / Revive Us Again / Rescue The Perishing

CONCLUSION: A.-Seven Steps DOWNWARD in "Getting Away From God"

Rom 1:21-23

1-Illumination
2-Irreverence
3-Ingratitude
4-Irrationality
5-Insensibility
6-Insolence
7-Idolatry

B.-Why This Inditement?

1-Now if someone objects, saying 'This is a strange introduction to the gospel of God's GRACE', we answer, 'It lies here before us, this awful indictment of Romans One, and cannot be evaded!

2-Moreover, until a man knows his state of sin, he wants no grace. Shall pardon be spoken of before the sinner is proved to be a sinner? While evidence is being brought in, the whole attention of the court is upon THAT.

3-If the evidence of guilt be insufficient or inconclusive, there is no necessity for pardon!

4-BUT, Pardon is essential

5-BARTLETT--"The world today needs fewer man-made gods, and more God-made men." (P.32)

"CORRUPTIBLE AND INCORRUPTIBLE" Rom. 1:23, etc.

INTRO: A.-ILLUS:

If you lay imprisoned in some great fortress, and one who loved you went forth to try to rescue you, and fell and died fighting, you would cherish the memory of your friend's valiant effort in your behalf, but you would still remain in chains, undelivered.

So it would have been with those whom Christ came to save if He had not risen; those for whom He gave His life would have been undelivered. But Christ has conquered death and holds in His hands the keys of the grave.

B.-Parallel:

1-Imprisoned in a "fortress"of corruptibility
2-"Corruptibility"=="liable to decay, corruption; perishability"
3-Items of Corruptibility
--Man
--Earthly rewards
--Silver and gold
--Pride of house or seed
--Physical body
4-Christ has CONQUERED death & given us the victory of incorruptibility
--Our incorruptible God
--Our incorruptible Bible
--Our incorruptible adornment of a meek & quiet spirit
--Our incorruptible inheritance
--Our incorruptible crown
--Our incorruptible body
--Our incorruptible King
5-See in these contrasts the value of study with a CONCORDANCE

I.-FIVE CORRUPTIBLE THINGS:

A.-Corruptible Man:

1-Rom. 1:23--"And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things."
2-Subject to decay and perishability
3-Eccles. 12:1-8, for description of "corruptible man"

B.-Corruptible Rewards:

1-1 Cor. 9:24-25--"Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible."
2-ILLUS of Olympic & Isthmian Games
--Held every 2 years
--Open only to "Pure Greeks" by birth

--Discipline & temperateness required of contestants
--No self-indulgence; 10 months of grueling self-denial in the training & preparations
--Not enough to start well, or even to persevere almost to the end; but had to win!
--To be a victor was to be immortalized with such immortality as the greath of man can bestow.
--Difficulty of winning & value of VICTORY
--All for a CROWN OF LEAVES
**garland of perishable oak, pine or olive leaves
**merely a transitory glory

3-Winning a CROWN
** στεφανος Crown; Victors crown
** διαδεμα Crown; Monarch's crown is different & belongs only to Christ
4-Earthly rewards & laurels are VERY PERISHABLE !
5-ILLUS--High School reunion after 20 years since graduation was recently recounted by a blond woman.....who showed some mileage herself. Told of a football star who was "so cute" -------but now was paunchy, bald, and unappealing.

C.-Corruptible Silver And Gold:
1-1 Pet. 1:18--"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers"
2-Goal of many a man's life is RICHES
3-BUT, silver & gold are perishable commodities
--rust & corrode
--subject to theft
--No pockets in a shroud
--Acts 8:20--"Thy money perish with thee..."
4-Possessions are not true riches
5-Lk. 12:16-21---READ
6-F. B. MEYER (P. 60) "The cost of our redemption has been immense. "Not with corruptible things, as silver and gold." A moneyed man, who has been accustomed to look on his wealth as the key to every treasure-chest, is sometimes startled to find how little it can really do. It touches the rim and circumference of life; but it fails utterly in questions that affect the heart of human existence. Money cannot compensate for broken vows; or unsay cruel words which eat into the soul oike acid; or bring back color to thepallid cheek of the darling, cold & still in death; or atone for the lack of love. "If a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned. Money can only purchase things which are as corruptible as itself; but when it enters or seeks to enter into the sphere of souls, the eternal and incorruptible, its way is barred; its currency will not pass; its claims to be heard are nonsuited.

You cannot dissect an argument with a knife, or measure love by the yard measure, or weigh souls by avoirdupois. And it is equally impossible to ransom them from sin by "corruptible things, as silver and gold." There is nothing in common

between the gold and the silver, which, however long they endure, must perish in the end, and the soul, which is of ethereal temper, impervious to destruction and decay, and destined to survive the crash of matter and the wreck of worlds."

6a 7-Proper perspective ILLUS- Bill Graves + 20 dollar gold piece shown to waitress. - SEE P 5

8-Lk. 12:30-31--"For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; & all these things shall be added unto you.

9-Any thought that redemption is by the corruptible currency of earth is not from the law of God, but from man-made traditions. Redemption by money from a FUTILE LIFE of unbelief is totally ineffectual.

10-ILLUS---M. F. Rich, an atheist, cried: "I would rather lie on a stove and broil for a million years than to go into eternity with the eternal horrors that hang over my soul! I have traded my immortality for gold; and its weight sinks me into an endless, hopeless Hell."

D.-Corruptible Earthly Seed:

1-1 Pet. 1:23--"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth & abideth forever."

2-Contrast of physical birth with spiritual birth
--physical birth fits one only for earth & time
--spiritual birth fits one for heaven and eternity

3-Contrast AGENCIES of physical and spiritual birth
--physical birth is by physical seed
**1 Pet. 1:24--"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away
**Jn. 3:6--"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."
--spiritual birth is by spiritual seed--THE WORD OF GOD
**Jas. 1:18--"Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first-fruits of his creatures."
**1 Jn. 3:9--"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit (practice) sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."

4-Physical seed is CORRUPTIBLE: Word of God is INCORRUPTIBLE

5-Jn. 6:63--"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

6-Jn. 1:12-13--"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."
--Not of HEREDITY---(blood)
--Not of NATURAL INSTINCTS ---(will of flesh)
--Not of HUMAN VOLITION--------(will of man)
--But of SUPERNATURAL POWER---(of God)

7-ILLUS---Francis Voltaire, the noted French infidel, was one of the most talented and fertile writers of all time, and he strave to retard and demolish Christianity with his pen. His cry in the days of his health concerning Christ was, "Curse the

wretch!" He said once, "In 20 years, Christianity will be no more. My single hand shall destroy the edifice it took twelve apostles to rear." Some years after Voltaire's death, his very printing press was employed in printing New Testaments. Said he to his doctor, "I am abandoned by God and man! I will give you half of what I am worth if you will give me six months life. Then I shall go to HELL: and you will go with me!"

8-Earthly kinship does not abide, because it is based on FLESH: spiritual kinship does abide since it is based upon God & His WORD.

E.-Corruptible Body:

1-1 Cor. 15:51-54

2-Body is called "this corruptible" in its present state

--no help for it---permanently

--no hope for it eternally

--needs a "CHANGE"

--Because--15:50--"...flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption."

--Body is in the process of decay

--Gen. 2:17--"But of the tree of the knowledge of good & evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

--1 Pet. 1:24--"For all flesh is as grass, and the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away."

3-MORTALITY relates to the BODY, never to the soul or spirit

4-Death & corruption are the expected end of this "temple of clay"

5-Robert Burns, the Scottish poet said: "I have but a moment to speak to you, my dear. Be a good man; Be virtuous; Be religious. Nothing else will give you any comfort when you come to be here."

6-AND YET.....ILLUS--If the grave had ended all with the Lord Jesus, there would be utterly nothing beyond death for the children of God. Before Columbus discovered the New World, the coat of Arms of Spain bore the motto: "NE PLUS ULTRA", which means "There Is Nothing Beyond" The 3-mile limit of their shore line was the limit of their utmost horizon & furthest possibility.

But Columbus envisioned undiscovered worlds beyond, and braved the terrors of the then unknown & uncharted sea. With his discoveries, the "NE" was dropped from the Spanish coat of arms, leaving the "PLUS ULTRA" ---"There Is More Beyond"

Before the Lord Jesus Christ came into the world & brought life and immortality to light, the grave was the utmost limit of all human hopes and expectations. "Ne Plus Ultra" was the motto of humankind, until Jesus divested death of its sting & turned the radiance of an endless life upon the valley of the shadow of death, so that now there shines from the portals of death the hope-inspiring words: "PLUS ULTRA"------"THERE IS MORE BEYOND"

How much more, only the unfolding aeons of an immeasurable eternity can bring before our wondering eyes: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have

entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." (1 Cor. 2:9)

CONCLUSION:

A.-Five Corruptible Things:

1-Man
2-Earthly rewards
3-Silver & gold
4-Pride of house & seed
5-Physical body

B-Seven Incorruptible Things!-------PREVIEW OF GLORY!

1-Our incorruptible God
2-Our incorruptible Bible
3-Our incorruptible adornment of a meek & quiet spirit
4-Our incorruptible inheritance
5-Our incorruptible crown
6-Our incorruptible body
7-Our incorruptible King
8-"OH, THAT WILL BE GLORY.....For Me!"

I, C, Ga

ILLUS.----One Sunday noon Bill & Madge Graves & the Reiters were in at Kirby's Restaurant for lunch together. As we sat there, Bill mentioned the fact that as a "Going-Away-Present" the Faith Bible Church of Sacramento--at the end of his interim-pastorship there--gave him a $20.00 GOLD PIECE.

He asked me if I knew what such were worth, or if I'd ever seen one. I replied in the negative to both questions. He replied that due to de-valuation of our currency and the rise in the value of gold, the $20.00 gold piece actually had $37.50 worth of gold in it, & that such gold pieces were worth between $50 and $100.

As we talked he noticed that the waitress was listening in on our conversation and straining her neck to see the Gold Piece. So he invited her to take a look at it & hold it. When she had it in her hand, he said: "Imagine for a moment that this Restaurant was stacked brimful of these $20.00 gold pieces from floor to ceiling and from wall to wall." Her eyes widened as he described such an accumulation of wealth. Then he continued, "Now if you had all that much money as your very own, how much of a down-payment do you think it would make toward buying your way into heaven?"

Our waitress just stood there with her mouth open, and then managed to mumble out the words....."Not very much.....I guess." Bill followed through quickly, saying, "That's right, for the Bible says: 'Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain manner of life....but with the precious blood of Christ'" Then he continued....."You do know that that's true, don't you-----that you can't buy your way into God's heaven, but that it is a free gift of God through faith in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Westbrae - 3/22/64

Hymns: The Sands Of Time
That Will Be Glory For Me
Jesus Never Fails
Saved By Grace

THIS
"CORRUPTIBLE PUTS ON INCORRUPTIBILITY" Rom. 1:23, etc.

INTRO: A.-Previous Study:
1-Five Corruptible Things:
--Man
--Earthly rewards
--Silver and gold
--Pride of house or seed
--Physical body
2-All these are subject to decay, corruption & perishability
3-All are TRANSITORY, at best
4-All are only for temporary & earthly use.

B.-This Study:
1-Incorruptibility is a warm & welcome hope
2-Especially when surrounded by the corruptibles
3-Seven incorruptible things
--Our incorruptible God
--Our incorruptible Bible
--Our incorruptible Adornment of a meek & quiet spirit
--Our incorruptible Inheritance
--Our incorruptible Crown
--Our incorruptible Body
--Our incorruptible King
4-Shows the value of--reading slowly enough to catch contrasts
--follow-through study via a CONCORDANCE.

I.-SEVEN INCORRUPTIBLE THINGS:

A.-Our Incorruptible God:
1-Def. of incorruptibility---"not liable to decay, corruption, & perishability"
2-Rom. 1:23--"And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, & to birds & to fourfooted beasts, and creeping things."
3-God can't SIN--"Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil..." Hab. 1:13
4-God can't LIE--"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began"(Titus 1:2
5-God can't CHANGE--"For I am the LORD, I change not..."(Mal.3:6
--"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."(Jas. 1:17)
6-God can't DIE--"The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms..."De. 33:27.
7-God is INCORRUPTIBLE

B.-Our Incorruptible Bible:
1-I Pet. 1:23--"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but

of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever."

2-AGENCY of salvation when implanted in a heart

--Lk. 8:12, 15--"Those by the wayside are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.....But that on good ground are they, which in an honest and good [illegible] heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth [illegible] fruit with patience."

--1 Jn. 3:9--"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit (practice) sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot (practice) sin, because he is born of God."

3-Mt. 5:18--"For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, til all be fulfilled."

4-Ps. 119:89--"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

5-Dr. Behrends:--"It is the fixed & immovable center of Divine truth 'forever settled in heaven;' it provides the basis of an infallible certainty, just as the sun, by its invisible, but constant & efficient energy, secures the stability of the planetary system."

6-Mt. 24:35--"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

7-Seed of salvation and testimony of God's promises are INCORRUPTIBLE.....like the inheritance it begets and the blood which purchased it.

8-Jn. 6:63--"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

C.-Our Incorruptible Adornment:

1-1 Pet. 3:4--"But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price."

2-Hidden & inner adornment---------POSITIVE PRINCIPLES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

3-In contrast with the outer adornment of corruptible ornaments

4-1 Pet. 3:3--"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;"

5-Terminology (humility, hidden man, meek, quiet) is taken from Christ in His "Sermon on the Mount" (Mt. 5:3, 5, 8)

6-Isa.66:1-2--"Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool: where is the house that ye build unto me? and where is the place of my rest? For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor, and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word."

7-Peter isn't minimizing good grooming; maximizing her purity & beauty as an expression of Christ living on the inside.

8-Parallel in the only "SELF-DESCRIPTION" Christ ever made of Himself as being "meek" and "lowly" (Mt. 11:29)

9-Adornment of such a nature is SPIRITUAL, not merely PHYSICAL !

10-God works on the same principle in the animal kingdom. The fur-bearing animals produce their beautiful furs from the inside. The plumage of birds is grown from within.

11-Satan masquerades as an angel of light by "putting on" an appearance which is not the outward radiation of the true character which is on the inside.

12-God is interested in the INCORRUPTIBLE ADORNMENT, not the one that is merely a "MASQUERADE"

D.-Our Incorruptible Inheritance:

1-1 Pet. 1:4--"To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you."

2-QUALITIES Of This Inheritance

(1)--incorruptible==imperishable as to its substance

(2)--undefiled as to its purity

**without a hand laid on it to spoil it

**no sinful traces to be found

**same word in Heb. 7:26 to describe Christ--"For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens."

**F.B.MEYER--"All possessions here (on earth) are defiled and stained with many defects and failings. No marble without its flaw. No flower without its freckle. No fruit without its blight. no face without its blemish. No joy without its taint. No day without its regret. No heart, except one, without sin. The leprosy of human sin has so spread itself through out the whole creation that, as in Israel of old, garments and houses are alike infected (Lev. 13 & 14) And even in the purest of earthly friendships, a love which in its inception is innocent and natural too often becomes tainted with jealousy and selfishness, if not with pollution. But to know God is to come into contact with the source of Purity itself." P.20

(3)--unfading as to its beauty

**undimmed by the years

**unfaded by human tears

(4)--reserved as to its sureness

**safely preserved with my name on it

**my "safe deposit" is in good hands

**this inheritance is kept for me

**and I am kept for the inheritance

**and it is ALL OF GOD

**WM. KELLY--"It is an inheritance which no corruption can destroy, which no defilement can sully, which resists all the withering of time. In itself, in its purity, and in its freshness, it will abide unchanging. It stands in virtue of Him Who not only created all originally, but Who has reconciled us, and will more widely still by His blood (Col. 1:20; Heb. 9:23)." (P.21)

3-NATURE Of This Inheritance

--It is easier to enumerate the ills of mortal life that won't be there, than to give an inventory of that far more exceeding weight of glory to which we look forward with keen anticipation.

--Salvation, Heaven, Glory.....and GOD HIMSELF

--Num. 18:20--"And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part & thine inheritance among the children of Israel."

--And remember----our inheritance begins HERE & NOW !

4-OUR TITLE To This Inheritance
--1 Pet. 1:3--"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."
--As a result of the NEW BIRTH
--Become heirs
**Gal. 4:7--"Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son: and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ
**Rom. 8:17--"And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."
--This inheritance is little understood or appreciated at the time of our new birth, but our birthright "grows on us" as we mature to appreciate & understand what it entails
--PROV. 8:17-21
5-All a GIFT of God
6-Rom. 8:32--"He that spared not (even) his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"
7-Our Incorruptible INHERITANCE !

E.-Our Incorruptible Body:
1-1 Cor. 15:52--"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed"
2-2 Cor. 5:1-4
3-Product of a "CHANGE"---15:51--"Behold I show you a mystery We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,"
4-ILLUS---Dr. Walter A. Maier, in a radio sermon, cited this illustration from the life of the great inventor, Thomas A. Edison. Edison was once asked, "Do you think man will ever harness the power of the atom?"
The discoverer of the electric light bulb replied,"I do not believe the atom has any internal energy."
How wrong Edison was proven to have been, for scientists have discovered there is a veritable power-house inside the atom!
Edison also stated that he could not believe in the immortality of the body, since he had no evidence in that direction. If the great Edison has been proven wrong on his opinion about the atom---a matter rightly within his sphere of "expertness"---why should he, or any other unbeliever--be considered right about life beyond death?
5-Since "CHANGE" is promised, the exponents of uniformitarianism are WRONG here, as in other areas.
6-BODY is to be raised incorruptible & immortal
--1 Cor. 15:52-54
--Phs. 3:20-21--"For our conversation is in heaven: from whence we also look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, accord-

ing to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."

--1 Jn. 3:2--"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

7-Triumph over the "King of Terrors" (Death) is thus, openly shown

8-Death is not a CAVE, but a TUNNEL !

9-Calls forth a Paeon of Praise----------15:55-57

10-AND, also an Exhortation----------15:58

11-WHEN will all this take place?--Never told in Scripture
--Always to live "on the borderline" of this event.

12-"Death is swallowed up in victory"==(lit.) "death is absorbed in life"

13-Ludvig von Beethoven, the deaf Prussian composer--"I shall HEAR in heaven."

F.-Our Incorruptible Crown:

1-1 Cor. 9:25-27

2-Awarded at the Bema Seat

3-To WHOM?--For citizens (Phs. 3:20-21)
--For lawful strivers
** 2 Tim. 2:5--"And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned except he strive lawfully."
--As evidence of victory--VICTOR'S CROWN

4-For the Spiritual Victor, there is reserved an UNFADING crown
--"Of Life"**For overcoming temptation
**Jas. 1:12--"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."
--"Of Righteousness"**For faithfulness in the light of Christ's soon-coming
**2 Tim. 4:7-8--"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge shall give me at that day: & not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."
--"Of Glory"**for true undershepherds
**1 Pet. 5:2-4--"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."
**For those who don't FLEECE the flock, but rather who FEED the flock !

--"Of Rejoicing" **For soulwinning

**1 Thess. 2:19--"For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming."

**Ps. 126:6--"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

**Phs. 4:1--"Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown..

--"Of Martyrdom" **For sealing testimony with death

**Rev. 2:10--"Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Also Acts 12:1-2

**Acts 7:60--"And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, 'Lord lay not this sin to their charge.' and when he had said this he fell asleep.",

**ILLUS--John Huss, Bohemian Reformer, At the last moment the Duke of Bavaria asked him to recant his faith, but Huss replied: "What I taught with my lips, I seal with my blood."

5-Evidence of victory--VICTOR'S CROWN

--Share the Monarch's THRONE, but HE ALONE wears the Diadem (Monarch's crown)

6-Rev. 3:11"Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown2

7-And remember — Rev. 4:10 tells us we'll offer them to the Lord as the evidence of our love.

6.-Our Incorruptible King:

1-1 Tim. 1:17--"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever & ever."

