



## Decade of Availability The Oracles of God

This passage declares that all mankind whether enlightened by reason, philosophy or revelation, are equally guilty before God. No one is righteous!

### 1. Privilege Without Perception vv. 1-2

*Privilege, to be rightly handled must be correctly perceived.*

a. **The Oracles of God:** Paul affirms that the greatest possession of the Jews was the Word of God. Not the Temple, not the Priesthood not the law, but the entire Old Testament revelation.

**Has the Church done any better** with the 'Oracles' of God? One of Satan's greatest efforts is to pull it (the OT) away from the Word of God. The word 'oracles' in vs. 2 is a form of 'logos' [divine utterance] John 1:1 ...the WORD who is Jesus.

### 2. Objections Without Objectivity vv. 3-8

a. **Unbelief and God's faithfulness:** v. 3-4 The unbelief that rejected the Bible did not nullify its 'truthfulness' nor the 'truthfulness' of God. Paul quotes Psalm 51:4 to show that man alone is guilty of sin and must deal with it now or in the final judgment of God.

b. **Sin and Grace:** 5-8 The grace of God is under attack in these verses. Some teach 'extreme-sovereignty' where God leads us into or causes us to sin. Other's teach that 'grace' means we never EVER have to ask for forgiveness once we are saved. And still other's taught that we are still under the law.

**So what's at stake here?** Paul DOES NOT teach cheap grace—though that is what many were accusing him of doing during his missionary endeavors. (See Acts) Biblical grace was first offered by God after the fall...it is the only manner in which man can be reached.

### 3. Equality Without Reservation vv. 9-20

a. **All under sin** vv. 9-18 On his own, man will not understand God, will not seek Him, will not do what is good in God's sight, will speak lies and evil....

**Paul's list** comes from Psalms, Ecclesiastes, and Isaiah and emphasizes that man can ONLY become righteous through the righteousness of God, by faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.

b. **All under the law** v. 19 "...every mouth stopped..." The Gentiles claimed ignorance and the Jews claimed exemption from judgment. But they really had no argument and the Holy Spirit shuts them up.

c. **All under pressure** v. 20 In the first phrase Paul is referring to every man-devised effort that has ever existed hoping to reach God. The second phrase refers to the Law of Moses, which was meant to define sin but not free man from sin.

*All of mankind must be convinced of their desperate and hopeless plight under law before they can acknowledge their need for grace. The next section in Romans presents us with the way of grace.*

## Romans 3:1-20 (NKJV)

1 What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? 2 Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God.

3 For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? 4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written:

"That You may be justified in Your words,  
And may overcome when You are judged."

5 But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.)

6 Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world? 7 For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner? 8 And why not say, "Let us do evil that good may come"?—as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just.

9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin.

10 As it is written:

"There is none righteous, no, not one;

11 There is none who understands;

There is none who seeks after God.

12 They have all turned aside;

They have together become unprofitable;

There is none who does good, no, not one."

13 "Their throat is an open tomb;

With their tongues they have practiced deceit";

"The poison of asps is under their lips";

14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness."

15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood;

16 Destruction and misery are in their ways;

17 And the way of peace they have not known."

18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.