**Lesson 4 Romans 3**

**The Verdict**

1. Although the Jewish Christians in Rome apparently felt superior to the Gentiles (2:1 & 3:1) what does Paul say they have in common?

Romans 2:1

Therefore, you are without excuse, every one of you who passes judgment. For by the standard by which you judge another you condemn yourself, since you, the judge, do the very same things.

Romans 3:1-2

1 What advantage is there then in being a Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision?

2 Much, in every respect. [For] in the first place, they were entrusted with the utterances of God.

2. (See vs. 8) What examples from recent history can you think of that illustrate how people justify doing a lesser evil so that a greater good may come of it?

8 And why not say—as we are accused and as some claim we say—that we should do evil that good may come of it? Their penalty is what they deserve.

3. A. See Question 2. What is morally (and logically) wrong with that?

 B. Have you ever tried to justify wrong behavior because something good resulted from it?

4. From verses 10-18, list what is said regarding human thought, direction, speech and action.

10 as it is written: “There is no one just, not one,

11 there is no one who understands, there is no one who seeks God.

12 All have gone astray; all alike are worthless; there is not one who does good, [there is not] even one.

13 Their throats are open graves; they deceive with their tongues; the venom of asps is on their lips;

14 their mouths are full of bitter cursing.

15 Their feet are quick to shed blood;

16 ruin and misery are in their ways,

17 and the way of peace they know not.

18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

5. How does this (question 4) make you feel?

6. What is the purpose of the law (vs. 20)?

20 Since no human being will be justified in his sight by observing the law; for through the law comes consciousness of sin

7. Look up justification, redemption and atonement in a dictionary. Use some everyday examples to illustrate each word.

8. What does each of these words point out about the death of Christ?

9.A. Challenge Question: What was the purpose of animal sacrifices in the Old Testament?

 B. Why do we no longer need them?

10. How should our complete acceptance by God (vs. 22-23) affect the way we view ourselves?

22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction;

23 all have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God