2-"immortal"=="incorruptible" (Gk. & Margin)

3-1:17 springs forth as the grateful expression rising from the heart of Paul----the saved sinner of 1:13-16

4-"When Christ is spoken of as the King of the ages He is presented to our view as supreme Lord and Director of the successive cycles or stages of development thru which this world or creation at large, was destined to pass---the Sovereign Epoch-maker..." FAIRBAIRN (P.101)

5-God is here described by the co-ordinate epitaphs of:

--IMMORTAL

--INVISIBLE

--and UNIQUE

CONCLUSION:

A.-Five Corruptible Things:

1-Man

2-Earthly rewards

3-Silver & Gold

4-Earthly seed & house

5-Physical body

B.-The "Seven Incorruptibles" For A Christian:

1-Our incorruptible God
2-Our incorruptible Bible
3-Our incorruptible Adornment of a meek & quiet spirit
4-Our incorruptible Future Inheritance
5-Our incorruptible Crowns
6-Our incorruptible Body
7-Our incorruptible King-----the Lord Jesus Christ

Hymns:

Face To Face
O That Will Be Glory

A Charge To Keep I Have
Must I Go Empty-Handed

Westbrae - 4/5, 12/64

"GOD GAVE THEM UP" Rom. 1:24-28

INTRO: A.-ILLUS---(An Up-To-Date Book) Recently a Bible-seller in Syria was brought into a local police court for selling what appeared to be highly inflammatory political propaganda. The judge studied these strange writings carefully and then demanded that this man, Paul, who wrote to the Romans, be brought into court.

The Bible-seller explained to the judge that Paul had died about 1900 years ago. The judge was not easily convinced, but finally he said to the Bible-seller, "Here, sign a statement declaring that you will be personally responsible for everything written in this Book of Romans. This document is too contemporary & its significance too timely not to have someone personally responsible for its contents."

B.-"Wherefore" (1:24):

1-Result of the apostasy delineated in 1:21-23

--Illumination
--Irreverence
--Ingratitude
--Irrationality
--Insensibility
--Insolence
--Idolatry

2-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--The entire argument of this section (1:18-32) shows that the rejection of divine light must necessarily incur divine wrath. "this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."(Jn. 3:19) Now in these closing verses we have the awful picture of the certain progress towards doom of those who cleave to unrighteousness. There is absolutely no hope for them, but only a 'certain fearful expectation of judgment.'(Heb. 10:27)."

3-Picture of TOTAL DEPRAVITY !

I.-RESULT OF APOSTASY--"GOD GAVE THEM UP"---(1:24, 26, 28):

A.-Divine Discipline---"God Gave Them Up":

1-1:24, 26, 28----Threefold pronouncement

2-Meaning=="ceased to restrain them"
==="delivered them over to the power of sin"
--Inevitable result of apostasy of 1:21-23
--JUDICIAL action of abandonment by God
--allows the chain reaction of sin to take over
--ILLUS---As surely as throwing overboard an anchor will mean that the attached chain will surely follow, so surely, the "giving up" of mankind by God means that sin will gain dominion !

3-God wouldn't violate man's will & force him to do and be what he did not desire----so----God gave him up !

4-Parallel is that MAN "gives himself over"
--Eph. 4:19--"Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness

with greediness"
--Freely exercised will of responsible man

5-God washes His hands of man & abandons him to his sin because man has chosen to reject God & the light which he has from God

6-ILLUS--A recent newspaper item carried the story of a man who attempted to set a new world's record for deep-sea diving in the light equipment class---fins, mask & oxygen tanks strapped to the back. He descended approximately 500 feet, at which depth all trace of him was lost. He has never been heard from since.

One of the men on the surface offered reporters this explanation as being probable: when a diver gets so far below the surface, he loses all sense of direction & cannot tell whether he is swimming up or down. It is possible that the man kept swimming toward what he thought was the surface, but kept going down & down.

A horrible situation in which to find oneself! But this illustrates exactly the condition set forth in the first chapter of Romans (1:24-28). When man reaches a point just so far into sin, his mind is incapable of discerning right from wrong, and all sense of proportion ofgood & evil is distorted, until "God gives them up"--to a mind that does not know the truth and is incapable of knowing, the truth. Unable to discern good from evil, the follow a reckless path downward, in ignorance like that of the diver, of where they are heading, to their own destruction.

But unlike the diver's situation, God has given us clear, infallible signposts & directions, that we may know which way we are headed. God says that "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12)

The diver thought he was right, or at least hoped he was right, but we can know that we are right. The only way is to depart from what seems right, and believe God's Word. He tells us that His Son, Jesus Christ, is the only way up. "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." (Jn. 10:9)

B.-BODY Of Man Is Given Up:

1-Man is trichotomous--BODY--earth consciousness
--SOUL--self consciousness
--SPIRIT--God consciousness

2-Body is given over to--1:24--Terrible impurity
--1:25--Gross Idolatry
--Idolatry and sensuality are invariably linked together

3-"Uncleanness"--area of man's progress DOWNWARD
--The GOLDEN AGE of Grecian & Roman letters had their remarkable minds, but their works must be expurgated for decent readers! No printer, even in this corrupt age, would dare publish books with literal descriptions of the orgies of "classical days". Recently the magazine "EROS" did attempt it, & the publisher is in jail ! !

4-"Lusts of their own hearts"
--heart is seat of all being for the natural man
--"lusts of heart" are deeper than "lusts of flesh"
--These continue after the flesh is disolved
--Even when the lusts of the flesh cannot any longer be conscious or controlled, "the lusts of the heart" will forever exist.
--THOLUCK--"It is beyond question that, according to the doctrine of the Old and New Testaments, sin is the punishment for sin."

5-"To dishonor"=="to make in a state of disgrace"(Barnhouse)
--God abandoned humanity so that they came to indulge the desires of their corrupt nature, appetites, longings & desires
--Misuse of appetites carry their own recompense***ALCOHOLICS--insatiable, increasing, appetite becomes its own torture
***DRUG ADDICTS--steal, lie, cheat, murder, or sell themselves to satisfy their depraved cravings
***IMMORALITY--carries its own scourge; wages of degradation, cheapness, diseases and expulsion.
--As appetites of the body and heart increase, the capacity to enjoy decreases.
--Abandoned humanity becomes a race of SPIR* ITUAL ZOMBIES, led by the outside forces of the world, the flesh & the Devil.
--Eph. 2:2-3--"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: among whom we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others."

6-C. NORMAN BARTLETT--"Divorced from religion, morality, like flowers torn up by their roots, is destined to wither and die." (P.33)

7-Gross Idolatry--1:25
--1 Cor. 10:20--"But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils."
--Rev. 13:8, 15---ILLUS

8-WORSHIP & SERVICE invariably go together
--Mt. 4:10--"Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve."
--Josh. 24:15--"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house,

We will serve the LORD"

--Rom. 6:16--"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

--Ultimate blasphemy is to esteem the creature higher than the CREATOR

--Today in the world there are no less than 1½ BILLION idolators

--Not all in Hong Kong, Johannesburg, Rio de Janerio, but also in Berkeley, London, and Bonn

--ILLUS---"The offering of prayer, the presenting of hymns of praise, the making of solemn vows, the consecration of votaries to her service, the devoting of gifts and offerings of wealth, the dedicating of children, the sacrifice of the mass---all these are done to MARY, and in honor of MARY, as well as to GOD, and in honor of GOD. They pray to her by her sufferings beneath the cross. They plead her merits even as they do those of Christ. The ask her to grant them their petitions BY HER OWN POWER. The Roman Catholic Breviary & Manuals of Devotion are full of these expressions. The Church of Rome WORSHIPS MARY AS A CREATURE ! Knowing her to be only a creature, a woman, she(Romanism) worships her(Mary) as God only ought to be worshipped. If the Roman Church regarded her as a goddess and worshipped her as such, it would at least be consistent. But, regarding her as a creature, and worshipping her as a woman with a religious worship which belongs exclusively to God, is committing the pagan sin denounced by Paul of those who "worshipped the creature more than the Creator." PRO-CA DIGEST, Dec. 1955.

9-BARTLETT--"The worship of mammon that we behold on every side, should only serve to rekindle our adoration of the true God, & cause our zeal for Him to burn at a white-hot heat." (P.34)

C.-SOUL of Man Is Given Up:

1-1:26-27---To UNNATURAL VICE

---A lower level of sensual degradation

2-"Unto vile affections"=="passions of disgrace"

=="shameful passions"

--SOUL includes INTELLECT, EMOTIONS & WILL

--ILLUS---Christmas bills that have come due

***Knowledge of the indebtedness (Intellect)

***Feeling or reaction to the knowledge acquired (Emotions)

***Decision to pay, to postpone, or protest (Will)

--ILLUS---Acts 7:54

--"heard"-------INTELLECT

--"cut"----------EMOTIONS

--"gnashed"-----WILL

--Sins, like alcoholic beverages, grow tame & call for ever more potent satisfactions.

3-Follows a catalog of perversion and prostitution of sex in women and in men of a nature too lewd to elaborate upon. Proper and moral and right and beautiful in its proper use, sex becomes a means of moral debasement as women and men catupult themselves into that which is monstrous, inordinate, abnormal, unnatural and perverse. They reject the "natural use" and plunge themselves into the nameless horrors of a lust-bondage of raging intensity.

4-In the very nature of the case this moral blight of immodest and shameful sordidness brings upon its practitioners a recompense of disease, perversion, degradation and ostracism.

5-And if God has GRACIOUSLY made you to differ from this, THANK HIM ! Don't hold up your hands in self-righteous disgust and dismay. Join with John Wesley in saying,
"There, but for the grace of God, GO I"

6*The only rescue from--TERRIBLE IMPURITY
--GROSS IDOLATRY
--UNNATURAL VICE
--.....IS.....BEING BORN AGAIN !

D.-SPIRIT Of Man Is Given Up:

1-1:28------in COMPLETE DEPRAVITY

2-Spurning the truth of God which they KNEW, it was not th their wish or will to approve God, so "as they thought it fit to cast out the knowledge of God, God gave them over to an outcast (and disapproved) mind" CONYBEARE

3-ILLUS--A professor in a University in his darkened condition could no more tell you about God than the blind mole that burrows through the earth can explain to you the stars in their courses. He is in the dark. When they put God out, they put the light out, & the whole world is in the dark. That is the condition today. (PASTOR DREW)

4-God abandons those who have abandoned Him to a complete depravity described in 1:28

5-"To a reprobate mind"
--Realm of the SPIRIT
--Lowest depths of all
--Boomerang of Religion that becomes TORTURE
**Disfigured heathen hands, faces, feet
**Children thrown to crocadiles, burned on fires, put on dung heaps & sacrificed to idols
**Protection of serpents, crawing on coals, & spikes as religious exercises
**UNSPEAKABLE ATROCITIES committed in the name of religion apart from Jesus Christ.
--This reprobate mind brings what DENNY describes as "a man in whom the definite distinctions between right and wrong are confused and lost."
--Yet, remember; such defects of moral sense do not absolve from guilt or lessen the punishment for rejecting God.

6-Leads to "do those things which are not convenient"
--all manner of them

--things not "becoming" or "fitting"
--i.e., not befitting the moral creatures of a MORAL CREATOR who created man in His own image
--ROBERTSON--"Like an old abandoned building, the home of bats and snakes, left 'to do those things which are not fitting', like the night clubs of modern cities, the dives and dens of the underworld, without God and in the darkness of unrestrained animal impulses."

7-SO.....BODY given up to TERRIBLE IMPURITY (1:24)
to GROSS IDOLATRY (1:25)
SOUL given up to UNNATURAL VICE (1:26-27)
SPIRIT given up to COMPLETE DEPRAVITY (1:28

8-Further Discussion advised on these matters
--as families
--with your parents
--with S. S. teachers
--with a Christian friend who is mature & balanced
--with your Pastor or his wife
--CULTIVATE close rapport with these
--BUT NOT as common conversation.

CONCLUSION: A.-Thus, we see something of God's view of judicial judgment inflicted on all humanity because of their spiritual apostasy

B.-Next Message will show:
1-Twenty-Two Point Documentation
2-Man's Conspiracy of Evil
3-These complete God's "case" against mankind in its moral and spiritual crudity.

Hymns - Glory To His Name
Rescue The Perishing

"THE FELLOWSHIP OF EVIL" Romans 1:29-32

INTRO: A.-Apostasy From God:

1-Seven Steps downward — 1:21-23

2-"Getting Away From God"

--Illumination
--Irreverence
--Ingratitude
--Irrationality
--Insensibility
--Insolence
--Idolatry

3-Matter of a wilful choice

4-ILLUS--A couple ofyears ago International News Service called attention to the fact that Elvis Presley's bobby-sox worshippers have reached a new and wield level of devotion------VOODOO !

They gather in groups and burn red and white candles to Elvis. They sit around and recall incidents regarding the actor.

The newspaper article says: "They regard him as a sort of Messiah, and even have life-size pictures of him where his figure makes a sign of the cross & a woman is kneeling in front of him like Mary Magdalene."

Hero-worship is one thing, but dragging the Messiah the Cross, and Mary Magdalene into voodooism, is another thing. It is BLASPHEMY !.....Let all be warned.....We are informed in Romans 1 of those in past times "who worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator" whom God gave up to vile affections.

5-John 3:19--"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

B.-Result Of Apostasy From God:

1-"God gave them up" (1:24, 26, 28)

2-BODY given up to TERRIBLE IMPURITY (1:24)
to GROSS IDOLATRY (1:25)

3-SOUL given up to UNNATURAL VICE (1:26-27)

4-SPIRIT given up to COMPLETE DEPRAVITY (1:28-31)

5-ILLUS--Missionaries from Ceylon reported an interesting narrative to the Temple of the Tooth in Kandy. Faithful followers believe that in this Temple one of Buddha's teeth lies encased in the innermost of 7 caskets.

TIME Magazine recently recounted something of this story's interesting background. TIME wrote that in the 4th century, so legend holds it, when Buddhism was driven out of India, a princess fled with the tooth hidden in her hair. Centuries later, conquerors had the relic ground into powder & spread it over the sea.

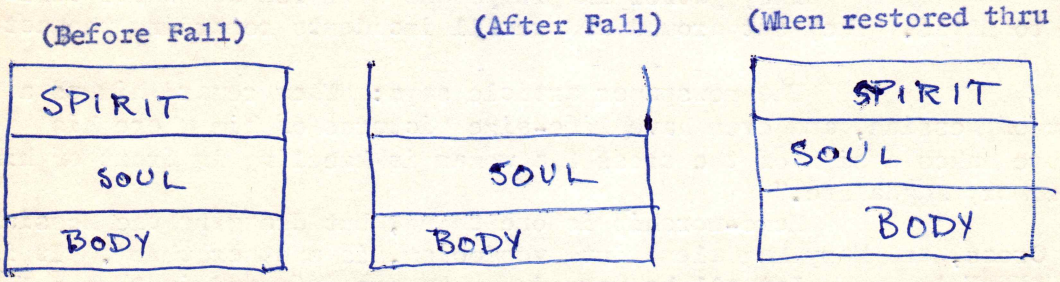
But customs do not die easily. A Singhalese prince proclaimed that the tooth had miraculously reassembled itself and returned to its ornate sanctuary where today it is still worshiped and adored. How tragic that the creation is worshipped more than the Creator! But even if one of these ancient teeth still exists,

Buddha, himself, is dead and his body has returned to the dust of the earth. Not so with our resurrected Lord, He is our Risen, living Savior. It is He whom we adore.!

6-Man created in the image of God
--Tri-Personal God (Father, Son, & Holy Spirit)
--Trichotomous man (Body, Soul & Spirit)

7-Man "FELL" when sin entered
--Gen. 3
--At Satan's suggestion
--Spirit of man was cut off from the Spirit of God
--Man became a creature who is...
**cut off & alienated from God
**witout spiritual moorings
**without absolute standards
**operating altogether in the realm of the FLESH & HUMAN PERSONALITY.

8-ILLUS----Boxes



--The "WHOLE Man" of Eccles. 12:13

9-Man without his spirit rightly related to God falls [illegible] into all manner of evil.....DOCUMENTATION FOLLOWS

I.-TWENTY-TWO POINT DOCUMENTATION (1:29-31):

A.-Nine Phases Of Human Sin (1:29):

1-"Being filled"--Perfect Participle
--filled without restraint or limit
--That is what inhabits the heart that has not been cleansed by the blood of Christ
--HODGE--""The crimes here mentioned were not of rare occurence. The heathen were filled with them." (P.64)

2-"With all"--all manner & every degree to full fulness
--Sins of WORD, THOUGHT & DEED
--Wrongs agains God, Neighbors & Self
--PRIDHAM--"Men eat the fruit of their own ways"(21)
--Proof that this was typical of ANCIENT SOCIETY
--Seneca--after comparing society, where every one makes profit by injuring somebody else, to the life of gladiators, who live togehter to fight each other, says:

"All things are full of crimes & vices. More is perpetrated than can be removed by force. There is a struggle to see which will excell in iniquity. Daily the appetite for sin increases, the sense of shame diminishes. Casting away all respect for right & justice, lust hurries withersoever it will. Crimes are no longer secret; they stalk before the eyes of men.

"Iniquity has so free a course in public, it so dominates in all hearts, that innocence is not only rare--it does not exist at all.

"It is not a case of violations of law in individual cases, few in number. From all sides, as at a given signal, men rush together, confounding good and evil."

He then proceeds to specify, in a long catalog, the forms of iniquity, someof them revolting & unnatural crimes, which exhibited themselves on every hand.

--Proof that this is typical of MODERN SOCIETY is seen in that you could document each of these sins from a local newspaper's stories every single week ! !

3-"UNRIGHTEOUSNESS"=="injustice"
--self enthroned against the rights of others
--comprehensive term embracing all that follows
--DENNY--"Religion & morality in the great scale hang together, & morality in the long run is determined by religion. Minds which accept the religious ideas of Phenicia, of Egypt or of Greece (as represented in the popular mythologies) could not be pure." (P. 594)

4-"FORNICATION"--omitted here in best mss
--dealt with above in 1:24, 26-27

5-"WICKEDNESS"=="destructiveness"=="active mischief"
--Used in Eph. 6:12, 16 to describe Satan & his hosts

6-"COVETOUSNESS"=="the itch for more"
--Many professing christians are withering in a blight of this unconfessed sin
--Paul defines covetousness as idolatry, worship of another object than God & associates it with the vilest of sins

7-"MALICIOUSNESS"=="malice", "the desire to injure" THAYER
--desire to inflict moral evil

8-"FULL OF ENVY"--with the use of "full" again, Paul takes another long breathe to list this catalog of hell
--"Brimful"; strongest word possible

9-"MURDER"--follows envy because of similarity of sound in the Greek
--Follows envy because envy leads to murder, often
--LEE HARVEY OSWALD, JACK RUBY, etc.

10-"DEBATE"=="strife", wrangling & contention

11-"DECEIT"=="guile", "fraud"
--literally, "a bait for fish"
--Contra. Nathanael in Jn. 1:47

12-"MALIGNITY"=="ill naturedness" N.T.
--"TAKING ALL THINGS IN AN EVIL SENSE"--Genevan

B.-Kind Of People Such Sin Produces (1:29-31):

1-"WHISPERERS"=="secret slanderers"
--private peddlers of evil reports
--like a snake-charmer's magical murmurings

2-"BACKBITERS"=="open slanderers", "evil speakers"
--speaking right in the presence of the person attacked.

3-"HATERS OF GOD"==defiant of God
--ILLUS--You know the world claims that they are not haters of God. A very prosperous farmer said to a minister a short time ago that he could not be accused of hating God. Of course he lived for the world----"but nobody can accuse me of hating God. I don't go to church; I don't worship; but nobody can accuse me of that"

One day a storm came. He saw his wheat field flat, & he saw his corn field flat, & he saw his harvest laid low beyond redemption---an absolute loss, and he stood out and cursed God for sending the storm. After all, in his heart he hated God. The human heart without Christ does hate God. When the worldling gets into trouble, he blames God. But not the child of God; He takes it as a blessing from the hand of a Loving Father in heaven.

4-"DESPITEFUL"=="insolent"
--taking pleasure in insulting others

5-"PROUD"=="arrogant"
--full of haughty pride toward others
--CASSIUS CLAY

6-"BOASTERS"--the very contrary of humility
--Contra. "Come unto Me...I am meek & lowly of heart."
--RAY BLUNK

7-"INVENTORS OF EVIL THINGS"

8-"DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS"--first of 6 with an alpha privative
--"WITHOUT obedience to parents"
--literally, "not able to be persuaded by parents"
--Violators of --Ex.20:12
--Eph. 6:2-3
--2 Tim. 3:1-2
--Prov. 30:17
--This explains many an early death & also terrible deaths long delayed
--"A symptom of deep moral & social disorder" MOULE (P.64)
--What a contrast with Christ who "was subject unto them (his parents)

9-"WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING"--Used in Scr. only of moral & spiritual understanding (Mt. 13:)
--Awful condition of the RACE

10-"COVENANT BREAKERS"=="without good faith"
--Does not intend to carry out pledged word, contracts or treaties
--ILLUS--USSR'S 46 violated treaties with USA in 45 years

11-"WITHOUT NATURAL AFFECTION"--no affection of wife for husb.
--no affection of husband for his wife
--no affection ofchild for par.
--no affection of par. for child
--HEARTLESS ONES

12-"IMPLACABLE"=="without consent to truce"
--unwilling to cease hostilities
--unwilling to consent to armistice or truce

--international & interpersonal suspicions

--ILLUS--(Wm. R. Newell) I stood several years ago upon "Starved Rock", near La Salle, Illinois, a beautiful hill with precipitous sides, where in 1769 the entire tribe of the "Illinois" Indians were starved, almost to the last man & the tribe practically exterminated, by other Indian tribes besieging the rock. You say, 'But those were Indians: I am civilized! NO! !, says God! "There is no distinction; for all have sinned." And even Paul cried--"I know that in me, that is in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing."

