

# ROMANS

Lesson 8: Universal Sinfulness –  
Romans 3:1-20



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## OBJECTIONS ANSWERED (3:1-8)

- Diatribe style of writing – engages with an imaginary opponent or questioner
- Objections likely encountered in Paul's missionary efforts
- All the objections are overruled



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## OBJECTIONS ANSWERED #1 (3:1-2)

- Q: What about God's covenant?
  - What advantage was it to be a Jew then?
  - What benefit was circumcision?
- A: Great in every respect
  - Entrusted with the oracles (words) of God (Acts 7:38)



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**OBJECTIONS ANSWERED #2 (3:3-4)**

- Q: Does the unfaithfulness of some nullify God's faithfulness?
  - Does God's condemnation of the Jews mean He is breaking His promises?
- A: May it never be!
  - God is found true although man is a liar (Ps 51:4; Ps 116:11; Num 23:19; Tit 1:2; Heb 6:18)




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**OBJECTIONS ANSWERED #3 (3:5-8)**

- Q: How can God punish the unrighteous if unrighteousness demonstrates His righteousness?
  - Why am I still judged as a sinner?
- A: May it never be!
  - What an absurd argument




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**ALL ARE UNDER SIN (3:9)**

- Did the Jew have an advantage over the Gentile? - Yes
- Had he utilized his advantage? - No
- Was he any better off, then, than the Gentile to whom God had given no written law? - No, because all are under sin




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**PROOF THAT ALL ARE UNDER SIN (3:10-18)**

- There is none righteous (Eccl 7:20; Ps 14:1)
- There is none who understands; none who seeks God (Ps 14:2; 53:2)
- All have turned aside, they are useless (Ps 14:3; 53:3)
- There is none who does good (Ps 14:1,3; 53:1,3)
- Their throat is an open grave (Ps 5:9)




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**PROOF THAT ALL ARE UNDER SIN (3:10-18)**

- The poison of asps is under their lips (Ps 140:3)
- Mouth is full of cursing and bitterness (Ps 10:7)
- Feet swift to shed blood; destruction & misery in their paths (Isa 59:7)
- Do not know the path of peace (Isa 59:8)
- No fear of God before their eyes (Ps 36:1)




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**SECTION CONCLUSION (3:19-20)**

- Law speaks to those under the law
- Message is the same – EVERYONE is a sinner
- We are silenced by the evidence against us
- Why? Law requires perfect obedience, thus justification by law is ruled out
- Good news? No, but the next section is!




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