



The Benefits of Being Jewish - verses 1-8

- 1. What questions of the Jews do you think Paul may be responding to?
- 2. What do you think is their main objection?
- 3. What advantages and benefits has God given the Jews?
- 4. Is there any advantage or benefit to being a Christian? What about a disadvantage or detriment?
- 5. What is Paul's point in verse 8: "Their condemnation is just"?

The Knowledge of Sin - verses 9-20

- 6. It should be sobering to consider that God sees us far differently than we see ourselves. How do the following verses describe God's perspective of your life?
 - 1 Samuel 16:7
 - 1 Kings 8:39
 - Psalm 139:3
 - Jeremiah 17:10
 - Luke 16:15
 - Hebrews 4:13
- 7. What does Paul mean by, "there is no fear of God before their eyes" (verse 18)? How might "fear" be a good thing? (Consider: Ecclesiastes 12:13,14; Romans 2:4,5; 2 Corinthians 5:10)
- 8. Martin Luther wrote: "The principle point of the law in true Christian theology is to make people not better but worse; that is to say, it shows them their sin, so that they may be humbled, terrified, bruised, and broken, and by this means be driven to seek comfort and so to come to that blessed [Christ]." (Martin Luther, Galatians, Wheaton, Illinois, Crossway, 1998). Have you ever thanked God for the law? Have you ever thanked God for His relentless honesty with you?

The Gift of God's Grace - verses 21-31

- 9. How is the righteousness of Jesus transferred to us (verses 21-23)?
- 10. What motivates God to act graciously on our behalf (verse 24)?
- 11. What does God's work of salvation demonstrate (verses 25,26)?
- 12. Who should get the glory for our salvation (verses 27,28)?
- 13. To Whom is the gift of salvation made available (verses 28-30)?
- 14. What role does the law play in all of this (verse 31)?
- 15. How might knowing what Paul teaches here make a difference in your life?
- 16. If you had to pick just one insight from this study that speaks specifically to you, what would it be? Why? How do you plan to respond to it?