13-"UNMERCIFUL"=="without mercy"

--Consider---A merciful God; unmerciful CREATURES

--ILLUS--It is said of Nero that as a child he amused himself by pulling the legs & wings from insects. Perhaps you can cry out in disgust at this saying, "I have always been tender-hearted toward animals".....INDEED?!?.....And how about PEOPLE? Have you always been tender-hearted toward them?

14-QUITE A CATALOG--Nine phases of human sin

--Kind of people sin produces.

II.-THE CONSPIRACY OF EVIL (1:32):

A.-They Have Complete Inner Knowledge:

1-From God
2-"Well knowing"----full & complete knowledge
3-That their ways deserve death
4-Divine condemnation & judgment realized
5-God's reply to man's rejection of Himself
6-Shows that the slogan "KNOWLEDGE IS POWER" is not entirely true.

B.-They Persist;

1-Continue in their own evil practices
2-Despite the witnesss of their conscience
3-Realize that the wages of sin is DEATH
4-YET..... they persist
5-"Every prospect pleases, and only man is vile"

C.-They Encourage Others:

1-"They have pleasure"=="they give hearty approval"
2-Complete victory over conscience, & complete callousness to the moral ruin of others
3-Dragging others DOWN with them
4-Evil embraces the company of other evil-doers

CONCLUSION:

A.-Recapitulation:

1-God gave them up--BODY to terrible impurity
--BODY to gross idolatry
--SOUL to unnatural vice
--SPIRIT to complete depravity
2-22 point documentation--9 phases of human sin
--Kinds of people it produces
3-FELLOWSHIP OF EVIL

4-How thankful we should be, who have been cleansed, so that we are "not common" any longer. "What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought, since Jesus came into my heart"

B.-Proper Ending:

1-But God doesn't only accuse the race, though this an awful accusation against man is true. That's the difference between law and grace. The law will accuse you of sin, but it doesn't tell you how to get rid of it. A judge will say to a man before him "You are proved guilty of such and such, and you are sentenced." THAT DOESN'T HELP AT ALL ! !

2-That's only showing the man the sin he's committed & the guilt he bears for it. That never helped anybody!

3-God doesn't leave us in the 1st chapter of Romans:

--3:9--"All under sin"

--3:12--"They are all gone out of the way"

--3:22--"Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto ALL and upon ALL them that believe."

--and then he adds (3:22), "for there is no difference"

4-Don't you see? God says, "ALL are sinners." and in the next breath He says, "ALL can be saved."

5-The human race is lost, but Jesus came to save the lost. And without Jesus Christ, today, YOU are lost.

6-But, with Jesus Christ, you cannot be lost, for God will pronounce you righteous if you have Him as your Savior.

A Shelter In The Time of Storm

Grace Greater Than Our Sins.

INTRO:

A.* Review Of Romans 1:

1-Paul himself is introduced (1:1, 5)
- --Servant
- --Sent One (Apostle)
- --Separated
- --Specialist In The Gospel
- --Sphere--all nations
- --Sufficiency--grace & apostleship

2-Paul's gospel is described (1:1-4

3-Believers are addressed (1:6-7)
- --The called of Jesus Christ
- --The beloved of God
- --Called saints
- --In Rome

4-Paul's attitudes
- --Delight in them (1:8)
- --Devotion toward them (1:9-10)
- --Reasons for going to Rome (1:11-13)
- --Debtorship (1:14)
- --Readiness (1:15)
- --Unashamedness (1:16)

5-Two Revelations from God
- --Righteousness--(1:17)
- --Wrath--(1:18)

6-Light of God to all mankind
- --Legacy of comprehension (1:19a)
- --Light of conscience (1:19b)
- --Light of creation (1:20)

7-Apostasy from "the light" revealed (1:21-23)

8-God gave them up (1:24-32)
- --BODY to terrible impurity--1:24
  to gross idolatry-----1:25
- --SOUL to unnatural vice-----1:26-27
- --SPIRIT to complete depravity--1:28-32

B.-Preparation For Romans 2 thru 3:20:

1-Men are judged on 3 levels of light
- --Immoral, Pagan People---1:18-32
- --Respectable, Cultured People--2:1-16
- --Religious People----2:17-3:8

2-BUT.....ALL are judged!

3-Romans 2 deals with those who do not believe that the awful inditement of Rom. 1:18-32 refers to them
- --2:1-16 deals with people who are cultured
- --2:17-3:8 deals with people who are religious
- --Respectable SINNERS & Religious SINNERS, But SINNERS ALL!

4-Shows that "good" people & "religious" people need the righteousness of God. Comparing themselves with others is not the standard for measuring up to God's commands.

5-ILLUS---Men may arrange a nice little contest to see who can jump from a pier at the Berkeley Yacht Club to Alcatraz Island. The distance is about 8 miles, and it is ABSURD to think that anyone can make it. Some may jump farther than others, & they may even boast of their little effort & compare it to others who didn't jump as far as they did. However, ALL will come short of the goal. They'll ALL be wet! The society dowager may look down from "The Arlington" onto a woman from one of our colored districts-------
-----BUT THEY ARE BOTH SINNERS in God's sight!
**Neither the moral man
**Nor the religious man
**Can measure up to the Glory of God
**.....ALL have come short! — 3:23

6-God will judge these according to standards that HE has pre-announced:
--2:1-5--Acc. to TRUTH----Absolute Integrity of God
--2:6-10--Acc. to WORKS---Absolute Knowledge of God
--2:11-15--Acc. to EQUALITY---Absolute Impartiality of God
--2:16--Acc. to the GOSPEL---Absolute Standard of God

7-NEWELL--"We now enter upon the greatest passage in all Scripture as to the principles and processes of God in estimate, or judgment, concerning His creatures." (P. 52)

I.-THE REBUKE FROM GOD (2:1):

A.-"Wherefore":
1-Strongest inferential particle in Greek (διο) to refer back to chapter 1. Shows close relationship of these 2 chapters.
2-Conclusion is drawn from the sin of MANKIND to sinfulness of a particular man

B.-"Thou Art Inexcusable":
1-"Thou", not "They", shows this inexcusability is not confined to primative mankind, but to ALL MANKIND, including the "respectable sinners"
2-"Inexcusable"=="without an apology or defence"
--no way off from the charge
--because of the universality of sin (1:18)
--because of the universality of conscience (1:32)
3-"Whosoever thou art that judgest"
--in the sense of "pronouncing judgment", "condemning a man's person"
--regardless of WHO you are!

C.-Reason For Inexcusability:
1-"For wherein"=="in the very same thing"
2-PRIDHAM--"Having himself been arraigned Divinely as a sinner, man is forever incompetent to judge his fellow. For by so doing he would be passing sentence upon himself." (P. 26)
3-To assent to the condemnation of "the heathen" is really to condemn oneself & admit that you are aware of the principles of Divine judgment

4-"For thou that judgest, doest the same things"
--Someone has well said: "When you point 1 finger at another, you point 3 fingers at yourself!"
--"doest"=="practice"
--Dr. SAMUEL JOHNSON---"Every man knows that of himself which he dares not tell his dearest friend."
--GOETHE--"I see no fault committed which I, too, might not have committed.
--C. NORMAN BARTLETT--"Sin is sin, although sins differ. And yet freedom from this or that type of sin often blinds men to the presence of sin in their (own) hearts." (P.35)

5-Calvin called those who self-righteously condemned others, without realizing that they had condemned themselves at the same time, by the epitaph---"LITTLE SAINTLETS"

6-Reminds us of Nathan's logic (2 Sam. 11 & 12) with David in saying to that monarch---"THOU art the man"

II.-FIRST PRINCIPLE OF DIVINE JUDGMENT (2:2):

A.-Explanation About God's Four Principles:

1-These 4 principles are NOT for salvation
2-Rather, they are for judgment
3-God judges men according to the LIGHT they have
4-But God saves men according to their faith in Christ's shed blood
5-THEREFORE, these 4 principles don't determine salvation, but JUDGMENT! N.B.!

B.-The Judgment Of God:

1-"But"--Though man can't judge because of his impurity, yet there IS a judgment !
--That judgment is of God
--That judgment is according to truth
2-"We"--all who believe God's divine revelation
--from among all men, regardless of age or geography
3-"Are Sure"--Greek word is οἶδα
--"have absolute knowledge"
--By reason of external fact, not by internal & subjective experience.....
4-"That the judgment of God"
--Every man is naturally blind to his own state & sins
.....BUT, God sees!
--Not "the act of judging" is in view here (that comes at the Great White Throne in Rev. 20)
--But the "contents and principles of the judgments"
VINCENT
--CALVIN--"As it was impossible to unmask these sanctimonious men before men, Paul leaves them to the judgment of God, whose eyes see even the hidden desires."

C.-According To Truth:

1-Living today in a "day of relatives"
2-Need is to realize that God deals in ABSOLUTES !
3-God's judgment is according to TRUTH
--Absolute integrity in judgment

--DENNY--"God's judgment squares with the facts"(P.595)
--MOULE--"according to REALITY"
--S. L. Johnson--"According to the true nature of things.

4-Scriptures to this effect:

--Gen. 18:25--"That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

--Neh. 9:33--"Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly."

--Ps. 9:4--"For thou hast maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right."

--Ps. 96:13--"Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth."

--Isa. 45:19--"I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the LORD speak righteousness, I declare things that are right."

--Jn. 8:16--"And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me."

--2 Tim. 4:8--"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

5-ILLUS--Assayer who tests a sample of ore that is brought to him to find its "assay"----its true worth, according to the TRUTH ofwhat is inherent within the ore. Assayer only judges according to the facts and the truth of what he has found when he writes up his report

--So will also God judge----"ASSAY"----mankind according to the TRUTH as opposed to worldly appearance, worldly status, or formal preceedance. God will ask what a man IS, not to WHAT RACE, or to WHAT PARTY does he belong.

--If the DIVINE ASSAY according to truth were to be made tonight.....here and now....how would you fare?

--One day that DIVINE ASSAY will be made....and I invite you to prepare to meet the God of all truth with the Son of God Whose name is TRUTH, as your personal Savior.

Hymns: "The Old Time Religion"
"Will Jesus Find Us Watching?"

"SHALT THOU ESCAPE?" Romans 2:3-5

INTRO: A.-No Escape, Really:

1-ILLUS--From Baltimore, Md., comes the rather lengthy report of how a modern Monte Cristo pulled a fantastic escape from the Maryland Penitentiary trough a 70 ft. tunnel that took hime 20 months to dig. Here is the story of the escape as pieced together later.

Thru the first part of 1949, Holmes worred about going stir-happy. He was in his eighth year of a 20 year sentence for burglary, & the time still to serve preyed more & more on his mind.

On July 8, he had made up his mind to dig himself out, and started to work. He made a drill by inserting a nail in the end of a stick 16 inches long & an inch in diameter, & began boring holes close together in the slate floor of his cell. The holes were spaced in a rectangular pattern 28 inches long & 17 inches wide.

It took Holmes 40 days to cut thru the slate & form a trap door. Then he tackled the 10 inches of concrete beneath it. He used a chisel stolen from the prison workshop, wrapping it in a cloth to deaden the sound of the pounding. He could only work while the radio was blaring over the prison broadcast system during the early evenings. It took almost 6 months to pound thru the concrete, pulverizing each chunk so he could flush it down the toilet. During this period, his cell was checked every half hour by a guard.

Once thru the concrete, he tackled the dirt beneath his first floor cell. He dug straight down for about 6 feet, then began angling slightly toward the outside wall. For digging tools he used any scraps of iron or metal he could find. He sewed cloting into bags to carry the dirt back to his cell & dump it down the toilet. Burrowing deep under the wall--his tunnel went to a depth of 26 feet--he ran into water seepage. To solve this, he scpoped out a large underground drain & bailed water. Some nights he carried more than 100 gallons. Twenty months after he started the project, he came up under the topsoil outside the prison wall, & squinted up thru the fine matting of grass to see light. He squirmed back the entire 70 feet to his cell & waited for the big moment. It came about 1 a.m. Sunday morning.

Holmes took $152 he had made running a numbers game in prison & slipped into the tunnel mouth. It took him 45 minutes to wriggle the length of the tunnel, then he broke thru the final layer of topsoil & pulled himself intot the fresh air. He easily scaled a 7 foot fence of iron--the last obstacle between him and a brief freedom

The fugitive was recaptured a few hours later after pulling a $5 robbery under the shadow of the Washington Monument, a few blocks from the heart of Baltimore.

2-Some escape from the prisons of men

3-But there is no escape from the judgment of God

4-READ IN UNISON.....Romans 2:1-5

5-First principle of Divine Judgment--ACC. TO TRUTH!

I.-IMPOSSIBILITY OF ESCAPE (2:3):

A.-Escape Is A Delusion:
1-"And thinkest"=="to reason, to calculate, to reckon"
2-"THOU"--is emphatic
--moves from the GENERAL in 1:18-32
--to the PARTICULAR in 2:1-16 for moralists & in 2:17--3:8 for religionists
3-Delusive hope of personal exemption from Divine Judgment according to truth has long been man's trouble
4-Mt. 3:8-9--"Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham."
5-We hate our own faults when we see them in others, because we do those very same things.
6-Don't delude yourself that YOU ALONE will escape, for escape is impossible! To be CULTURED or to be RELIGIOUS is no exemption from Divine judgment against sin
--Heb. 2:3--"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation..."
--Mt. 23:33--"Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?"

B.-Four Possibilities Of Escape To The Offender Agains Human Laws (Govet):
1-The offense may not become known
--BUT
--Heb. 4:13--"Neither is there any creature thatis not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with Whom we have to do."
--Ps. 139:1-4
2-The offender may escape beyond the bounds of the law's jurisdiction
--BUT
--Ps. 139:7-10
3-There may be some failure in the legal process after arrest
--BUT
--Rev. 20:11-13
4-The offender may escape from prison and hide himself from the officers of the law
--BUT
--Luke 16:26--"And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence."
--Rev. 20:14-15
5-SO.....ESCAPE IS A DELUSION !

II.-ALTERNATIVES TO ESCAPE (2:4-5):

A.-Despising God's Riches (2:4):
1-"Or despisest thou"==(modern lingo) "or do you look down your long nose at"
--Has God's promise of judgment on the

ungodly blinded him to God's constant mercy? Doesn't he feel the need for mercy?

--LIGHTFOOT--"The blackest sin is not righteousness violated, but mercy despised."

2-"The riches of His goodness"

--"riches" used frequently to refer to God's goodness & glory

--Don't think you can take refuge in God's character as good, forbearing & longsuffering, and yet despise that refuge. Such attitudes of God are designed to lead you to REPENTANCE

**Rom. 2:4

**2 Pet. 3:9--"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

--Can't IGNORE that goodness

--Can't take these attributes alone & forget His other ones of righteousness, holiness, justice, wrath, etc.

--ILLUS--Those who take only part of the picture of our God & yet despise God are like those who eat Neopolitan Ice Cream by skimming off the chocolate which they like & leaving the rest as undesirable. MUST TAKE GOD AS HE IS !

3-C. NORMAN BARTLETT--"The divine goodness bestowed on us should make us seek the moral goodness required of us." (P. 36)

4-THOLUCK --on 50th anniversary of his professorship at Halle, "In review of God's manifold blessings, the thing I seem most to thank Him for is the conviction of sin."

5-DO YOU? ? ? Has His goodness led you to repentance?

b.-AND Treasured Up Wrath (2:5a):

1-HODGE--"The goodness of God, so far from being a ground of reasonable expectation that we shall ultimately escape punishment, becomes, when abused, an aggravation of our guilt." (P.74)

2-"After thy hardness"

=="in a way traceable to thy hardness"

--"hardness"=="obstinacy, stubbornness, insensibility"

--Men IMAGINE they'd repent in the face of some spectacular demonstration

--Luke 16:30--"And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went to them from the dead, they will repent."

--But NO!

--One has risen from the dead, & still they are treasuring up wrath, not faith against that day of judgment

--Lk. 16:31--"And he (Abraham) said unto him, 'If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."

3-"And impenitent heart"

--no brokenness of heart; contrition absent

--Sodom--Ezek. 16:49-50--"Behold, this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, and abundance of idleness was in her & in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and the needy. And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good."

--Tribulation---Rev. 9:20-21; 16:10-11

--ELLICOTT--"The ONE condition upon which the goodness of God will come into operation, you directly contravene. Instead of being penitent you are impenitent, & therefore the load of wrath you have been accumulating against yourself remains unremoved." (P.)

4-"Treasurest up unto thyself wrath"

--amassing a FORTUNE of wrath!

--cumulative character of continued impenitence

--what a contrast with the "riches of goodness" of God(2:4)

--MOULE--"The Divine store of loving kindness is exchanged by the sinner for the Divine store of holy wrath" (P.66)

--What a contrast with Christ's advice

--Mt. 6:19-20--"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal

--And remember-----this "treasure" is not against others in whom we sit in judgment, but against OURSELVES

--And recall--"...this is not said of the Reckless (sinner) but of those who have boasted of their purity." DAVID BROWN.

--This wrath is PURE RETRIBUTION: the result of sin

C.-Timing Of Judgment (2:5b):

1-"Against the day of wrath"

--Ps. 110:5--"The Lord at thy right hand shall strike thru kings in the day of His wrath."

--"Day of wrath" used as a figure of speech in O. T. & N. T. to describe the time of God's righteous judgment

--Reference is to the Great White Throne of Rev. 20.

--NEWELL---"Not until the last evil result of a life of sin has been marked and weighed, can the final reward of the sinner be shown---as all will be shown in that "Day"(57)

2-"And revelation of the righteous judgment of God

--Its 'revelation' will only be the revelation of His ABSOLUTE EQUITY in all ways!

--TIME Magazine of April 17, 1964, describes another kind of JUDGE. Durwood T. Pye of Atlanta, Ga., Superior Court is known as the "South's Toughest Judge" in civil rights cases. At age 54, Pye is "techy as a loaded derringer; he is wont to hector witnesses and explode at any moment over what he calls 'mongrelization of the races'. Trying to be fair to Pye, another Atlanta judge sums up: 'He's a fine, decent, honest, hard-working man, except that he happens to be hipped on the subject of race.'"

Illus

--God will be no such Judge ! !

--God will judge in ABSOLUTE EQUITY----according to truth. For the first time in all of history, the Bench of law will have perfectly accurate and fair and unbiased and unprejudiced and uncorrupted judgment. Such judgment comes from God !

--In this light, surely the wealth of God's grace is not to be contemptuously treated!

--And on the other hand----The WRATH of God is as pure, just, and Divine as is His mercy!

--NEWELL--"Remember, if the goodness of God toward you is not leading you to repentance, then every day, every hour, you live, drops another drop into the terrible 'TREASURE' of indignation which will burst the great dam of God's long-suffering---------in the great Day of Wrath, when God shall reveal His righteous judgment! (Of course, if you flee to Calvary, you will 'not come into judgment Jn.5:24': for Judgment has already struck there!)" (P.57

CONCLUSION:

A.-Treasuries:

1-Roman Catholic Church's "Treasury of Merit" from saints and apostles

2-Sinful mankind's "Treasury of Wrath"

3-God's "Treasury of Grace and Mercy" thru faith in Christ alone

B.-Judgment According To Truth:

1-How do you measure up?

2-Perfect TRUTH?

3-If not, flee to Christ Who is TRUTH, and be made FREE

4-John 8:32, 36--"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.....If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

5-ILLUS---(Spurgeon)--"Whenever you have heard an earnest, powerful sermon, you have gone home & labored to get rid of it. A tear has stolen down your cheek now and then, & you have despised yourself for it. 'Oh,' you say, ' it is not manly for me to think of these things.' There have been a few twitches at times which you could not help, but the moment after, your heart is like a flint, impenetrably hard & stony.

