



ACCOUNTABLE

Life Group Study -- Week of February 24, 2019

Memorize.

*By works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight,
since through the law comes knowledge of sin.*

Romans 3:20

Open. Which of the following best describes you: “I hope it snows until June” or “I can hardly wait for the arrival of spring!”? Why?

Study.

If you had the opportunity to hear Pastor Jim’s message on Sunday, what stood out to you personally? What questions did it raise for you, if any?

Read Romans 3:1-20.

What advantage does the Jew have according to Paul (verses 1-2)? What does the verb “entrusted” (ESV) imply? Does the same apply to Christ-followers?

Why are people in every generation concerned that their faithlessness will cause God to be unfaithful to his promises (verses 3-4)? How does Paul answer this concern? How does the quote from Psalm 51 enhance his point?

What question is really being asked in verse 5? What nagging thought do you think lies behind it? What is the effect of Paul’s answer (verse 6)?

Does the question in verse 7 strike you as an inquiry, or an accusation? Why? What is the effect of Paul’s response (*or non-response*) in verse 8?

At what conclusion does Paul arrive in verse 9? What does it mean to be “under sin”?

How does sin affect our legal standing before God (verse 10)?

In verses 11-18, Paul quotes a string of Old Testament verses to demonstrate the pervasive and comprehensive effect of sin on every part of our being and our lives, including our intellects (verse 11a), our base motivations (11b), our wills (12), our tongues (13-14), the ways in which we relate to one another (15-17), and the fundamental manner in which we relate to God (18). What stands out to you personally in this section? How does it make you feel?

Where does Paul arrive in verse 19? Does his phrase “so that every mouth may be stopped” refer back to the questions asked and answered in verses 1-8? Why or why not?

What can the law, and the quest to keep the law, never achieve? Why? What can it achieve?

Who is included in the phrase, “the whole world” (verse 19)? Who is excepted from the phrase, “no human being” (verse 20)?

How does the message of this passage inform our understanding of what it means to be in relationship to God?

How might it inform our thinking about evangelism and mission in the age of relativism and pluralism?

How do you personally want to respond to what we have discussed?

Remember to pray for, and share Christ with your

