

ROMANS 3:9-21 — HUMANITY ON TRIAL

I. THE ARRAIGNMENT (v.9) — Formal Reading

“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.”

II. THE INDICTMENTS (v.10-17) — List of Charges

1. Indictment For His CHARACTER (v.10-12)

Q1 “There is none righteous, no not one” (v.10) [Ps.14:1]

Q2 “There is none who understands” (v.11) [Ps.14:2]

Q3 “There is none who seeks after God” (v.11) [Ps.14:2]

Q4 “They have all turned aside” (v.12) [Ps.14:3]

Q5 “They have together become unprofitable” (v.12)

Q6 “There is none who does good, no, not one” (v.12)

2. Indictment For His CONVERSATION (v.13-14)

Q7 “Their throat is an open tomb” (v.13) [Ps.5:9]

Q8 “With their tongues they have practiced deceit” (v.13) [Ps.5:9]

Q9 “The poison of asps is under their lips” (v.13) [Ps.140:3]

Q10 “Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness” (v.14) [Ps.10:7]

3. Indictment For His CONDUCT (v.15-17)

Q11 “Their feet are swift to shed blood” (v.15) [Is.59:7]

Q12 “destruction and misery are in their ways” (v.16) [Is.59:7]

Q13 “The way of peace they have not known” (v.17) [Is.59:8]



III. THE MOTIVE (v.18) — Reason For Action

“There is no fear of God before their eyes.” (v.18) [Ps.36:1]

IV. THE VERDICT (v.19) — Formal Facts Result

“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.” (v.19)

V. THE HUMAN DILEMMA (v.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.” (v.20)

VI. THE SOLUTION (v.21)

“But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets” (v.21)