Well, sir, I will give you a picture of yourself. There is a foolish farmer yonder in his house. It is the dead of nigh; the burglars are breaking in---men who will spare neither his life nor his treasure. There is a dog down below, chained in the yard; it barks and barks, and howls again. 'I cannot sleep,' says the farmer. 'My dog makes too much noise.' Another howl, and yet another. He creeps out of bed, gets his loaded gun, opens the window, fires it, and kills the dog. 'Ah! it is quiet now,' he mutters; as he goes back to bed, lies down and quietly rests. 'No hurt will come now,' he says, 'for I have made that dog quiet.'

Ah, but would that he could have listened to the warning of that faithful creature! Ere long he shall feel the knife, and rue his fatal folly.

So you, when God is warning you--when your faithful conscience is doing its best to save you--you try to kill your only friend, while Satan and Sin are stealing up to the bedside of your slothfulness, ready to destroy your soul forever. Oh,that you would arise, and take the warning and fly to Jesus while the hour of mercy lasts!."

OTHERWISE.....THOU SHALT NOT ESCAPE!

"And Can It Be That I Should Gain?"
"Once For All".

Westbrae 4/26/64

INTRO.- A.-ILLUS.:

Lowell Thomas, an American news commentator has told of a day of unprecidented fear. In these atomic times when so many people are trembling about the 'ultimate disaster,' I find that there is a sort of steadying strength in the following story.

It was on May 19, 1780--during the anxious days of our Revolutionary War--that darkness came at noon. The bats flew and the chickens roosted. It was some sort of meteorological phenomenon that seemed to bring the day to an end when the sun was at its zenith. Panic broke out, & people thought that the end of the world was at hand.

At Hartford, Conneticut, the State Legislature was in session and when the darkness came at noon, the meeting of the Lower House broke up in alarm. In the State Senate a motion of adjournment was made, so that the legislators could meet the DAY OF JUDGMENT with whatever courage they could manage to summon.

But the motion to adjourn was opposed by ABRAHAM DAVENPORT a Yankee Selectman and Judge, friend and advisor of George Washington. Abraham Davenport faced the panic about "the end of the world" with the best of Yankee heart and head.

He arose and addressed his legislative colleagues. "I'm against this adjournment," he said. Then he explained with a logic of courage: "The Day of Judgment is either approaching or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause for adjournment. If it is, I choose to be found doing my duty. I wish, therefore, that candles may be brought"

Of course, this was not the only time that people have beheld what seems to be the ultimate disaster. In the past they have trembled in the presence of such nightmares as the invasion of the Huns led by Attila the Scourge, or the rage of plagues like the Black Death, or the predicted "End of the World" in the year 1000.

But in all history it would be hard to find a better example for our times than the sturdy figure of Abraham Davenport. At a time when we are all haunted by doubts and questions about the possibility of atomic war and trying to decide what course to take, he gives us the only possible answer:

"I CHOOSE TO BE FOUND DOING MY DUTY."

B.-Variety Of Judgments According To The Bible:

1-Certainty of them---Heb. 9:27

2-Past ones--Sin judged forever in Christ's death
--Satan judged in Christ's death on the Cross

3-Future ones--Judgment Seat of Christ for believers
--End of Tribulation (on earth)
**for Israel
**for Gentiles
--Angels judged by the church
--Great White Throne

4-ALL are according to their WORKS
--Believers--2 Cor. 5:10--"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."
--Israel--Ezek. 20:37-38--"And I will cause you to

pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD."

--Gentiles--Mt. 25:34-36, 40--"And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:...Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, & ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me...And the Kingshall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

--Great White Throne--Rev. 20:11-13--"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God: and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out ofthose things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works."

5-WHICH judgment (or evaluation) of works you face God in is determined----not by how many works you do
----not by the quality of the works you do
----BUT by your personal relationship to God through Jesus Christ

6-None are exempted from their "fruits" being inspected. WHEN & WHERE they're judged is settled by what you do with Christ

I.-THE PRINCIPLE ANNOUNCED (2:6):

A.-Not A New Principle:

1-Ps. 110:5--"The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath."

2-Isa. 3:10-11--"Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him: for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him."

3-Jer. 32:19--"Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

4-Jer. 17:10--"I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."

5-Prov. 24:12--"If thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?"

B.-"Pay Day" Is Coming:

1-2:6

2-"Who"--the God Who gives righteous judgment

3-"Will render"=="recompense", "pay off"

--God will be no man's debtor

--He'll render man his just due

--"Pay off" those that have recompense of evil coming to them

--"Pay off" those that have a recompense of good coming to them

--In all, God punishes evil and rewards good.

--C. NORMAN BARTLETT--"God's judgments are unerring because His knowledge is infallible and His standards are inflexible. God sees truly because He knows fully. His perfect knowledge of what is right involves perfect knowledge of what is wrong. The fount of justice in God is a pledge of justice to man. No man, however, can be saved by his works." (Pp. 36-37, Right In Romans)

4-"To every man"--ALL men must "meet God"

--God will evaluate the works of every man

--Therefore, "PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD" (Amos 4:12)

--This is one "pay day" where there's "something for EVERY MAN"..

--When Daniel Webster was asked the most sobering thought he'd ever had, he answered unhesitatingly, "That I as a man must give an account to a Holy God."

C.-Universal Standard:

1-2:6--"...according to his deeds

2-"deeds"=="works

3-Mt. 16:27--"For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works."

4-NEWELL--"How could it be otherwise? You know that when a case comes to trial in courts of law, men first endeavor, thru questioning witnesses, to discover the facts. Now God knows all the facts about every one of Adam's race, and His judgment must be in accordance with them. It is not that God desires you to be damned, but contrariwise, to believe on His Son, upon Whom His judgment for human sin fell at Calvary. Nevertheless, those that come up for the Last Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15) will be 'judged out of the things which were written in the books, according to their works.'"(P.58)

5-C. N. BARTLETT--"Blessedness for the righteous and misery for the wicked is not an arbitrary judgment, but an inherently inevitable result, God and man being what they are." (P.37)

6-DENNY--"The law enunciated...that God will render to every one according to his works, is valid within the sphere of redemption as well as independent of it. Paul the Christian recognizes its validity as unreservedly as Saul the Pharisee would have done. The application of it may lead to very different results in the two cases, but the

universal moral conscience, be it in bondage to evil, or emancipated by Christ, accepts it without demur. Paul had no feeling that it contradicted his doctrine of justification by faith, and therefore we are safe to assert that it did not contradict it...The Gospel does not mean that God denies Himself ; He acts in it according to His eternal nature; and though Paul is speaking to men as under the law, the truth which he is insisting upon is one which is equally true whether men are under the law or under grace. It is not a little piece of the leaven of a Jewish or Pharisaic conception of God, not yet purged out, that is found here; but an eternal law of God's relation to man." (Expositors, P. 596)

II.-THE PRINCIPLE APPLIED---BLESSEDNESS FOR THE GOOD (2:7, 10):

A.-Their Character:

1-2:7a

2-Not an exposition of the way of salvation, but a description of those who have it

3-"To them who by patient continuance"=="To them who have a steadfast constancy making it a life-work"

4-"In well doing"=="in good work"

--summary of the christian's whole course of obedience

--This deals not with every single action, for sinners are not perfectly consistent. Rather, it deals with the LIFE-CHOICE

--Do I.....Do you.....fit in this category?

5-ILLUSTRATIONS:

--To ABEL well-doing meant approaching God with a sacrifice which, as a sinner, he had been taught to bring

--To Noah, well-doing meant building an Ark to preserve his house & life upon earth, involving years of labor & the ridicule of men

--To Abraham, well-doing meant leaving his relatives, his father's house, & his homeland to become a stranger & a pilgrim on earth

--To Job, well-doing meant living a God-fearing and evil-rejecting life, and afterwards in the midst of great affliction, bowing before the presence of God in dust and ashes.

--To Matthew, well-doing meant rising from business and following the Lord

--To Cornelius, well-doing meant a life of prayer and almsgiving, and then the believing of the gospel at Peter's lips

--To Lydia, well-doing meant a humble and faithful attendance at the place of prayer til Paul came and her heart was opened, whence followed her obedience of faith.

B.-Their Pursuit:

1-2:7--"...seek..."

2-This speaks of their OBJECTIVE, not HOW they obtain the righteousness of God, which is dealt with later in Chapter 3

3-ILLUS-----"seek"---Traveler on his way home after a long trip "seeks" for home & puts all his effort into it.

4-The true sincerity of man's seeking is shown in his meeting

the conditions for obtaining the eternal life that God sets forth

5-SAMPLES--JABEZ--1 Chron. 4:9-10--"And Jabez was more honorable than his brethren: and his mother called his name Jabez , saying, Because I bare him with sorrow. And Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it might not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested."

--ABRAHAM & SARA--Heb. 11:14--"For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country

--All true Christians--Heb. 13:14--"For here we have not continuing city, but we seek one to come."

--There have always been the CHOOSERS, and the REJECTORS of God

C.-Their Reward:

1-2:7b--"...for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life."

2-"For glory"--the future life as revealed in the Risen Savior
--the heavenly state in the exalted Presence of God's Person & dignity
--Rom. 8:18--"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

3-"And honor"--honor with God, as opposed to mere humanly bestowed laurels

4-"And immortality"=="incorruptibility"
--much more than just continued EXISTENCE. All men have that somewhere forever. BUT, only believers have INCORRUPTIBILITY!
--This proves that the real goal of Christians and christianity is not "brining in the kingdom", but preparation for heaven

5-"Eternal life"--compending term that embraces all that's meant by glory, honor, & immortality
--LIFE**as compared to mere existence
**content of a believer's reward
--SPIRITUAL**as compared to mere physical
**quality of believer's reward
--ETERNAL**as compared with temporal
**duration of believer's reward

6-Jn. 5:28-29--"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, & shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

D.-Their End:

1-2:10
2-"But"--"On the other hand" from 2:8-9
3-"Glory"---in His glory
4-"Honor"--when Christ is honored
5-"And Peace"--When Christ reigns in peace

--Remember the unfolding of the way of glory, honor & peace is yet to come in Rom. 3
--Probably in the larger sense, "peace" embraces all of the truth & blessing of salvation as well

6-"To every man"--all that qualify will be justly rewarded
--Proof of Heb. 11:6--"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

7-"That worketh good"--in the sense of PRACTICE or HABIT
--what causes us to "work good?"
--John 6:29--"Jesus answered & said unto them, This is the work of God that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent."

8-"To the Jew first & also to the Gentile"
--Jew had historical priority to the gospel (1:16)
--This priority of privilege is now recognized with reference to judgment in relation to evil (G-Thomas, P. 80)
--But---Judgment is according to WORKS, not according to RACIAL or NATIONAL distinctions, irrespective of whether they have had or have not had, the special revelation given to Israel.

III.-THE PRINCIPLE APPLIED---WRETCHEDNESS FOR THE BAD (2:8-9):

A.-Their Character:

1-2:8a--"But unto them that are contentious,"
2-"Contentious"==who have a mutinous spirit"
--NEWELL--"Literally, it reads 'THOSE WHO ARE OF CONTENTION'; that is, those whose hearts, instead of believing & obeying, rise in opposition to the truth, contending inwardly against the truth and outwardly against them thatproclaim it. The word 'contentious' here evidently refers to the first conscious risings of man's wicked heart against God's revealed will." (P.58)
--Those who RESIST God as wholeheartedly as the righteous obey Him.
--SAMPLES:
**CAIN, who was angry & hateful at God's accepting Abel's sacrifice
**ESAU, who despised his birthright & hated God's people to the end of his life
**PHAROAH, who said to Moses: "Who is Jehovah that I should hearken unto His voice?"
**JEHOIAKIM, apostate king of Judah, who cut with his pen-knife the prophecies of Jer.
**SCRIBES &PHARISEES who rejected John, his message of repentance, and the King Whom he heralded, and his baptism.
**Infidel SADDUCEES who obeyed not the truth
**MODERNISTS who deny the authority of Scr.
**NEW EVANGELICALS, who would compromise it.
**The world is filled with them today, and they will shortly fill up hell!

B.-Their Pursuit:

1-2:8b--"..and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness,"

2-Contrast--what they do not obey
--what they do obey
--Matter of a rebellious WILL
--Resistance against believing
--Will not allow themselves to be pursuaded
--"Steeled" against the truth
--2 Th. 2:10--"And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved"

3-"The truth"--term for the WORD of God
--Revelation of the eternal reality of the glory of God
--MORAL import is seen in that it is used as a counterpart to "unrighteousness"
--Test of man's obedience & subjection is THE WORD OF GOD !
--1:18

4-Rather--they obey unrighteousness
--This is what they pursue-----unrighteousness
--They actively seek opportunities to yield to the impulses of sin
--"unrighteousness" here means sin in its largest sense of "ALL WRONG"
--This is "his element"

C.-Their Reward:

1-2:8c--"...indignation & wrath"

2-What could be more fitting?

3-C. N. Bartlett--"Sin automatically brings its own penalty! It breaks down wholesome restraints. It stores the cellars of the soul with bombs liable to explode at any time. It poisons the springs of life. It pours vingar into God's cream. As truly as nature obeys the man who obeys nature, and destroys him who defies her, so surely does God bless the man who keeps His law and condemns the man who flouts it. The laws of the moral cosmos are as inviolable as those that rule in the realm of nature. His we are to whom we bow the knee. Rejection of the Savior is subjection to the devil. Neutrality is out of the question." (P. 37, Right In Romans)

4-"Indignation"--denotes outbreak of God's wrath in the great day of retribution
WRATH AS IT OVERFLOWS --Vivid description in Nahum 1:6--"Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him."

5-"And Wrath"--denotes the settled mind of God toward those who do not obey the truty
--Jn. 3:36--"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."
--WRATH WITHIN

D.-Their End:

1-2:9

2-Strong terms--certainly leaves not room for "annihilation" theories

--It is full of meaning & profound significance that neither here nor elsewhere in Scripture is the future of the wicked ever called by the term "LIFE"; a striking change is seen to this effect in our Lord's words

--Jn. 5:28-29

3-"Tribulation"=="a pressing together"; "opression", "distress", "affliction"

--Hence; "PRESSURE OF GRIEF"

--Here the visitation as a result of sin strikes its object. The false-peace of his hardened heart in his earth-life impenitence is now broken up by God's vengeance

--2 Thess. 1:6--"Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you."

4-"And anguish"=="dire calamity", "distress", "narrowness of place"

--Hence; "TORTURING CONFINEMENT & PAIN"

ILLUS----Lk. 16:23-25

--TRENCH--"The fitness of this image is attested by the frequency with which, on the other hand, a state of joy is expressed in the Psalms & elsewhere, as bringing into a large place"

5-"Upon every soul"--no exceptions among the "bad"

--no exemptions for "some good"

--Note well that these experiences are the CONSCIOUS EXPERIENCE of the effects of Divine anger

--What a contrast with the "Eternal Life" offered to the believer

CONCLUSION:--All will be judged

--All will be judged according to works

--WHEN & WHERE depends upon how God sees you

--God sees you as--"GOOD" if you have placed to your account the goodness and righteousness of Christ

--and you are seeking spiritual goals

--2:7, 10

--God sees you as "BAD" **if you have rejected the righteousness of Christ

**and you are refusing to obey the truth

**and you are following unrighteousness

**2:8-9

--God judges***according to truth

***according to works

--Have you acted on John 6:29--"This is the work of God that yebelieve on Him whom He hath sent."

Hymns: Loyalty To Christ
Lead Me To Calvary

"JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO IMPARTIALITY" Rom. 2:11-15

INTRO: A.-Four Principles of Divine Judgment:
1-2:1-5--According to TRUTH---------NO ESCAPE
2-2:6-10--According to WORKS---------NO MISTAKE
3-2:11-15--According to IMPARTIALITY----NO FAVORITES
4-2:16--According to the GOSPEL BY JESUS CHRIST---
NO ALTERNATIVE

5-Interrelation of these principles for God's impartiality of judgment ensures proper judgment

6-God is "open" to all

--Rom. 3:28-30--"Therefore, we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Is He the God of the Jews only? Is he not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also: Seeing it is one God which shall justify the circumcision by faith and uncircumcision through faith."

--Rom. 10:12-13--"For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"

B.-ILLUS:

William James Taylor, alias Bill Hennessy, alias Ed Lynch, alias Tom O'Brien, learned that he couldn't hide from God. At the age of three, behind his father's saloon he acquired a taste for liquor by dipping his baby fingers into the dregs of glasses & bottles. Small wonder that by 12 he was a drunken street urchin. After 2 years in a reform school he lived aimlessly until a 2nd arrest placed him in an industrial institution.

Gambling, drugs & drink provided a livelihood and made him a constant fugitive from the law that kept him constantly on the move, whenever he wasn't serving sentence. The night he arrived in Chicago, he hurried into the Pacific Garden Mission to avoid what he thought were the suspicious glances of a policeman. He returned a second night.

Again he heard the testimonies of what God had done for such as he. He knelt at the altar and repeated, "GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME, A SINNER, AND SAVE ME NOW FOR JESUS' SAKE."

"I cannot tell all Jesus Christ has done for me. But one thing I can do, and that is tell others about Him. And there's lots of things I don't know. But there is one thing I do know. GOD IS NOT ANY PICKER OF PERSONS".

I.-ONE PRINCIPLE---JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO IMPARTIALITY (2:11):

A.-Prominent Truth In The Old Testament:

1-Deut. 10:17--"For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward."

--God is unique & above all
--God is great, mighty & terrible
--God has no "regard" or favoritism or partiality for any
--God cannot be "bought" or bribed
--God is ABSOLUTELY IMPARTIAL!!!

2-Lev. 19:15--"Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbor."
  --NO unrighteousness permitted in human judgment
  --NO preference because of poverty
  --NO preference because of wealth & power
  --But, ABSOLUTE IMPARTIALITY
3-Deut. 1:16-17--"And I charged your judges at that time, saying, Hear the causes between your brethren, and judge righteously between every man and his brother, and the stranger that is with him. Ye shall not respect persons in judgment; but ye shall hear the small as well as the great; ye shall not be afraid of the face of man; for the judgment is God's: and the cause that is too hard for you, bring it unto me, and I will hear it."
4-Many other similar verses in O.T.
5-God has no favorites !

B.-Prominent Truth In New Testament:
1-This truth as enunciated in the O.T. made a profound impression on the N.T.writers
2-"Respect of persons"--whether of Jew or of Gentile
  --ALWAYS used in the N.T. in a bad sense
3-LUKE--Acts 10:34-35--"Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him." (Recording Peter)
4-PAUL--(outside of Romans)
  --Eph. 6:9--"And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him."
  --Col. 3:23-25--"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done; and there is no respect of persons."
5-JAMES--2:9--"But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors."
6-PETER--1 Pet. 1:17--"And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:"
7-PAUL--in Romans
  --2:11; 2:29-30; 10:12-13
8-Thus, 4 out of the 7 or 8 writers of the N. T. cite this important principle, that God is IMPARTIAL !

C.-The Principle Stated:
1-2:11
2-"No respect of persons"=="no receiving of face"
  --God does not receive anyone's face as superior to another
  --God is IMPARTIAL
3-Therefore, Israel will not be treated as "God's Favorites"

of heaven, and the Gentiles can expect to be fairly treated

4-"With God"=="before God"
--"in His court", or "before His bar"

5-NEWELL--"The rich, the educated, the traveled, the cultured, the prominent, the influential, the pleasing, the strong,--are all sought after. The poor, the ignorant, the weak, are despised and neglected. But not so with God. He sees men through His own eyes of holiness and truth always. He 'seeth not as man seeth'. It is a terrifying thought to earth's great,--but an infinitely comforting thought to every humble God-fearing soul,--that there is an impartial One, with no respect of persons, with whom they have to do!" (P.61)

6-Thus, every man will have his day in court and get a judgment according to truth and works, and not according to privilege or prestige.

7-An application-----READ JAMES 2:1-10

8-ILLUS---In the churchyard of an English cathedral is an inscription carved on a gravestone of a woman who lived in the 18th century. After giving the date of her birth & death, there are these words, "SHE WAS A COUSIN OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD."

Think of putting that on a tombstone! Do you suppose that God is impressed? Can you imagine that on the arrival of that woman's soul and spirit at the gates of heaven, an angel went before her crying out, "MAKE WAY FOR THE COUSIN OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD?"

