

## **Romans 2 – 3:20 Outline**

### **Self-Defense Arguments against the truth of our Condemnation**

#### 1. 2: 1-11 Argument of Relative Righteousness

vs 1-2 judging others judges self

vs 3 thinking of escape

vs 4 despising God's grace

vs 5 contention about truth of guilt

vs 6-11 Only perfect righteousness can be rewarded with eternal life.

#### 2. 2: 11-29 Argument of Extenuating Circumstances

(a.) vs 11-16 Excuse of the Ignorant Gentile

Q. How can I be held accountable to something that I was never exposed to in my experience?

(b.) vs 17-29 Excuse of the Jewish (or religious)

Q. How can I be judged a sinner when I have the law of God and perform it zealously?

#### 3. 3:1-8 Philosophical Objections to God's Justice

(a.) vs 1-2 Q. What's the advantage of the Jew?

(b.) vs 3-4 Q. Did they prove God's word ineffectual by not believing? We haven't seen His promises to them fulfilled?

(c.) vs 5-8 Q. Doesn't our badness make God's goodness look all that much better? Doesn't He need our wrong to make his right shine?

#### Romans 3: 9- 20 Conclusion and Closing Arguments

Every mouth is stopped; no other argument to make from Jew or Gentile.