

# Living Connections Bible Study

The Gospel of God

*Justified by Faith*

## Approved or Disqualified?

### Prayer

**Icebreaker:** Paul's letter to the Romans has been called The Gospel for Believers. Why do believers need to hear and understand the gospel?

---

---

---

---

**Text:** Romans 2:17-29

Romans 1 exposes the unrighteousness of mankind.

Chapter 2 deals with the self-righteousness of men.

Man's tendency when presented with his sinful condition is to justify himself in comparison to others.

1. What warning does Paul give us in 2 Corinthians 10:12?

*For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.*

2. Who sets the standard by which man must be justified? Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 10:18

---

---

---

---

The orthodox Jews of Paul's day were especially smug in their self-righteousness, thinking that they would escape God's judgment because they of all the people on earth knew the true God, and had the revelation of His holy laws and instructions contained in the Old Testament.

3. Discuss the 10 things which the self-righteous Jew gloried in when comparing himself to the pagan Gentiles.  
Romans 2:17-20

---

---

---

---

---

4. What is the consequence for knowing the truth and not living it? Romans 2:12

---

---

---

---

5. What great privileges do we have as followers of Christ? Contrast Jews to professing Christians.  
Romans 2:17 with Acts 11:26; 1 John 3:1

---

---

---

---

6. What imperative does every teacher of God's Word have toward the truths he is teaching?  
Romans 2:19-23; Matthew 23:3-4

---

---

---

---

7. What did Paul, Jesus and Jeremiah have to say about adultery as practiced by the Jews?  
Romans 2:22; Matthew 12:39; Jeremiah 23:14

---

---

---

---

8. In what ways can professing Christians be guilty of adultery today apart from the physical act?  
Matthew 5:27-28

---

---

---

---

Paul asks the Jews in verse 22b, *You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?* The term rob temples actually means to commit sacrilege. This was the sin of violating or profaning sacred things, of appropriating to common purposes that which had been devoted to the service of God. Though the self-righteous Jew would not bow down to an idol he might be guilty of the spirit of idolatry, of giving man or things preeminence over God. This spirit is expressed in withholding from God that which rightly belongs to Him. Instead of making God preeminent in one's life, of loving God with all one's heart, soul, mind and strength, men have become guilty of dethroning God from the position of honor He deserves.

9. How were the Jews guilty of sacrilege according to Malachi 1:8, 12-14 and 3:8-9

---

---

---

---

10. Define the sin of blasphemy, and how professing Christians are sometimes guilty of this sin today.  
Romans 2:23-24; Isaiah 52:5; Ezekiel 36:18-21

---

---

---

---

11. What do the following verses teach us about our choice of words and actions before the world?

James 1:20 \_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 4:5-6 \_\_\_\_\_

Titus 2:6-8 \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

12. What mark of ownership did Jewish males take pride in as a symbol that they were the sons of Abraham, God's chosen people, separated from all the nations on earth? Romans 2:25-29

---

---

---

---

**Think about it this week:**

Am I living up to my profession in *believers baptism* as cleansed through identification with Christ, being dead to my old life of sin and alive to God? Or would an unbeliever observing my life conclude that my baptism means nothing?