We smile and yet we ought to think on the many things on which people pride themselves which make no difference in God's judgment of a life. With God it is not titles or money, or fame, or race, nor even correct opinions about Him which count. A "Who's Who in America" made by God would be a very different one from the one man makes.

II.-TWO APPLICATIONS OF ONE PRINCIPLE--JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO IMPARTIALITY (2:12-15):

A.-Introductory Comments:

1-Principle of 2:11 is confirmed by
--above standard of judgment according to TRUTH
--above standard of judgment according to WORKS

2-2:12-15 showing that JUDGMENT will be according to light enjoyed

3-Remember, it is judgment that is in view, not salvation

4-Jews have had the Law of Moses

5-Gentiles have had the Law of Nature

6-But, remember, both have had and have rejected laws from God, and are LOST

B.-Standard For The Jew---The Law Of Moses: (2:12b-13):

1-"As many as have sinned"--Collective Aorist best represented in English by a PERFECT
=="As many as have made a life-choice of sin"

2-"in the law"==(Margin) "under the law"
--Reference to Jews, for ONLY they were ever given the law as a rule of life
--Ex. 19:3,5

3-"Shall be judged by the law"
--same law they were to live under is to be their rule of judgment

--the LIGHT they had was the principle under which they were responsible
--LK. 12:47-48--"And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required: and to whom men have committed much, of him with they ask the more."
--Since Jews had Mosaic Law with all its detail, a detailed inquiry into their stewardship of that "LIGHT" will be made.

5-2:13--Wealth of knowledge does not atone for lack of practice.
--Hearing is not an advantage without obedience in the doing
--Jas. 1:22-26
--There is no form of the deceitfulness of sin more insidious & more prevalent than that of settling down into false peace because of merely knowing God's truth
--Does that truth MOVE YOU? ?
--Greek word for "hearing"
**not the usual word for an audible sensation to the ear which is understood
**but word used of pupils who hear and become drilled in a subject, as did the Jews in the Synagogue concerning the law
**The possession of Divine Truth can avail nothing with God apart from subjection and obedience thereto !

6-"Are just before God"=="are declared righteous before God"
--in the sense of a JUDICAL VERDICT by God
--Reference to the STATE of a person in Gods sight, rather than to his CHARACTER
--This "acquittal" dates from the moment a man trusts Christ as Savior--His own Sav.
--ILLUS--Lk. 1:6--"And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless"
**"righteous before God"--FACT
**"walking in all the commandments & ordinances of the Lord"--PROOF
**Their walk was not the ground of their acceptance, although only such are accepted! For they were subject to God's Word; not mere hearers, but doers.

This quotation included for completeness but not for public reading

7-"But the doers of the law shall be justified"
--"doers"=="practicers"
--Jas. 2:10 shows no one was a perfect practitioner
--"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all"
--Thus----Gal. 3:10-14
GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"The teaching of vs. 13 as to the judicial verdict of God is no contradiction of the ordinary meaning of justification so characteristic of St. Paul. He was not at all likely to contradict what he was about to say in ch. 3:19, and teach salvation

by law. The entire passage from vs. 6-16 is a general statement of the divine principles of judgment, made in order to destroy the refuge of lies. Subordinate passages must always be interpreted in the light of leading truths, and one of the essential truths of this Epistle is that 'by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified' (3:20). When, therefore, the Apostle shows in ch. 2:13 that 'the doers of the law shall be justified', it must be carefully interpreted in the light of the former text, and it will then be seen to refer to the general principle of judgment. The Apostle does not stay here to show how we may obtain that righteousness which is needed (namely, in the Gospel), and thereby avoid the unrighteousness."(P81)

--Thus, having the law for the Jew does not exonerate or justify him, but is the basis upon which God will impartially judge him by the LIGHT OF THE LAW which he has had.

C.-Standard For The Gentile---The Law Of Nature (2:12a, 14-15):

1-2:12a--"For as many as have sinned"=="For as many as have made a life-choice of sin"

--"without the law"+=apart from the Law of Moses
--Though no one is totally without the knowledge of moral law

--"Shall also perish"
**TERRIBLE word....."perish"
**Never hints of annihilation in Scripture
**Mt. 10:28--"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell"
**"perish" is used in Scripture of both physical death and of eternal death
**sin & perdition in Paul's thought were inextricably correlatives one of the other
**In both cases, whether of those that do not have the Mosaic Law, or of those living--as the Jews did--under it, if they choose sin, there is DOOM!

--"without the law"--God will judge according to the laws of nature that they have had

2-2:14--"Gentiles"=="nations
+Equivalent of the Hebrew "Goyim"==nations foreign to Israel, & not having the true God as Israel did"

--"Do by nature"**As unconsciously aware of right & wrong, since they are moral beings apart from the Mosaic Law. This is as a result of their moral constitution as creatures created in the image of God
**HOW? --"There is, indeed, when we look closely, no such thing as a man absolutely without the knowledge of God's will,& therefore such a judgment as the Apostle has described is legitimate." DENNY (597)
**PRIDHAM--"As a child is known by his doings, whether his works be fair and whether it be right (Pr. 20:11), so a Gentile, though untaught by Moses, has a (moral) monitor within him, by whose guidance he may ever keep the way of moral honesty & right." (P. 35)

**ILLUS--Job & his friends
--Good Samaritan in Lk. 10:30-35
--Sons of Rechab in Jer. 35

**ALL know it is wrong to STEAL, to LIE, & to MURDER
**ALL know it is right to LOVE, to be KIND, & to be HELPFUL

--"the things contained in the law, these, having not the law law, are a law unto themselves."

**Ps. 147:20--"He hath not dealt so with any nation: & as for his judgments, they have not known them."

**C. HODGE--"The heathen are not to be judged by a revelation of which they never heard. But as they enjoy a revelation of the divine character in the works of creation, chap. 1:19-20, and of the rule of duty in their own hearts, vs. 14, 15, they are inexcusable. They can no more abide the test by which they are to be tried, than we can stand the application of the severer rule by which we are to be judged. Both classes, therefore, need a Savior, ver. 12". (P.89)

3-2:15--MORE PROOF.....TRIPLE PROOF
**Conduct----OUTWARD
**Conscience----INWARD
**Thoughts------OTHERWARD

--"Which shew the work"=="which show the course of conduct"
--"Written in their hearts"--WORK, or conduct is written in their hearts, not the law
--"Their conscience"**Natural faculty which belongs to all men alike which pronounces on the character of actions
**Related to ONES-SELF in contrast to "thoughts" or "reflective reasonings" which relate to judgments on the actions of OTHERS.
--"Also bearing witness"=="bearing joint & concurrent witness"
--Along with their conduct
--"And their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another"
**THOUGHTS bear witness to the existence of a work & a law in them, inasmuch as those thoughts--on the basis of an unwritten law--bring forth a verdict of either accusation or acquittal
**These thoughts indicate judgments upon the actions of OTHERS, while conscience deals with ONES-SELF under scrutiny
**Reflective thought issues in moral judgment even from Gentiles who have no law!

CONCLUSION: A.-The Principle:
1- 2:11
2-God is ABSOLUTELY IMPARTIAL in judgment of all men

B.-The Applications--For Jews:
1-Law of Moses is their light
2-Judgment according to OBEDIENCE to that light
3-Absolute impartiality; No favoritism!

C.-The Applications---For Gentiles:

1-Not judgment for failure to live by a law they never have heard, but for what they did know as divine law

2-The Proofs:

--Their Conduct---------OUTWARD Proof
--Their Conscience------INWARD Proof
--Their Thoughts--------OTHERWARD Proof

3-NEWELL--"Distinction in responsibility, according to privilege enjoyed, is constantly carried through Scripture. But light is light,---not darkness at all. Light is an absolute quality. If persons were lost in a forest at night, the least glimmer of light seen somewhere would attract those who desired deliverance from darkness, and they would hasten toward it; while those that feared light because of works of evil in which they desired to persist, would shrink back farther into the darkness; loving darkness not for its own sake, but, as our Lord said, because their works are evil." (Jn. 3:19) (P.62)

Hymns - He Lifted Me
Have You Any Room for Jesus?

INTRO: A.-Poem--"What Then" by J. W. Green:

"When the great busy plants of our cities
Shall have turned out their last finished work,
When the merchants have sold their last order
And dismissed every last tired clerk,
When our banks have raked in their last dollar
And have paid out their last dividend,
When the Judge of the earth wants a hearing
And asks for a balance---WHAT THEN?

When the choir has sung its last anthem
And the preacher has voiced his last prayer,
And the people have heard their last sermon
And the sound has died out in the air,
When the Bible lies closed on the altar
And the pews are all empty of men.
When each one stands facing his record,
And the great Book is opened----WHAT THEN?

When the actors have played their last drama,
And the mimic has made his last fun
When the movie has flashed its last picture
And the billboard displayed its last run,
When the crowd seeking pleasure has vanished
And gone out in the darkness again,
When the trumpet of ages has sounded
And you stand before HIM----WHAT THEN?

When the bugle-call sinks into silence
And the long marching columns stand still,
When the captain repeats his last orders
And they've captured the last fort and hill;
When the flag has been hauled from the masthead,
All the wounded afield have checked in,
And the world that rejected its Savior
Is asked for a reason----WHAT THEN?

B.-What Then?

1-Tremendously important question
2-Determines your destiny for eternity
3-Bible has the answer
4-Settle it NOW !
5-According to what principle? HOW ?
6-Romans 2:16--"In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my Gospel."

I.-THE DETAILED PICTURE OF DIVINE JUDGMENT (2:16):

A.-The TIME of Judgment:

1-"In the day"...
2-Same "day" as in 2:5--"against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God"
3-The DAY is set by God--Acts 17:30-31--"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth

all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead."

4-After Christ is present--1 Cor. 4:5--"Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the heart."

5-ALL will be there---Heb. 9:27

6-ILLUS--A Scottish lawyer was a very evil man. Once he hired a horse and, either thru accident or ill-usage, killed the animal. Naturally the owner insisted on being paid its value, together with some compensation for the loss of its use. The man of law acknowledged his liability, and said he was perfectly willing to pay, but at the moment he was a little straightened for ready cash. Would the hirer of the animal accept a promisory note? "Certainly", he said.

Whereupon the lawyer further said that he must be allowed a bit of time. "You can fix your own time," said the creditor. Whereupon this shyster lawyer drew the note, making it payable at the DAY OF JUDGMENT.

Eventually the creditor took the matter to court, and there, in defense, the lawyer asked the Judge to look at the note. He did so, and then replied: "The promisory note is perfectly good, sir, and as this is the day of judgment, I decree that you pay immediately"

7-Just as surely, God will judge that the time to settle all accounts has come.

B.-The OVERSEER Of Judgment:

1-"When God shall judge"

2-Ps. 9:7-8--"But the LORD shall endure forever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment. And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness."

3-Not as the actual judge, but as overseer of judgment

4-John 5:22-23, 26-27--READ

5-Judgment by God is an OLD DOCTRINE: the NEW PART is that this judgment will be "thru Jesus Christ" as His Deputy

6-BARNHOUSE--"God judges the World by the same rule that He has given the world to act by--JESUS CHRIST"

C.-The FACTS To Be Judged:

1-"Shall judge the secrets of men"

2-No trumped up charges, no false bill of particulars, no bribed witnesses, no altered evidence

3-Just "THE FACTS" as they are

--Gen. 6:5--"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

--1 Cor. 4:5b--"...until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts..."

--Heb. 4:13--"Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."

4-C. N. BARTLETT--"That is a solemnizing thought. Men may have secret sins, may cherish hatreds and all kinds of things offensive to God which may not in this life break out into open sin; but the time is coming when all hidden iniquity will be uncovered and judged by none other than our Lord Jesus Christ". (P.39)

5-DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON--(English man of letters)--"Every man knows that of himself which he dares not tell his dearest friend."

6-Judgment will be:
- --acc. to truth
- --acc. to works
- --acc. to impartiality

7-"Secrets of men"--
- --whether they be Jew or Gentile
- --without respect to position or privilege
- --ALL and BOTH will be unmasked!

D.-The PERSON To Be Judge:

1-"By Jesus Christ"
- --already seen in several passages
- --Jn. 5:22-23, 26-27
- --Acts 17:31
- --Also in Mt. 7:21-23
- --Also in Mt. 25:31-46

2-This is the repeated and harmonious testimony of Scripture

3-G. CAMPBELL MORGAN --"The basis of judgment is to be the actual condition of man, whether he has lived without the law or under the law; but he is to be judged finally by Jesus Christ. That is to say, the final test of character and of conduct is to be that of man's attitude to the Savior." (Pp. 27-29, Romans)

4-"The uniqueness of the gospel is JESUS CHRIST" S. L. Johnson

5-ILLUS--"A criminal who had often been before the courts was scheduled to appear once more. He rejoiced when he heard that an attorney who had defended him on previous occasions was now the trial judge. His attitude changed, however, when the judge stated, "When I was an attorney I defended you, but I am no longer an attorney. It is not now my business to defend, but to JUDGE. I shall hear the evidence and then I must deal with you in keeping with the oath I have taken in the office of Judge."

Jesus Christ came once to this earth as SAVIOR. He is even now at the right hand of God as our intercessor, our Advocate with the Father. But the day is coming when He will return as Judge. As Judge He must perform His duty in keeping with the nature of His office

6-D. L. MOODY--"One of two things you must do: you must either receive Him or reject Him. You receive Him here and He will receive you there; you reject Him here and He will reject you there"

7-Take Christ NOW as Savior

OR

Meet Christ THEN as Judge

8-There is no other choice!

E.-The RULE Of Judgment:

1-"According to my gospel"
- --1 Cor. 15:3-5--------its contents
- --Rom. 16:25----------it centers in Christ
- --2 Tim. 2:8----------it shows Christ
  - **as to Davidic lineage
  - **as to His res. from the dead

"Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which was kept secret since the world began, but is now made manifest."

"Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel."

See P. 5 for an illus. To insert here

2-Not a "humble" message, though a "simple" message
3-Called "the glorious gospel of the blessed God"--1 Tim. 1:11
4-"My gospel"--related inseparably to the great Apostle to the Gentiles
--VINCENT--"as distinguished from false teaching"
--K. S. WUEST--"Paul's assurance of the truth of the gospel is shown in his confident assertion that it will form the standard of judgment in the great day"

5-ILLUS--During a revival a young man said frankly that he did not wish to be a Christian. When asked for his reason, he replied, "Several years ago I was in a man's kitchen. He finding me there, swore at me & kicked me out. He was a professing Christian, & from that time I decided never to have anything to do with religion. And I never have to this day."

The young man was asked to write down this reason in full and sign it. Then it was handed back to him with the words, "Take this, & when you are asked for your excuse on the day of judgment, hand this up to God." The young man saw his folly and came to Christ that very night!

Perhaps YOU are letting the sins of others keep you from giving your heart to the Lord Jesus. Don't be so foolish------ for it will not stand the test of JUDGMENT DAY..."when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel"

II.-THE OVERALL PICTURE OF DIVINE JUDGMENT:

A.-The Certainty Of Judgment:
1-Nothing is more absolutely assured
2-Death, taxes,.....AND...judgment
3-Heb. 9:27
4-This thought should lend solemnity to every part of life.
5-When Daniel Webster was asked the most searching and sobering thought he'd ever had, he answered without hesitation; "That I as a man must give an account of my life to a holy God."

B.-The Universality Of Judgment:
1-To every man
2-The Jew first)))))--2:9-10
3-Also to the Gentile
4-Included ALL MANKIND
5-Heb. 2:3--"How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation..."
6-There is no escape from Divine judgment

C.-The Principles Of Judgment (2:1-16)
1-According to truth-----2:1-5
2-According to works-----2:6-10
3-According to absolute impartiality---2:11-15
4-According to the Gospel of Christ----2:16

D.-The Results Of Judgment:
1-Rewards will be generous and eternal
2-Doom will be certain and terrible
3-GRIFFITH-THOMAS---"These truths should be pressed home on every conscience. They show that there is no possibility

NB Mon's

of self-deception in the matter of the ultimate issue of right and wrong, and they are intended to lead, and, if properly applied, will undoubtedly lead to conviction of sin and repentance before God." (P. 83)

4-Rom. 2:4--"Or despisest thou the richesof his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance."

5-How about....you?
your family?
your friends?
your neighbors?
your co-workers?

6-A.C. Dixon--"I do not expect to be judged at the last day. I have no fear of the great white throne. My case has been settled in the Court of Mercy, in which God is judge and Jesus Christ is the advocate. 'There is therefore, now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus.' 'Who shall bring anything to the charge of God's elect?'
If you desire to take an appeal from this Court of Mercy to the Supreme Court of Justice you may do so. I prefer to come to God the Judge of all, today when I may be represented by such an advocate as Jesus Christ."

7-Are you facing Christ with such assurance.....or not?

8-Why not settle it now?

Illus (insert near bottom of P. 3)

In the mid-1930's while China was wide-open to the gospel a C.I.M. missionary named C. K. Lee spoke in southern California in a large rally + pressed the imperative need of China for the gospel. Afterward a student at U.C.L.A. came up + said, "Mr. Lee, you are very exercised about our exporting christianity to China. But I do not see the need! Isn't having Confucianism enough for them?"

Brother Lee replied, "I see you do not know enough of either Jesus Christ or of Confucius. Confucius was a man and Jesus Christ was and is the God-Man. Confucius was a teacher and Jesus Christ is a Savior. China — and you — needs more than a teacher; China needs a Savior. Moreover, Confucius is DEAD and Jesus Christ is ALIVE! One day it will come to pass that

both Confucius and China will stand before Jesus Christ as their condemning Judge.

Before that time they need to have the opportunity to hear of Christ as Savior and be invited to believe on Him —— And so do you".

Hiding In Thee
Oh How I Love Jesus

"RELIGIOUS, BUT LOST" Rom. 2:17-24

INTRO: A.-ILLUS:

"Hey Joe!" Ben yelled, "wait for me. Are you going over to see the fun?"

"What fun?" Joe asked when Ben caught up with him. "I'm going to hear that fellow Paul preach."

"That's what I mean," Ben said. "They sure are exciting meetings. Did you hear about last night? Some of the fellows were going to run Paul out of town for saying that we Jews are sinners just like any dog of a Gentile."

"Phooey!" Joe exclaimed. "Why is that such a terrible thing to say? We are sinners, aren't we?"

"Well sure, stupid," Jim said uncertainly, "but we're God's special friends; we can sin if we want to and God doesn't care. Don't you remember what God promised Abraham? He told him He'd give Abraham the whole world."

"Stupid yourself," Joe said, "because that isn't all He said. He said He would bless those who obey Him. That means if we don't obey Him, its all off!"

..."Well, in that case we're all as good as lost," Ben said thoughtfully, "because all of us have sinned. I wonder if that's what Paul meant last night when he said that God will punish us Jews for our sins and that Jesus Christ came to save us and died for our sins. .....Come on, hurry up, I want to hear what he's got to say"

TONIGHT'S message will be along the line of what Paul might have preached on such an occasion, for we know it is what he believed, and what God had revealed to him as TRUE.

B.-Earlier Truth:

1-1:18-32--Gentiles are liable to Divine judgment because of their unrighteousness

2-2:1-16--Self-righteous moralists (regardless of whether Jew or Gentile) are liable to Divine judgment because of their unrighteousness

3-2:17-24--Religious professors (the Jews) are in peril of Divine judgment because their profession is outward without a corresponding reality of the heart.

4-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"This section brings the argument of verses 1-16 to a head. The Jews made much of having the law, but in practice they were no better than the Gentiles. The law which was thought of so highly is seen to have its first application to themselves There is to be no deviation for Israel from the principle laid down in verse 11. 'There is no respect of persons with God.'" (P.84)

I.-PERILS OF SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS:

A.-The Jewish Name:

1-"Behold, thou art called a Jew"

2-Honored name of which the bearer was to be rightly proud

3-Distinguish:

--Hebrew--Distinguishes a Hebrew speaking son of Ab-

raham from a Greek-speaking son of Abraham
--Jew--Distinguishes one from a Gentile, and denotes nationality
--Israelite--Member of the Theocracy, & thus an heir to the promises; the religious name.
--So used in 2 Cor. 11:22--"Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites: so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I.

4-This name "JEW" is a nickname of "from Judah", which means PRAISE

5-Jews had light of the Word. This light has led to pride & self-sufficiency.

