

“Mischief Managed”
Romans 3:1-8
November 15, 2020

- I. Objection #1 – “Clearly God didn’t do enough for Israel.” (vs. 1-2)**
- A. Was there no advantage, then, to being a Jew? (See Romans 2)
 - B. Of course, there was! Old Testament Israel had God’s Word!
 - C. God has given practically everyone access to His Word today!
- II. Objection #2 – “How beneficial could God’s Word be if so many Jews didn’t believe it?” (vs. 3-4)**
- A. The Jews failure to believe God’s Word did not prove *God* false; it proved *them* false.
 - B. God, by definition, *is* true.
 - C. The Scriptures are validated through their faithful condemnation of unbelief.
 - D. The failure of professing Christians today to believe/live-up to God’s Word does not invalidate the truth of the Bible.
- III. Objection #3 – “If my sin brings God glory by contrast, why does God judge me?” (vs. 5-7)**
- A. God will judge the world for the sake of true and final justice.
 - B. No one really wants it any other way.
 - C. We’re fine with this judgment when it comes to people who have hurt us and the various monsters of human history.
 - D. Yet when people demand this justice for the sins of others, they’re demanding it upon their own sins too.
- IV. Objection #4 – “Don’t Christians teach people to sin like crazy so God can be glorified by forgiving them?”**
- A. True Christianity preaches forgiveness to the *repentant*, not to the rebellious.
 - B. Anyone who says or lives otherwise has no idea what they’re talking about.

- C. Someone who would knowingly characterize Christianity this way barely deserves a response – “Their condemnation is just.”

V. Application – Let us manage our own mischief as much as we can.

- A. Let us never be open to the charge of disbelieving or ignoring God’s Word.
- B. May we consistently remember the gospel’s call to life-long repentance (not living at peace with any sin).
- C. May we do so while hoping in the One who will complete our transformation on the last day.

1 John 3:2–3 - ² Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.