

# ROMANS

THE MYSTERY OF  
RIGHTEOUSNESS



## SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

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### WHY DOES A SOVEREIGN GOD STILL FIND FAULT?

ROMANS 9:19-29

MAR. 29, 2015

### TAKEAWAYS

*Write out your one-sentence takeaways. Consider writing these on a notecard and putting it on your mirror, desk, or car dashboard.*

What to remember:

What to put off/put on:

What to share with someone:

### NEXT STEPS

*Here are some next steps to walk in this truth this week. Don't feel constrained to these but feel free to use them.*

- Read some of the verses on God's power, glory, and mercy from the "For Further Study."
- Be praying for the people in your life who you might share the gospel with or invite to church on Easter.
- To better understand how God's Sovereignty encourages evangelism rather than restrains it, consider reading a book such as *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God* by J.I. Packer.

### HOW TO PRAY

*Pray over the praises and requests of those around you but here are some additional ways to pray into our passage this week.*

- Confess any false "rights" you demand God to give you or ways you've chosen your glory over his.
- Praise God for his power, glory, and mercy.
- Thank God for the specific ways He has exhibited patience towards you.
- Ask God to help you think through the circumstances in your life with his glory rather than your glory at the center.
- Pray that God would show mercy on specific unbelievers in your life by calling them to himself.

## APPLICATION AND DISCUSSION

*These questions focus on the sermon text and message. We've highlighted key ones but use however many your group needs.*

- 1. How does a right view of who God is and who you are help you in these areas: humility, trust, worship, and perspective?**
- 2. In the midst of trials, how can this group encourage one another to think through things in a God-centered way rather than a man-centered way? Or, how can we remind one another of what is true and how to live in light of that?**
3. Why is it good news that God is just and demonstrates wrath on sinners? What would be some problems with a God not willing to react in wrath and judgment towards sin?
- 4. In what ways has God patiently endured your sin—both before and after coming to Christ? How has he shown mercy towards you? How does seeing God's patience and mercy toward you help your Christian walk?**
5. What are some ways we should or could reflect God's righteous hatred towards sin, His patience with stubborn rebels, and His mercy to the helpless and undeserving? How might seeing who God is help us reflect Him better?
6. What are some of the descriptions of God's people in vv. 24-27 and what are some of the benefits or effects of being his people? How should being a part of God's people affect our relationship with God and our relationship with one another?
- 7. The last verse (9:29) of our text points to God's mercy and our utter dependence on him when it says, "If the Lord of hosts had not..." How can you testify to God's power and grace in your own life by completing that sentence?**  
Example: If the Lord had not...freed me from my addiction I would have ruined everything important to me in my life.

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

*For those wanting to study some of the key ideas in more detail here are some cross-references and resources.*

- **Parallel passages:** Is. 29:16; 45:9-10; Jer. 18:6-10; 2 Tim. 2:20; Hos. 1:10; 2:23; 1 Pet. 2:10; Is. 10:22-23.
- **God's mercy:** 2 Sam. 24:14; Ps. 119:156; 145:9; Eph. 2:4-7; Titus 3:4-5; 1 Pet. 1:3-4.
- **God's glory:** 1 Kings 8:10-11; Is. 37:16; Ez. 1:26-28; Jn. 1:14; Rev. 15:8; 21:23.
- **God's power:** **Job 26:14**; Is. 59:1; Jer. 10:12; 132:17; Matt. 19:26; Luke 11:20.