B.-The Jewish Privileges (5 of Them--2:17-18):

1-"Restest in the law"
--Reposing on the foundation-rock of revelation for hope & peace
--MEYER--"In the Law the Jew saw the Magna Charta which gave him his assurance of salvation"
--A. T. ROBERTSON--"It is a picture of blind and mechanical reliance on the Mosaic Law."
--Reminds of the N. T. phrase, "We have a law..." as if the mere possession of Divine Law gave confidence and privilege

2-"And makest thy boast of God"
--Gloried in their God
--Deut. 4:7-8--"For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon Him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law..."
--Ps. 147:19-20--"He shewed his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. He hath not dealt so with any nation: and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the LORD."
--Boasted of God as "THEIRS" because they were His COVENANT PEOPLE
--GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"We must never allow his boasting (WHICH WAS WRONG) to make us forget that there was a difference constituted by God himself between the Jew and others, but this was no warrant for wrapping himself in a robe of self-righteousness, and despising others." (P.85)

3-"And knowest His will"
--Well aware of the good pleasure of God
--Knew the facts
--Had the light
--Luke 12:47-48--"And that servant which knew his lord's will, & prepared not himself, neigher did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him will they ask the more."
--BUT***Knowledge is not practice
**Approvals are not achievements
**Instruction is not fulfillment

4-"And approvest the things that are more excellent"==
==and distinguish the things that differ"
--Put propositions to the test for the purpose of approving what was right
--Jews could discriminate between TRUTH and PHILOSOPHICAL SPECULATIONS because they had the Word
--Moral discernment was, thus, theirs
--The Jew has not sunk to the "reprobate mind" of 1:28
5-"Being instructed out of the law"
--"catechized, taught orally"
--Accomplished in synogoguic instruction
6-So, the Jew had these wonderful & distinctive privileges
--resting on the law
--makest thy boast of God
--knowest His will
--approvest the things that are more excellent
--being instructed out of the law
7-What was his attitude in the face of these privileges?
....HUMBLE....or....PROUD?

C.-The Jewish Superiorities (5 of them---2:19-20):
1-Because of the before-delineated privileges
--"And art confident that thou thyself"
--Strongly emphatic
--Not only sure of Jewish privileges in general, but of his own spiritual competency in particular
2-"Art a guide of the blind"
--"a leader, a road of progress"
--God intended this in fact because salvation was of the Jews (Jn.4:22) but this intention of God's had intensified the Jew's ARROGANCE so that they teach without practicing
3-"A light of them which are in darkness"
4-"An instructor of the foolish"
--"instructor"== (better) "Corrector"
--indicates discipline & training involved
5-"A teacher of babes"
--Terms--"BLIND", "THOSE IN DARKNESS", "FOOLISH", used to designate the heathen
--"BABES" used to designate proselytes & novices
--Not very flattering terminology
6-"Which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law"--They had the framework & outline of the truth
--GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"Once again, we may fully allow that the Jew when he realized his position and fulfilled the divine will, was able to guide, teach and direct those who did not, like him, possess the divine truth in the law. But all this was utterly spoiled by the overweening pride & self-sufficiency which made all instruction of others intollerable through the teacher's self-righteousness." (P.85-86)
--Jew was confident the Gentile must come to school to him. Yet had no burning evangelistic & missionary zeal!
--Arrogated their privileges as superiorities & thinking of themselves as a privileged

class, rather than realizing that THRU THEM these privileges were to be SHARED WITH THE WHOLE WORLD!

7-HELPS---Paul himself in Phs. 3:4-9

D.-The Jewish Inconsistencies (5 of them--2:21-23):

1-Introduction---Knew it all

--Applied none of it

--MOULE---"In this and the following verses St. Paul does not charge every individual Rabbinist with immorality. He exposes the spirit and principles of Rabbinism, as evinced and proved only too abundantly in multitudes of lives. Not every unconverted Rabbinist was a thief or adulterer; but in one respect or another he did not 'teach himself'..." (P.74)

2-"Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself?"

--DENNY--"The rhetorical question implies that the Jew does not teach himself, and that he does break the law he would enforce on others."

--Reminds me of B. Pike's recent visitor--Rev. John A. T. Robinson, scoffing author of the blasphemous book, "HONEST TO GOD". Called Britain's 'GODLESS BISHOP', even the press has asked, "What happens when a bishop publicly declares he no longer believes in God as a supernatural person? These questions are splitting the Church of England after the publication of the controversial paperback 'Honest To God', for...He finds no necessity to bring God into his science, his morals, his political speeches." Seems to me he ought to read his New Testament for himself for once! .....and be taught thereby!

3-"Thou that teachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?"

--NEWELL--"The preaching of the gospel is called in the world a 'learned profession', along with law and medicine, instead of a high calling of God. The world sneers at the ecclesiastical politics and self-seeking it sees displayed so often. Many 'professionals' have caused a stench by their reaching after men's pocketbooks" (P.69).

4-"Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery?"

--The TALMUD, which was the book of oral traditions that had accumulated over a course of centuries, charged the crime of adultery to three of the most illustrious Rabbis.

5-"Thou that abhorest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?"

--"abhorest"==expresses physical revulsion

--"Dost thou commit sacrilege?"=="Dost thou rob temples?"

--Plunder of the holy place

**by embezzlement

**by money changing

--Also, the reference may be to Jewish thefts from pagan temples, for this seems to be known as a peculiarly "JEWISH CRIME"

--Acts 19:37--"For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess."

--The strict Jew professed not even to dare set his foot in a heathen temple for fear of pollution

--But SCRUPLE broke down before JEWISH AVARICE

6-"Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonorest thou God."

--Moves from the OUTWARD violation in 2:21-22 to the INWARD violation in 2:23

--Boasting is to be in God alone

--Jer. 9:23-24--"Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But leh him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD"

--YET--"breaking" or "overpassing the boundary" of the / law

--How can such a law-breaker expect to escape the judgment of a righteous God who will render to every man according to his works?

--"dishonorest"=="disgracest"

7-Unless our PRACTICE is on a par with our PROFESSION, our actions often speak so loudly others can't hear what we are saying

8-People read our word of LIFE before they listen to our word of MOUTH

9-Homely ILLUS--I recently read that when a fountain pen salesman was writing in his notebook an order for 500 pens that he had just received from a prosperous merchant, the merchant exclaimed, "HOLD ON, SIR! I CANCEL THAT ORDER," and turned to wait on a custommer. The salesman left the store in disgust.

Later the merchant's bookkeeper said, "Why did you cancel that order?" "Why?" said the man, "because he talked FOUNTAIN PEN to me for half an hour, using a number of formidible arguments for the quality of his line, and then booked my order with a lead pencil. His practice does not agree with his profession."

B.-The Jewish Verdict (2:24): CAUSED BLASHEMY!

1-"thru you"==same ones who are so pleased to be called Jews

2-Historical illustration---Ezezk. 36:2-23

3-C. N. BARTLETT--"We who light the way for others must let the Lord keep our own lamps lit." (p.40)

4-ILLUS--Returning on the trail to a Jeep out of Nandaime, Nicaragua, on a rain-soaked muddy trail. The leader of the procession held a light for us all, but he fell in the gooey mud and his light went out. Because we followed in his light, we also followed in his darkness, and we followed in his fall when his light went out.

5-C. N. BARTLETT--"The Jews were so jealous of the holy name of God that they dared not even pronounce it; they were kept from uttering it by a paralysing superstitious fear. And yet, charges Paul, many of them lived such inconssistent & scandalous lives as caused Gentiles to blaspheme the name of the Lord." (P.41)

6-DENNY ---"Like God, Like People---What a divinity the patron of this odious people must be!" would be the reaction

7-Inconsistent living---whether of the Jew or of the christian ---makes religion appear to be a FARCE rather than a FORCE.

II.-LESSONS TO TEACHERS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS:

A.-Intro: GRIFFITH-THOMAS---"The section is full of solemn, searching, and even startling lessons for those who profess the Name of Christ, and work in His vineyard. Let us look at it specially in relation to all who are called upon to do the work of christian teachers. The description of the Jew in these verses is that of a man who knew the truth and professed to teach it to others." (P.87)

B.-The Teacher's Relation To God:
1-Five statements of 2:17-18
2-ALL are true of the Christian teacher
3-Secrets of real teaching power
4-Should be cultivated & developed
5-Thus----"make full proof of thy ministry"

C.-The Teacher's Relation To Others:
1-2:19-20
2-Show what a teacher ought to be
3-Only as we ARE these, can we COMMUNICATE these to others.
4-Importance and power of example is tremendous!

D.-The Teacher's Foundation:
1-"The law"---2:17, 18, 20
2-Isa. 8:20
3-What the LAW was to the Jew, the WHOLE WORD OF GOD is to the christian
4-2 Tim. 3:15-17
5-It is our foundation, our source, our power, our limitation, our inspiration, our impetus.
6-Only as we "PREACH THE WORD"---and teach it--can we be regarded in the full sense as a CHRISTIAN TEACHER.
7-This outlaws--theories of men
--patterns of fancy
--excursions into secondaries
--unscriptural programs, aims, and alliances
8-Avoid censoriousness or a "holier than thou" approach
9-Stand on the WORD and others will come around!

E.-The Teacher's Responsibility:
1-2:23
2-Life and teaching must "square together"
3-Otherwise, teaching is USELESS!
4-"Thou must thyself be true, if thou wouldest teach"

F.-The Teacher's Sin:
1-2:24
2-Inconsistency dishonors God
3-Inconsistency leads some to reject the gospel
4-Inconsistency leads some to misjudge Christ
5-Inconsistency leads some to blaspheme God
6-How awful are the results of inconsistent living in christian preachers, teachers, and professors!

7-Dr. J. A. BEET --"Men around think less of God because this man lives among them and calls himself a disciple of God. It were more for His glory, and therefore for the good of thos who know this man, if he were a professed heathen." (Romans)

8-Oh, the preciousneedfulness of Consistency constantly between what we profess and what we practice.!

9-Oh, the imperative that we not succumb to KNOWING, and not BEING AND DOING

10-Oh, the horror of being religious, but lost, or causing others to be lost for want of consistency

11-God's great announcement of this warning is to awaken men out of the false hopes of religion and to arouse faith in His Living Son

CONCLUSION:

A.-How About You?

1-Privileges galore !

2-Superior attitude ?

3-Consistent or Inconsistent

4-What's the verdict in your life?

5-What's the verdict in your heart?

* Religious, but LOST?

* Is your PRAISE of God or of man?

* Are you teaching your faith or your failure?

OVER

Hymns

Ye Must Be Born Again
I Know Whom I Have Believed

Joy In Serving Jesus
In The Service Of The King

This message used 6/7 + 14/64 — Break into two at Point II

"JEWISH 'Special Case' PLEADINGS" Rom. 3:1-8

INTRO: A.-ILLUS:

Jack wasn't a Christian, but he thought he was. "Why don't you become a Christian?" someone asked him one day.

"Why, I am a Christian," Jack said in a hurt sort of voice.

"You are?" his friend asked, surprised. "When did you become one?"

"I was just born a Christian," Jack said, "because my mother and father are Christians."

"But that doesn't help you any," his friend said. "You've got to decide for yourself".

"DECIDE WHAT?" Jack asked, feeling uneasy.

"Decide whether you want your sins to be put over onto Jesus, whether you want Him to be your Savior," the friend told him quietly.

"Jack's friend was right. You aren't saved by what your parents believe. When you believe, then Jesus will wash away your sins.

But does that mean that it isn't imprtant to be born in a Christian home? Oh, no, it doesn't mean that at all, for children who aren't born in Christian homes usually never hear & learn about Jesus and His love. How you should thank God every day for letting you be born in aChristian family instead of some far off land where the name of Jesus has never even been heard of.

Today in Romans, Paul is talking again to the Jews who think they are all right because of their families. Lets look at.....

B.-The Case:

1-1:18-32---Immoral Humanity----WITHOUT EXCUSE
2-2:1-16---Moral Humanity------WITHOUT EXCUSE
3-2:17-29---Religious Humanity--WITHOUT EXCUSE
4-3:1-8--GRIFFITH*THOMAS--"Does not all that the Apostle has been saying prove too much? Was not Judaism from God, with its clear-cut distinctions between circumcised and uncircumcised? The objections may well have been his own opinions before conversion, and like other Jews he might have thought that the Gospel of Jesus Christ really disparaged the Jewish position." (Pp.93-94)

--3:1-8 is a parenthesis between Chs. 1 & 2, and the conclusion in 3:9-20

--SANDLAY & HEDLAM--It is characteristic of this epistle that St. Paul seems to imagine himself face to face with an opponent, & that he discusses and answers arguments which an opponent might bring against him (so 3:1ff, 4:1ff, 6:1ff,15ff; 7:7ff). (P.69)

--Question and answer method to meet the objections of the Jews who say Paul's case for practical purposes puts Jews on the same plane as Gentiles.

I.-JEWISH "SPECIAL CASE" PLEADINGS (3:1-8):

A.-Question ONE---(3:1 READ):

1-Two parts to the question
- -What advantage-------answered in 3:2 and 9:4-5
- -What profit circumcision--answered in Ch. 4

2-"Advantage"=="profit, surplus, preeminence"

3-Point is--doesn't the Apostle's teaching obliterate distinctions between Jew & Gentile which GOD HIMSELF has ordained?

B.-Answer ONE---(3:2--READ):

1-Larger lists of advantages in 9:4-5

2-Paul only lists the CHIEF one here
- -Recipients of and Repository for the oraclesof God
- -But also in "every way" or "from every angle"
- -Ps. 103:7--"He made known His ways unto Moses, His acts unto the children of Israel."
- -Keepers of "Holy Writ"

3-C. M. BARTLETT --"The Jews as a chosen people were made the recipients of special revelation in order that thru them the truth might be brought to the world. Judaism proved to be a remarkable preparation for the coming of Christianity. After the captivity in Babylon, only about 40,000 returned to Jerusalem. Following the conquest of Alexander the Great, hundreds of thousands of Jews settled in the Greek cities founded by him. Wherever they went they disseminated the belief in one God and the hope of the Messiah.

"The O. T. was translated into the Greek Septuagint, and thru it, many Gentiles were brought to embrace the basic tenets of the Hebrew faith and of the moral laws of Moses. Synagogues dotted the known world, and it was in them that the Gospel was first proclaimed in many important centers. So, in a very real way, the Hebrew dispersion served in the providence of God, to prepare the way for the spread of the Gospel. But the pity and tradgedy of it is, that when Christ came, the Jews as a nation rejected Him." (P.44)

4-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"These privileges, though they cannot screen sinners from Divine judgment, or prove a substitute for Divine righteousness, are nevertheless of real and great worth...." (P.95)

5-SO.....the answer is that the Jews did have special privilege, but their "light" does not exempt them from their responsibilities, but hightens their responsibilities.

C.-Question TWO---(3:3 READ):

1-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"But now comes another question. In view of this possession of Divine oracles, what about the fact that some of the Jews were lacking in faith? Does their lack of faith destroy the validity of these oracles and make of none effect the faithfulness of Him Who gave them? This is how the Jewish objector meets the Apostle, by implying that the mere possession of the Scriptures was nothing in the face of Jewish unbelief." (P. 95)

2-ESSENCE of the question=---"Does not Israel's unbelief nulify God's faithfulness?"

3-ALFORD--"Because they have broken faith on their part, shall God break faith also on His? Rather let us believe all men on earth to have broken their word and troth, than God His. Whatever becomes of men and their truth, His

truth must stand fast."

4-ILLUS--Caleb & Joshua as against the 10 spies sent into the Land who did not believe. Unbelief of the majority did not disenfranchise the believers; did not alter the promised reward; and did not nullify God's promise.

5-Unbelief of Israel--(As a NATION, though there were INDIVIDUALS who were exceptions)

--National disobedience to the Oracles of God from Sinai onward

--Neglect of these Oracles, so that (as in Josiah's time) a single copy of them was a rarity

--Pride over possession of them....(as with RELICS)

--Despising the nations instead of evangelizing them as required by God (Ps. 67)

--Appalling ignorance of the spiritual meaning of the Divine oracles and the "voices of the prophets", so that they even killed the Righteous One (Acts 13:27

D.-Answer TWO---(3:4--READ):

1-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"St. Paul meets this suggestion with his customary expression of positive horror at the very thought. 'God Forbid'. 'Perish the very idea'. Although these Oracles were not believed in by the nation, they nevertheless retained their Divine power and authority unimpaired, and would yet find their complete fulfillment; and even if some of the Jews have failed to realize their advantages, it had been due to their unfaithfulness and not to any fault in God's nature. If every man on earth were proved to be false, God's truth would still remain true, as is expressed in Ps. 51:4, 'That Thou mightest be declared righteous in the judgment of mankind.' Man's very unfaithfulness, so far from destroying God's faithfulness, will really make the latter more prominent and glorify God all the more " (Pp.95-96)

2-Great is THY faithfulness !

3-2 Tim. 2:13--"He cannot deny Himself"

4-"GOD FORBID"

--Greek is

--Does not contain the name of God

--Means:--"Banish the thought", "Perish the thought", "Be it not so", "Let it not be conceived of", "May it not come to pass"

--Used 10 times in Romans to denote instant and horrified rejection of a conception

--14 of the 15 N.T. useages are by Paul

5-God keeps HIS Word whether men do or not!

6-God's character is not changed by the creature's failure

7-This is the testimony of:

--O.T. (As it stands written...")

--Paul in Romans 3

--Heart reaction of all the Godly

E.-Question THREE---(3:5--READ):

1-Point--as a worldling would put it--is; "Is not God's righteousness in judging impugned when all that sin does is set His glory in grander contrast?"

2-Moreover------If God uses sin to glorify Himself, He ought not to punish the sinner!

3-Paul phrases an objection from an imaginary Jewish objector who pleads the special privilege of the Jew. Normally such an objection would be phrased to expect a favorable response. Paul's attitude toward God's equity and righteousness is so high and pure, that he does not phrase it thus, but in the Greek he phrases the question so as to get a negative answer-----"God is not unrighteous, is He? (Of course not)"

4-When Paul says, 'I speak as a man', he is deeply conscious that he is using language which is intrinsically improper when applied to God

5-ILLUS--Is sunlight to blame if a man refuses to live in the sunlight, & so insists on living in a dark, damp cellar? While living ther, the man contracts a dread disease from lack of sunlight. Is the sunlight to blame? Of course not ! !

SO---When man, by rejecting what God has prepared for him of full salvation through the Cross, subjects himself to eternal condemnation---GOD ISN'T TO BLAME !

F.-Answer THREE---(3:6-8):

1-"GOD FORBID"--Repells the question of 3:5 with scorn
--The very thought calls for instant rejection
--BISHOP GORE--remarks that the Apostle "will not argue with one who reasons at the expense of his conscience." (P.119)

2-Because such complicity in evil would disqualify God from judging the world
--He must DO right--Gen. 18:25
--He must JUDGE the world--Acts 17:31
--Paul assumes, and so do these Jewish scorners, that there will be a day of judgment
--No one dare have a false hope of evading that certain judgment

3-"Let us do evil that good may come"
--Opposite of the gospel of grace
--Maxim of Jesuits
--Not of God

4-Paul's verdict---3:8a--"Whose damnation is just"

5-SO.....Paul has made the complete circle to return to his premise of 2:1, that the Jew--as well as the Gentile--in his self-righteousness stands self-condemned and is WITHOUT EXCUSE

6-NEWELL---"The Jews, deluded by pride, and falsely basing God's favor to their nation upon their own deserts, absolved themselves from judgment. Judgment they relegated to the 'goyim', the 'ethne', the Gentiles. Paul himself shows the Jewish consciousness in his rebuke to Peter in Galatians 2: 'We being Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles.' And the Pharisees said even of the common, non-religious sinners of the Jewish nation: 'This multitude that knoweth not the Law, are accursed!' (Jn. 7:49)

"But if we, professing Christians, consign this *** whole passage to the Jew, we fall directly into the same terrible trap. Whole multitudes today in Christendom, sheltered in their imagination by the fact that they have 'JOINED' some church, resent the very doctrines which Paul here insists on. Thousands of so-called 'CHURCH-MEMBERS' not only have never been brought under conviction of sin & guilt and personal danger, but rise in anger like the Jews of Paul's day when one preaches their danger directly to them!

"Now if God paid no attention whatever to the claim of the Jew to be exempt from judgment because he was a Jew, neither will He pay any attention to the claim of the 'BAPTIST' or 'PRESBYTERIAN' or 'EPISCOPALIAN' or 'METHODIST'-----as such. For all men are alike guilty, common sinners! What avails before a holy God the special religious names sinners call themselves. This book of Romans will do you and me no good if we apply it to Jews or Mormons only!" (Pp.77-78)

II.-PRACTICAL TRUTHS FOR US FROM ROMANS 3:1-8:

A.-Some Divine Realities:

(Several points associated with God are brought into prominence in this section & call for constant consideration & practical application).

