

Romans 2:17-3:8
Get Rid of False Hope
November 7, 2021

Romans 2:17-29 Four False Hopes of the Jews

*(Deuteronomy 10:15, Deuteronomy 7:6, Deuteronomy 9:5-7,
Luke 12:47-48, Matthew 7:3-5, Ezekiel 36:16-20, Matt. 23:25-28)*

- 1) Their _____
- 2) Their _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____

Romans 3:1-8 Objections and Answers

(Psalm 51:3-4, Romans 6:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

- If my life hasn't _____, I'm probably not _____

Four False Hopes of Today:

(James 2:19, Matthew 19:16-21, Isaiah 64:6)

- 1) Belief in _____
 - 2) Biblical _____
 - 3) _____
 - 4) Spiritual _____
- Self-Righteousness: Trusting in _____ to get to heaven.

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Romans 2:17-29 Four False Hopes of the Jews

*(Deuteronomy 10:15, Deuteronomy 7:6, Deuteronomy 9:5-7,
Luke 12:47-48, Matthew 7:3-5, Ezekiel 36:16-20, Matt. 23:25-28)*

- 1) Their Heritage _____
- 2) Their Knowledge _____
- 3) Morality _____
- 4) Circumcision _____

Romans 3:1-8 Objections and Answers

(Psalm 51:3-4, Romans 6:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

- If my life hasn't Changed _____, I'm probably not Saved _____

Four False Hopes of Today:

(James 2:19, Matthew 19:16-21, Isaiah 64:6)

- 1) Belief in God _____
 - 2) Biblical Knowledge _____
 - 3) Morality _____
 - 4) Spiritual Experiences _____
- Self-Righteousness: Trusting in My Works to get to heaven.

righteousness." And he was called the friend of God. [24] You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. [25] Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? [26] For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

In this week's study, Paul showed that our "external signs" don't save us. Yet here, James explains we cannot be saved *without* these "external signs" of works. How are these reconciled?

Why can't we be saved by believing in Jesus, while not having any "works"?

TAKING IT HOME

- 6) Looking back at this week's teaching and homework, what is most important for you to remember and why?
- 7) **Personal study only:** Scripture tells us to *circumcise* our hearts and *crucify* our flesh. Is there something you need to *put to death* in your heart?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

Life Group Homework For the week of November 7, 2021

MY STORY

- 1) This week we talked about different ways people *think* they are saved - but aren't. Have you ever believed any of these "false hopes"? If so, what were they, and how did you come to realize your hope was a false one?

REVIEW

- 2) Thinking back to this week's study (in Romans 2:17-3:8), was there anything you heard for the first time or anything that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 3) This week we saw how God chose Israel to be His special people in Deuteronomy 10:15. Read the rest of the passage, then answer the questions below.

Deuteronomy 10:15-21 - "[15] *The LORD delighted only in your fathers, to love them; and He chose their descendants after them, you above all peoples, as it is this day. [16] Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer. [17] For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe. [18] He administers justice for the fatherless and the widow, and*

loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing. [19] "Therefore love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. [20] "You shall fear the LORD your God; you shall serve Him, and to Him you shall hold fast, and take oaths in His name. [21] "He is your praise, and He is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things which your eyes have seen.

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell Israel (and us) to do?

What does verse 16 mean to you?

- 4) We read this week (in Ezekiel 36:16-20) how God's name was profaned by Israel's disobedience and resulting captivity among the nations. Read what God promised to do for Israel later in that same chapter:

Ezekiel 36:22-29a -[25] "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. [26] "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. [27] "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. [28] "Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God. [29] "I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses. ..."

What stands out to you from this passage?

How does God's promise to Israel point to Jesus?

How does God's promise to Israel point to the Holy Spirit?

- 5) We are not saved by *our works*, but by trusting in Jesus. With this in mind, read the following passage - noting any highlights or questions you have.

James 2:14-26 - "[14] What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? [15] If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, [16] and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? [17] Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. [18] But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. [19] You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe-- and tremble! [20] But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? [21] Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar? [22] Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? [23] And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for