1-The ORACLES Of God---3:2
- --Suggestive description of the Word of God
- --Oracles of the heathen were dim, mysterious, ambiguous & unreliable
- --Bible oracles were the clear revelation of God's character and will for man
- --Do we regard them as such?

2-The FAITHFULNESS Of God--3:3
- --One of the fundamental verities
- --God is ever true to His Word
  - ** both as to promises
  - ** and as to threatenings
- --God's faithfulness is maintained in spite of human sin and unfaithfulness.
- --This is a bed-rock truth of the Christian faith
- --"He abideth faithful, He cannot deny Himself"--2Tim.2:13

3-The RIGHTEOUSNESS Of God---3:5
- --One of the main phrases of Romans
- --God's absolute rectitude is shown here
- --No deviation from the path of perfect truth & righ
- --God's character is at once our warning & our inspiration

4-The JUDGMENT Of God---3:6
- --One of the great "facts of life"
- --Certainty of Divine justice
- --Universality of Divine justice

5-The TRUTH Of God----3:7
- --Expression suggests the reality of the Divine character
- --As opposed to everything unreal & shadowy
- --Absolute accuracy & correctness of the Divine will
- --Absolute opposition to human error, untruth & speculation

6-The GLORY Of God---3:7
- --Supreme object of creation of man & world
- --Westminster Confession
  - **glorify God
  - **enjoy God
  - **manifest God

B.-Some Human Responsibilities:

(Equal stress laid on man's side in the following particulars)

1-We are entrusted withthe Oracles of God (3:2)
- --True of the Jew with O. T.

--Much more true of Christians with a whole Bible
--Its possession is a solemn, sacred, serious trust
--Calls for--**genuine faith
**earnest study
**practical obedience
**world-wide circulation

2-We are in danger of unbelief---3:3
--Faith is the only possible & adequate answer to God's revelation
--Hence, the awful results of unbelief
**severs fellowship
**makes His Word of no effect to us
--Cannot ponder too deeply the barrier & baseness of unbelief

3-We are liable to abuse God's Mercy--3:8
--Temptation to do evil that good may come of it
--Great crimes in history have been so "justified"
**Crusades against the Moslems
**Massacres against the Jews
**Inquisitions against christians
**Jesuit philosophy of "The end justifies the means"
**Civil disobedience in our day
--Whole idea is REPUGNANT to christian truth
--Impossible to make sin other than sin!
--Evil is evil through and through
--Beware of phrases & ideas like:
**"white lie"
**"pious fraud"
**if it is a lie, it isn't white
**if it is a fraud, it isn't pious

4-We are certain of Divine Judgment (3:6, 8)
--Most solemn responsibility of all
--GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"If there be no such thing as sin, there cannot be any judgment, but with sin as an awful fact, judgment is absolutely certain" (P.99)
--Man is accountable to God
--Accountability remains quite apart from any over-ruling providence which may use the evil consequences for some good purpose
--It is one of the foundation facts of the univefse that man is personally responsible for his own actions.

Hymns:
Great Is Thy Faithfulness
Shall We Gather At The River

BY THE LAW IS KNOWLEDGE

Rom. 3:20
(Teacher Dedication)

INTRO: A.-Comments Of Men Concerning The Bible:

1-A. Lincoln--"I am profitably engaged in reading the Bible. Take all of this book upon reason that you can and the balance by faith, & you will live & die a better man."

2-G. Washington--"Above all, the pure & benign light of Revelation has had a meliorating influence on mankind, & increased the blessings of society."

3-A. Jackson--"It (the Bible) is the rock upon which our Republic rests."

4-W. Wilson--"A man has deprived himself of the best there is in the world who has deprived himself of this (a knowledge of the Bible."

5-H. Hoover--"There is no other book so various as the Bible, nor one so full of concentrated wisdom. Whether it be of Law, business, morals, or that vision which leads the imagination to the creation of constructive enterprises for the happiness of mankind, he who seeks for guidance...may look inside its covers & find illumination.

B.-Distinction Clarified:

1-Revelation comes down from God
2-Bible is ONLY revelation ever given to man
3-All other "holy books" are of a different origin
4-Others are men's reasonings, graspings & inventions as they postulate about God
5-There is NO COMPARISON
6-Scripture is given for our profit
7-2 Tim. 3:16-17

I.-BY THE LAW IS KNOWLEDGE SHOWN--(Rom. 3:20):

A.-Knowledge of Sin:

1-God's evaluation on man's acts
2-Rom. 3:9-20
3-Scripture reveals man's sin & thus law becomes an instrument of condemnation to man
4-Why?----Rom. 3:23
5-ILLUS----2 Chron. 34:18-21

B.-Knowledge Of The Savior:

1-Promises concerning Him are contained therein
2-Prophecies concerning Him are contained therin
3-Fulfillment concerning Him is contained therein
4-No other book gives so much of an insight to us
--Lk. 24:27
--Jn. 5:39
--Rev. 19:10
5-Herod is dead
Pontius Pilate is dead
Judas Iscariot is dead

SAVIOR
PROPHET
PRIEST
KING

Son of Woman
son of Judah
son of David

Virgin Born
God/Man

Caesar Augustus is dead
Voltaire is dead
Darwin is dead
Nietsche is dead
Fox sisters are dead
Swedenborg is dead
Madame Blavatsky is dead
Mary Baker Paterson Glover Eddy is dead
Judge Russell is dead
Joseph Smith is dead
Brigham Young is dead
Ellen G. White is dead
Buddha is dead
Confucius is dead
Mohammed is dead

6-But, Jesus Christ is gloriously ALIVE, and we know this by the law of God

7-Rev. 1:18--"I am He that liveth & was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell & death."

C.-Knowledge Of Salvation:

1-Men say:--"Be good"
--"Turn over a new leaf"
--Be baptized"
--"Join church"
--"Keep the 10 commandments"
--"Follow the Golden Rule."

2-But these things only white-wash the sinful heart & place a veneer of sophistication & religiousness over a desperate need that is still unsatisfied.*

3-Gods law says--Acts 16:31
--Acts 4:12
--John 1:12-13
--Rom. 10:9-10
--Rom. 10:17

4-So, this BOOK OF THE LAW brings knowledge of salvation thru the Savior

D.-Knowledge Of Security:

1-Emotions fluctuate
2-Experience has many levels
3-But the sure foundation of the law of God indicates:
--2 Tim. 2:19
--1 Pet. 1:3-5
--Jn. 10:27-29
--Jn. 6:27, 37

4-Where else can one find the confidence to say:
2 Tim. 1:12--"...nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, & am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day."

B.-Knowledge Of Sanctification:

1-As a position--1 Cor. 6:11
2-As a possibility--1 Th. 4:7
3-As a privilege--1 Th. 4:3

4-As an experience--1 Th. 4:4-5
5-Where else can we learn--what to avoid
--what to do to please God
--what power (1 Cor. 6:19-20) in which to grow in sanctification

II.-BY THE LAW IS KNOWLEDGE COMMUNICATED:

A.-Knowledge Must Be Sought: — It won't come up + bite you!
1-Isa. 55:6-7
~~2-2 Cor. 6:1-2~~
3-Ezra 7:10
4-Nothing worthwhile comes to those who do not make an effort to find what is available

B.-Knowledge Must Be Bought: — there is a COST in self-discipline
1-Made one's own
2-Isa. 55:1-3
3-Eph. 2:8-9
4-Rev. 3:18

C.-Knowledge Must Be Taught: — Fathers to sons, Mothers to daughters, Older to younger
1-Otherwise there is no growth for us
2-Otherwise there is no continuity of what we've learned
3-Otherwise there is a failure in the plan of God.
4-2 Tim. 2:2---"And the things that thou has heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

III.-BY THE LAW IS KNOWLEDGE REACTED TOWARDS:

A.-Received Or Rejected:
1-Many Instances:--Jn. 7:40-43 — DIVISION because of Christ + the Gospel
--Acts 2:37, 41
--Acts 17:2-5 — NOT ALL respond favorably
2-One or the other must take place
3-Either the law of God is received, or it is rejected

B.-Reviving Or Reviling:
1-Reaction is inevitable
2-Neutral you cannot be
3-Word of God is a divider---Heb. 4:12
4-Results are to be expected as you teach
5-Results are to be expected from your teaching
6-Results are to be expected toward you as a teacher
7-Either there will be a heart warming----Lk. 24:22
8-Or there will be a heart hardening------Acts 22:22-23

CONCLUSION:

A.-By The Law Is Knowledge:
1-Of essential truths made known
2-Of personal truth communicated
3-Of intimate truth reacted towards

B.-Teacher Of The Law Of God:
1-Not merely of facts,

2-But of pupils
3-Study BOTH the lesson AND the pupils
4-Teaching is "meeting needs"
5-Yours is a High & Holy calling

for

By the law is knowledge

Westbrae - #460 - "Holy Bible, Book Divine"
10/14/73 #328 - "Standing On The Promises"

"GOD'S QUARANTINE" UNDER SIN" Rom. 3:9-20

INTRO: A.-TITUS MAN'S QUANDRY:--Years ago a certain missionary society, in order to gain access for a missionary to a certain tribe in Africa, send down trinkets to be bartered with the natives. Among them was a package of those little **hand mirrors**, such as ladies use.

The natives had **never seen** their **own faces**, except in the waters of some lake or stream, & the news of this wonderful instrument, by which people could see their own features, was spread abroad until the **missionary** was **invited** by tribe after tribe **to visit** with his hand mirrors.

It happened that away in the interior there was **a princess** who had been **told** that she was the **most beautiful** woman in the tribe, and that her face was the most beautiful on earth. When she heard of this instrument in which she might see what a beautiful creature she was, she sent for the missionary and bade him **bring** one of those **mirrors.**

But the truth was, the princess was the **least attractive woman** in the tribe. So she got the mirror, and went into the hut to take one good long delicious look at her beauty, but when she held up the glass and saw what a **hideous creature** she was, how ugly in every feature, she lifted her royal fist and **dashed the glass** to pieces, **banished the missionary**, and made a law that no looking-glass should ever again be brought into the tribe.

WHY did the princess **hate the mirror?** She hated it because **it told the truth** about her. The truth was not a pleasant one. She found that she was an ugly woman and she did not like it. **Why** do men **slight the BIBLE?** Because righteousness of a man is as filthiness in God's sight; that out of the heart proceed murders, lying, false witness, adulteries, and such things; that the heart is like a cage of unclean birds. And when this BOOK, **like a MIRROR** reveals man to himself; when the truth is seen in that mirror, with the light of the great white throne falling upon it, then their hatred is aroused, and the Bible is smitten as the heathen princess destroyed the mirror, **BECAUSE IT TOLD THE TRUTH**

But she was **just as ugly after** she destroyed the mirror as before. And it **remains true** that, though man rejects the Bible and tramples it under foot he is exactly **the same sinner** as before, and is moving on just as steadily toward eternity and the great white throne as before he rejected the Bible.

B. God's Quarantine:

1-**What is a quarantine???**
- Period of **detention** and **isolation**
- Originally of **40 days** duration
- Imposed on **ships** and **persons** suspected to be bringing a contageous or infectuous disease

2-**What is God's Quarantine???**-----**"UNDER SIN"**

3-In reality, the world is **shut up** to the **one appeal** of the gospel of grace. Until this appeal is heeded, the individual is **neither under law** nor **under grace** as a rule of life; **but** is **under sin**, "that the promise of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe" (Gal. 3:22).

4-Classic and **forceful passage**---Rom. **3:9-20**

I. THE CHARGE OF GOD'S QUARANTINED UNDER SIN (3:9):

A.-The Categories Relative Standings (3:9a):

1-Jew is not better off than the Gentile
2-Gentile is not better off than the Jew
3-In the light of 1:18--3:8
4-Advantages were with the Jews
5-But appropriation was missing
6-Strong words of non-superiority---"NO, IN NO WISE"

IMMORAL HUMANITY
MORAL HUMANITY
RELIGIOUS HUMANITY

B.-The Charged Stated (3:9b):

1-"Before proved"
--A.V. translation is poor and misleading
--Should read "accused," "brought a charge"
--Accusation is in 1:18-3:8
--Proof will follow in 3:10-18

2-Applies equally to Jews and Gentiles

3-ALL--Jew & Gentile--are now in ONE BOAT together, and the name of that boat is SIN

4-"All under sin"
--MOULE--"Being brought under sin (as the Greek bids us more exactly render), giving us the thought that the race has fallen from a good estate into an evil," (P. 81)
--LIDDON--"Not merely sinners, but under the empire of sin"
--HODGE--"To be under sin means to be under the power of sin, to be sinners, whether the idea of guilt, just exposure to condemnation, or of pollution, or both, be conveyed thy the expression." (P. 120)

5-THEREFORE the charge is that God has quarantined the world under the one banner of SIN!

6-The accusations of 1:18--3:8 are now formalized into an indictment (bill of particulars) charging the race with being SINNERS.

II.-THE PROOF OF GOD'S QUARANTINE (3:10-18):

A.-The God-Given Authority:

1-Supremely important to see this

2-"As it is written"
=="as it stands written"
--Perfect tense
--Ps. 119:89--"Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven."
* --7 O.T. quotations from Psalms & Prophets
--These are the proofs!
--Appeal is to the Scripture as his ONLY AUTHORITY
--Appeal is to the Scripture as his SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY

3-BARTLETT--"Jews and Christians in Paul's day had what were known as 'Testimonia', collections of quotations from the O.T. strung together for various purposes as proof texts. The passage in verses 10-18 may be a ready-made selection, or it may be a * series which he put together himself. At any rate, the effect of this assemblage of proof texts is as if Paul had said, 'I CAN EXPRESS MY OPINION IN INSPIRED WORDS: THEREFORE IT MUST CARRY THE WEIGHT OF THE TRUTH OF GOD.'"

B. God As The JUDGE (3:10-12):

1-Viewpoint--seen negatively in 3:10-11 (6 Charges)
--seen positively in 3:12
--6 charges against man

2-God sits in detachment to view MAN AS HE IS !

(1) 3-"There is none righteous, no, not one"
--Ps. 14:1--"Jehovah looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if any did understand"
--"Children of men" is a wider term than just "JEWS"
--Even Adam was not righteous (in his created state) but was created innocent
--Job 9:2--"I know it is so of a truth: but how should man be just with God?"
--Eccles. 7:20--"For there is not a just man upon the earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not."
--"NONE, NO, NOT ONE" ***tripple negative
***no exceptions, no exemptions
***none included in a "righteous band"

(2) 4-"There is none that understandeth"
--Understandeth WHAT?
--Not an accusation that mankind is a race of ignoramuses, but that they have no spiritual perception
--Thus, "none that understandeth (Divine Things)"
--So used by Paul, & especially by the Lord in Matthew 13 (verses 13, 14, 15, 19, 23, 51)
--NEWELL --"Now humanity, by nature, 'understands' nothing of God. Men think they do, and write vast books on the subject; by God's sentence remains: 'There is none that understandeth'. 'In the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom knew not God'. Believe just that: it is true' (P.81)
--Proof--see the JUNK that fills the "religion" section of a Library or 2nd hand store.

(3) 5-"There is none that seeketh after God"
--HOW can this be?
--Are not pagan lands filled with temples, shrines & worshipping throngs??
--ANSWER-----Yes, But----1 Cor. 10:20--"The things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God.
* God has had to take the place of the SEEKER
**Gen. 3:8-9--"And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam..."
**Luke 15:4--"What man of you having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?"
**Luke 19:10--"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which is lost."

(4) 6-"They are all gone out of the way"
--"ABANDONED" the way of God
--See Jer. 6:16--"Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, &

ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein."

--Isa. 53:6--

--Mal. 2:8--"But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of Hosts."

5 7-"They are together become unprofitable"

--ALL are included

--Term used by Hebrews to describe MILK THAT SOURED

--Term used by the Greeks to describe FRUIT THAT ROTTED

--Mankind is "together" rotten & sour in the sight of God

6 8- "There is none that doeth good, no, not one"

--None practices good HABITUALLY

--None GOOD, but God

--Mark 10:18--"And Jesus said unto him, 'Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God

--Moral goodness is lacking in men

--Integrity is absent in men

--Not even ONE meets the test

--Tripple negative

9-(THUS)--As God JUDGES mankind, He sees them all as SINNERS!

C. God As The GREAT PHYSICIAN (3:13-15): (5 charges)

1 1-"Their throat is an open sepulchre"

--Doctors always insist in looking first at our throat and tongue to diagnose our case and the state of our health

--Corrupted mankind

--"Open"***Perfect participle

***Not hidden, but open

***Unashamed putridity

***Like a yawning grave that stands open

--The full import of this can only be appreciated in hot climates like the middle east

--BISHOP HORNE--"Emitting the noisome exhalations of a putrid heart" (On Ps. 5:9)

--Spiritual halitosis

2 2-"With their tongues they have used deceit"

--Deceitful mankind

--Imperfect tense shows this is the habitual practice & perseverence in their hypocritical professions

--They'd lie when it would cost them if the truth were free

--Try doing business and see the DECEIT you'll encounter

3 3-"The poison of asps is under their lips"

--NEWELL--"The fangs of a deadly serpent lie, ordinarily, folded back in its upper jaw, but when it throws up its head to strike, those hollow fangs drop down, and when the serpent bites, the fangs press a sack of deadly poison hidden 'under its lips', at the root, thus injecting the venom into the wound. You and I were born with moral poison-sacks like this. And how people do claim the right to strike others with their venom-words! to use their snake-fangs." (P. 83)

--Gal. 5:15--"But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another."

--"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me"-----BALDERDASH !
--Poisonous words hurt worse than poisonous arrows
--You die of the arrow, but must live with the words

4-"Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness"
--Blasphemous mankind
--Not just a "smidgin", but FULL
--Proof--Take your hand & strike the mouth of an unsuspecting passerby & the outpouring will be as though you'd struck a HORNET'S NEST

5-"Their feet are swift to shed blood"
--Malicious mankind
--Little or no provocation
--MURDER is so common that hideous new expressions have been coined to describe it----"I'll get him", "Bump him off", "Take him for a ride"----and now the awful expression of the Communists----"LIQUIDATE HIM"
--How terrible it would be but for the restraining hand of God
--When the restraining grace of God is withdrawn, it will be given to the Red Horse Sitter "to take peace from the earth and that they should slay one another" (Rev. 6:4)
--FOR FURTHER DETAILS------read your daily newspapers

6-Physician looks at
--THROAT
--TONGUES
--LIPS
--MOUTH
--FEET

7-Hoof & mouth disease of man

8-God's evaluation of man as the GREAT PHYSICIAN diagnoses:
Isa. 1:5-6--"Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment."

D. God As The DIVINE HISTORIAN (3:16-18): (3 Charges)

1-What an epitome of recorded history these verses are!

(1) 2-"Destruction & misery are in their ways"
--It is said of the ancient TROY of which Homer sang, that it was built upon the ruins of an earlier Troy---and that 7 other Troys, each built upon the ruins of a former Troy have been found.
--NEWELL--"Those who so loudly proclaim that the human race is 'improving', 'progressing', are blind deceivers,--blind to history, blind to present facts, blind to the rising tide of human violence. 'As it was in the days of Noah' our Lord said, 'so shall be the coming of the Son of man.' In those days of Noah the earth became 'full of violence' (Gen. 6:11 (P.84)
--DENNY--"Wherever they go, you can trace them by the ruin and distress they leave behind." (P.607)

(2) 3-"The way of peace have they not known"
--Not a reference to the way of peace with God, but of man with man

--Not one of the human race knows, or is by nature pursuing the path of peace

--ILLUS--Japanese "PEACE MISSION" in Washington, D. C., in December 1941

--Proof--The CANADIAN ARMY JOURNAL revealed recently that "Since 3600 B. C. the world has known only 292 years of peace. During this period there have been 14,532 wars, large and small in which 3 billion 640 million people have been killed. The value of destruction would pay for a belt of gold around the world 100 miles wide and 35 feet thick."

3

4-"There is no fear of God before their eyes"

--This is the most awful count of all--and it explains all the others

--Prov. 1:7--"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom & instruction."

--ILLUS--I remember seeing a newsreel of "The BROWN BOMBER--Joe Louis---after he'd won the title fight as Heavyweight Champion. A companion remarked,"I'D HATE TO HAVE HIM HIT ME." He could fear a fellow-man. Yet, a few minutes later he was cursing, using God's name in vain and blaspheming Jesus Christ in profanity... .....AND IT MEANT NOTHING TO HIM ---There was no FEAR OF GOD before his eyes.

--God says "The Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain" (Ex. 20:7)

--GRIFFITH-THOMAS --"We must never forget that no charm of attitude toward men can ever take the place of thorough righteousness toward God

--ILLUS--

--Jan Steeley at 1964 IFCA Camp at Redwood Park

--All mankind can repeat after Lady Macbeth---"...all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten this little hand"

5-The evidence of History as the DIVINE HISTORIAN sits in His recording detachment, the evidence is overwhelming

6-MACLAREN--"Paul does not mean to bring all varieties of character down to one dead level, but he does mean to assert that none is free from the taint."

III.-THE VERDICT OF GOD'S QUARANTINE (3:19-20):

A.-The Sample Case (3:19):

1-Explain a "statistical sample"

2-Israel was God's "statistical sample" to prove the quarantine "UNDER SIN" of all mankind

3-3:19

4-McGEE--"The law was not given as a Savior, but was given as a prosecuting attorney. The law reveals sin, not salvation (P.22)

5-NEWELL--"Paul turns again to the Jews as those who were under the law to shut off their possible escape from that general arraignment by Scripture of 'both Jews and Greeks' beginning at the 9th verse" (P.86)

6-The Jews ONLY were ever "under the law"

7-"Every mouth"--Men's mouths keep bragging of their own goodness and dragging out the stories of other men's badness, but the moral history of mankind as here placarded should STOP THE MOUTH----"FENCE in" all replies

8-VINCENT--"The effect of overwhelming evidence upon an accused party in court"

9-"And all the world may become guilty before God"

--guilty=="answerable", "liable to penalty"

--NEWELL--"For they are all brought into the presence of their Judge, and the sentence of guilty is upon them all. Not that they are brought in to have their just penalty executed upon them, but that they may be silent while God their Judge announces---------- ASTONISHING THING! ! ! ---that He has himself already dealt with the world's sin upon a sin-offering--Jesus--His son; whom, we shall soon see, He set forth at the cross as a righteous meeting-ground between Himself in all His holiness and righeousness; and the sinner, whether Jew or Gentile, in all his guilt,---through simple faith in the shed blood of this Redeemer! (P.87)

B.-The Purpose Of The Law: (3:20):

1-NEWELL--"Now Paul declares what the law cannot do, and what it can do. First, no one shall be declared righteous (justified) in God's sight by works of law (doing right) and second, the business of God's law is rather to make known to men their sin, and therefore their need of a salvation which the Law cannot supply." (P.87)

2-"DEEDS"=="works"

--Someone says, "It is not the good works men have done so much as the good works they persuade themselves they some time will do, in which they hope"

--STIFLER--"One might as well attempt to cross the river on a millstone as to get to heaven by the works of the law"

--"of the law"=="prescribed by the law"

--DENNY--"Under no system of statutes, the Mosaic or any other, will flesh ever succeed in finding acceptance with God. Let mortal man, clothed in works of law, present himself before the Most High and His verdict must always be: UNRIGHTEOUS" (P.60)

3-"Be justified in His sight"

--Only the NAME OF JESUS can do this !

--The law, broken cannot justify, but ONLY CONDEMN !

--"Could my tears forever flow,
Could my zeal no respite know,
All for sin could not atone,
Thou must save, and Thou alone"

4-"For by the law is the knowledge of sin"

--WUEST--"There is no law given with power to give life, and therefore there are now works of the law by which men can be justified. The law has served its purpose when it has made men to feel to the full how sinful they are; it brings them down to this point, but it is not for it to lift them up."(P58)

--"Knowledge of sin"=="recognition", "conviction"

--means; a clear & exact knowledge

--The law has done its work. It was not intended to justify, but to condemn

5-THUS---2 Chron. 34:14-21

6- "Your best resolutions must wholly be waived,
Your highest ambitions be crossed;
You never need think you'll ever be saved,
Till first you have learned you are lost."

7-God is in the business of saving BAD people for the simple reason that there are no GOOD people in His sight

CONCLUSION:

A.-Summary:

1-1:18--3:8 is the ACCUSATION
--IMMORAL Humanity is "Lost" (1:18-32)
--MORAL Humanity is "Lost" (2:1-16)
--RELIGIOUS Humanity is LOST" (2:17-29)
--Answer to "special pleadings" (3:1-8)

2-3:9 is the CHARGE---"Quarantined 'UNDER SIN"

3-3:10-18--The PROOF
--God as the JUDGE---3:10-12
--God as the GREAT PHYSICIAN--3:13-15
--God as the DIVINE HISTORIAN--3:16-18
--All on the authority of "As it stands written"

4-3:19-20--The VERDICT
--3:19--Sample Case proves it
--3:20--Purpose of the Law

5-SO------3:21-31
--Justification provided FOR us, not BY us

Hymns Christ Receiveth Sinful Men #190 Westbrae -10/18/70
Grace Greater Than Our Sins #416 SF Chinese Bible
Blessed Be The Fountain - 97 Old Kanawha Baptist Ch - 12/2/84

"RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD" Rom. 3:21-23

INTRO:

A.-Key Verse Of Romans:
1-Rom. 1:17--"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."
2-"Therein" refers to "the gospel of Christ" in 1:16
3-Man needs Righteousness
4-God has revealed righteousness thru the gospel
5-This is appropriated "By Faith"

B.-Universal Need Proven:
1-Accusation in 1:18--3:8
--Raw Heathen--1:18-32
--Cultured Pagans--2:1-16
--Religious Moralists--2:17-3:8
--ALL LOST
2-Proof in 3:9-20
--God as JUDGE--6 charges
--God as GREAT PHYSICIAN--5 charges
--God as DIVINE HISTORIAN--3 charges
3-Verdict is that--"they are all under sin" (3:9)
--"there is none righteous, no,not one"

C.-Useless Law:
1-Many "try to do their best" or "keep the commandments" or "follow the Golden Rule"
2-A USELESS ENDEAVOR ! !
3-Rom. 3:19-20
4-Law wasn't given to SAVE, but to CONDEMN and show the need for a Savior
5-ILLUS ---"Are you saved, sir?", Harry Ironside asked a man after a gospel meeting as he went out the door.
"No, I really can't say I am, but I would like to be."
"Why would you? Do you realize you are a lost sinner?" asked Dr. Ironside.
"Oh, of course, we are all sinners," he replied
"Ah, but that often means little or nothing. Are YOU a sinner yourself?"
"Well, I suppose I am, but I'm not what you could call a bad sinner. I am, I think, a rather good one. I always try to do the best I know."
"Then, my friend, I fear there is little use to show you the way of salvation. Good sinners, together with honest liars, upright thieves, and virtuous scoundrels are far from being ready to submit to the GRACE of God, which is only for poor, vile, hell-deserving sinners, who have no merits to build on, no goodness to plead, but who are ready to be saved alone by the work of Another, and that One the Lord Jesus Christ."
Further conversation but elicited the fact that the gentleman was far from being ready to be saved and would, according to his own declaration, rather take "his chances" as he was.
6-BUT, the law he tried to keep could not save him, but only condemn him!

D.-"But Now":

1-3:21

2-New subject introduced by "But now"

3-DENNY--"All time is divided for Paul into 'NOW' and 'THEN' (Eph. 2:12f; 2 Cor. 4:16)." (P.609)

4-What a contrast between Law's uselessness (3:19020) & Grace's provision (3:21-23)

5-Behind us is GLOOM; Before us is GLORY (Dr. Roper)

6-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"Before us is the very heart of the Ep."

7-PROVIDED righteousness is the word before us.

I.-ANNOUNCEMENT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS (3:21a, b):

A.-Meaning Of Righteousness:

1-Not an attribute of God

2-Not a changed character of the believer

3-But that righteousness which is Christ's which is counted to our account thru faith in Christ

4-A PRONOUNCEMENT, not a PROCESS

5-The Righteousness which is valid before God, AND of which He is source & author. Thus it is a Righteousness FROM God

6-Seen as "our covering of Righteousness"

--Illus----Gen. 3:21

--Illus----Luke 15:22

7-Not "MADE RIGHTEOUS", But "DECLARED RIGHTEOUS"..... a judicial act.

B.-Manner Of Righteousness:

1-"Without the law"=="apart from the law"

2-LUTHER--"without accessory aid of law"

3-Can't get God's provided righteousness on the principle of "DOING", but of accepting what "HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE"

4-Griffith-Thomas--"God's righteousness is independent of law as a condition of becoming righteous" (111)

5-What a RELIEF this should be to the guilty sinner!

6-Heb. 7:19--"For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God."

C.-Manifestation Of Righteousness:

1-"Manifested"=="exhibited"

2-Perfect tense indicates "has been exhibited and is now exhibited"

3-This manifestation is"a revelation undiscoverable by man, an unveiling of God" (G-T, P. 110)

4-ILLUS of "manifestation" in 1 Cor. 3:13--"Every man's work shall be made manifest (exhibited): for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed (disclosed) by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."

5-Where manifested?--in the gospel

--Rom. 16:25-26--"Now unto him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world was made, but now is made manifest by the scriptures..."

II.-ATTESTATION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS (3:21c):

A.-Witnessed By The Law:
1-Scripturally attested
2-In sacrifices, offerings & types
3-GRIFFITH-THOMAS-"The gospel was no afterthought, but was foreshadowed & foretold." (112)
4-Law contributes NOTHING to providing righteousness, but it does attest the righteousness of God
5-Not legal--this righteousness--but testified to in the law and prophets that a righteousness from God was provided for man.

B.-Witnessed By The Prophets:
1-Not merely sacrifices, offerings & types
2-Also in direct statements
3-21 times in Psalms alone
4-Samples--Jer. 23:5-6--"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, & a King shall reign & prosper, & shall execute judgment & justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, & Israel shall dwell safely: & this is his name whereby he shall be called THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."
--Ps. 98:2--"The LORD hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen
--Ps. 71:2, 15, 16, 19, 24
--Isa. 53:11--"He shall see of the travail of his soul, & shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.
5-NEWELL-"It would have been righteous for God to smite Adam & Eve as He did the angels that sinned. He could have revealed Himself in righteousness of judgment in accord with His holiness & justice. He was not obligated to save any man. But it was God's will to reveal HIMSELF: for He is LOVE."

III.-APPROPRIATION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS (3:22-23):

A.-Manner Of Appropriation:
1-"Even the righteousness of God which is by faith..."
2-This is the MANNER of appropriation
3-Not ATTAIN, but OBTAIN.....Not works, but a gift
4-GRIFFITH-THOMAS--"Faith thus implies acceptance, reliance, dependence, confidence of all which are opposed to self-effort, self-reliance, self-confidence." (112)
5-Appropriation repeatedly said to be "by faith"
--Rom. 3:22, 25, 28, 31
--Rom 4:5
--Rom. 5:1
--ILLUS of faith---Acts 27:25--"Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.
6-"Of Jesus Christ"=="concerning Jesus Christ
--HE is the one in WHOM we repose our faith

--Rom. 1:3--"Concerning His Son Jesus Christ..."
--JOHN WESLEY--wisely said: "Never think of yourself apart from Christ"
--It is faith in HIS FINISHED WORK that is at stake
--NOT what He can & will do now
--BUT what He's already done
--1 Tim. 1:15--"This is a faithful saying & worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."
--Have faith in an accomplished redemption which provides all the righteousness you need.

7-FAITH is God's answer to legalism & to works

B.-Scope Of Appropriation:

1-"Unto all"
2-The scope of His purpose is universal; it includes the entire human race, none are outside His loving intentio
3-'Oh, that all the world might know,
At the Cross there is room.'
4-2 Peter 3:9--"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
5-"And upon all them"--not in best Mss.; Omitted by R.V.
6-PROVISION is for ALL
APPROPRIATION is for THOSE THAT BELIEVE
7-None are barred, except by their own wilful rejection.

C.-Equality Of Appropriation (3:22c):

1-"For there is no difference (distinction)"
2-Equality--in sin
--in availability of salvation (Rom. 10:13)
--in opportunity to appropriate salvation
--without distinction between men
3-NEWELL--"There is no distinction between sinners--between great offenders & small, with respect to this matter of sinnership. Not the degree of sin, but the fact of sin is looked at here. If you should visit a penitentiary, you would find some imprisoned for terrible crimes, & others for lesser offences, but you would find, in the eyes of the law, no innocent men." (112)
4-ILLUS--I read of a minister traveling thru the South who obtained permission to preach in the local jail. A son of his host went with him. On the way back the young man, who was not a Christian, said to the minister:
"I hope some of the convicts were impressed. Such a serman as that ought to do them good."
"Did it do you good?" the minister asked.
"Oh, you were preaching to the convicts!" the young man answered.
The minister shook his head & said: "I preached Christ, and you need Him as much as they do."

D.-Need Of Appropriation (3:23):

1-ALL should be in capitals---Universal! !

2-"Have sinned"--Aorist tense indicates past historical action
--IN ADAM this sin took place
--Seminal headship
--As in 5:12--"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."
--FOREST is found (seminally) in an ACORN
--Meaning: "Have missed the mark of righteousness."
--All mankind did this IN ADAM and became sinners by generation from him by nature

3-"And come short of the glory of God."
--Present tense indicates a present practice of habitually & continually falling short
--Meaning: "To be left behind in the race so as to fail to arrive at a desired goal" (WUEST)
--That goal is the approbation or praise of God
--Shows that man is not just a sinner by nature from Adam, but also a sinner by practice from choice

ILLUS--The abilities of man fall short in spiritual things like too scanty a blanket when you are in bed. When I was a college Freshman, I had a roommate--one of 4 of them--who was 6feet 8 inches tall & weighed 265 pounds.

When he laid down in bed he had 3 choices: (1) Head and shoulders uncovered, (2)Feet & shins uncovered or (3)Head and feet uncovered. They don't make blankets for men his size!

Only God can provide a covering that is "ENOUGH" to cover man in His sight. That covering is God's righteousness placed to our account thru faith in Christ's redeeming work on Calvary.

Any other covering is "too short"

CONCLUSION:

A.-Summary:

1-Announcement Of God's Righteousness
--"But now"
--Meaning of righteousness
--Manifestation of God's righteousness

2-Attestation of Righteousness
--By Law
--By Prophets

3-Appropriation of God's Righteousness
--"By Faith"
--Scope--"unto all"
--Equality--"For there is no difference"
--Need--3:23

B.-Where Do You Stand?:

1-In your own righteousness?--Isa. 64:6--"But we are all as an unclean thing, & our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; & we do fade as a leaf; & our in-

iquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

2-In God's righteousness?

3-WHICH ? ? ?

4-Is the righteousness you are trusting in ENOUGH before God?

5-Christ's righteousness is; for God "received Him up into Glory"

6-Have you given HIM a "reception into your heart?"

7-IF SO you can be ASSURED of "being received" as well by the Father.

Hymns: Whosoever Meaneth Me — Westbrae 10/4
To God Be The Glory

"JUSTIFICATION EXAMINED" Rom. 3:24-26; Acts 13:38-39

"How To Be Justified Before God" Read Rom. 3:21-31 (1)

"WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT JUSTIFICATION:"

INTRO:

A.-Homiletics Teaching:

1-PHILLIPS BROOKS--"Preach doctrine--preach all the doctrine that you know, & learn forever more & more; but preach it always, not that men may believe it, but that men may be saved by believing it." — Truth is life + destiny transforming!!

2-Doctrine is important & essential

3-Preaching that is non-doctrinal is anemic

4-But it must issue in more than belief---it must issue in SAVING BELIEF — Because — "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the demons also believe, and tremble." Jas. 2:19

B.-Here We Have The Doctrines:

1-Passage--3:24-26-- is LADEN with doctrine

2-Great words of the Christian faith here
- --Justified
- --Grace & Faith
- --Redemption--SINWARD
- --Propitiation--GODWARD
- --Righteousness
- --Remission ==Passing over

3-Staggers the feeble mind of man

4-These--and many more--are the result of the death of Christ for us---for me----for you

5-All the work of the Triune God

6-Parallel-Eph. 1:3-6--Father
- -Eph. 1:7-12--Son
- -Eph. 1:13-14--Spirit

PROP: To SEE what the Bible teaches about Justification
To BE SURE we are justified in the sight of God.

C.-

I.-JUSTIFIED BY GRACE (SOURCE)---(The grace of God PROVIDES it)-3:24: — This is a DIVINE ATTRIBUTE

"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

A.-Justification Defined:

"Justification is the act of God that declares a sinner righteous by Faith on the merit of Christ's sacrifice. It is the ADDITION of the righteousness of Christ as well as the SUBTRACTION of sins."

1-Definition--"Declared righteous in the sight of God
- --Mt. 11:19--"The Son of man came eating & drinking, & they say, Behold a man gluttonous, & a wine-bibber, a friend of publicans & sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children
- --Luke 7:29--"And all the people that heard him, & the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John"

2-Root in Gk. is the same for "righteous" & "justified"

3-SO-to be righteous in God's sight is to be justified
- -to be justified is to be righteous in God's sight

4-Meaning of Justification
- --A divine ACT, not a human ATTAINMENT — JUDICIAL ACT OF GOD
- *--Distinguished from "made righteous", which is sanctification
- !--More than forgiveness (removal of GUILT & CONDEMNATION)
- *--Indicates a positive righteousness placed to our account from God.
- --ILLUS---Deut. 25:1 — "If there be a controversy between men, & they come unto judgment, that the judges may judge them, then shall they JUSTIFY the righteous, and CONDEMN the wicked,

5-A King can pardon, but cannot restore a criminal to a position of one who has never broken the law. GOD CAN & DOES ! !

6-MORE than "Just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned" — POSITIVE RIGHTEOUSNESS,

B.-Justification Delineated ("freely by His grace):

1-"Freely"--Marvellous word in Rom. 3:24 — "Being justified freely by His grace"...
- --Indicates the manner of justification

--Means "without a cause"--Jn. 15:25--"They hated me without a cause" (2)
--Means "giftwise", "as a gift", "gratis".
--Rev. 21:6--"I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life **freely** (as a gift)."
--Rev. 22:17--"And whosoever will, let him take the water of life **freely**" (gratis).
--Not provided **BY** us, but provided **FOR** us
--**No cost to us**, except to **ACCEPT**.

2-"**By His Grace**" (Rom. 3:24 — Also Titus 3:7 — "...justified by His grace"
--HYMN--"Jesus paid it all, All to him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain.
He washed it white as snow."
--WUEST--Grace "signified in classical authors a favor done out of spontaneous generosity of heart without any expectation of return"
** *--HOWEVER, "grace" was always extended to a **FRIEND** & never to an **ENEMY**
! *--But grace upon grace, God spontaneously does good to those that **hated Him**
--Gives deep meaning to the words--"For God so loved"
--LENSKI--"This is pure, abounding, astounding grace."
--MOULE--"The harlot, the liar, the murderer, are **short** of it (God's glory); but **so are you**. Perhaps they stand at the **bottom** of a **mine**, & you on the **crest** of an **Alp**; but you are as little able to touch the stars as they."
--it takes **GRACE**--"God's Riches At Christ's Expense"
--It comes from God — Rom 3:24 — "Being justified freely **by His grace**"

C.-Justification Described (thru the redemption that is in Christ Jesus"--): Rom. 3:24

1-Thru the avenue of redemption we have liberation from sin & freedom in Christ Jesus

2-"**Redemption**"--WUEST--"'Redemption' is ἀπολυτρωσις, the verbal form of which ἀπολυτρόω to redeem by paying the λυτρον price. There are **3 words** translated 'redeem', ἀγοράζω, '**to buy** in the slave market', Christ bought us in this slave market of sin by His own blood; believers are His bondslaves; ἐξαγοράζω '**to buy out** of the slave market, the redeemed are never to be put up for sale in any slave market again; and λυτρόω '**to set free** by paying a price'; THE BELIEVER IS **SET FREE** FROM SIN & **FREE TO LIVE** A LIFE PLEASING TO GOD IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT." (P.60)
--Thus, ==**"complete liberation"**
--**Set free** from the wrath of God (1:17-18) due against sin
NB! **Intensive** form of the verb is designed to teach that the man who has been ransomed from the market place of sin was **NEVER** to come again to the place of sale.
--ILLUS--Lev. 16:21-22--"in the wilderness"=="in a land cut off" & hence never to return with sins. THEREFORE....a **complete liberation** from sin was pictured.

Day of Atonement Chapter →