

SERMON OUTLINE

Speaker: Dr Philip Satterthwaite

Text : Romans 3: 9 - 31

Title : Human Failure, God's Faithfulness

Introduction

The theme of Romans: God's faithfulness to His promises ('the righteousness of God')

Romans 1-2:

- Gentile failure; Jewish failure
- What has happened to God's promises?
- What about the covenant with Abraham?

1. The Concluding Arguments for Universal Human Guilt before God (3:9-20)

- vv. 10-18: a series of OT quotations (Ps. 14; Ps. 5; Ps. 140; Ps. 10; Isa. 59; Ps. 36)
- Why? 'Proof-texts' for Jewish guilt, yes.
- But, more than that, the *context* of the quotations points to God's saving faithfulness
- The 'works of the law' (v. 20): circumcision, Sabbath, food
- The 'prosecution' rests its case

2. The Revelation of the Righteousness of God (3:21-31)

- God's righteousness (covenant faithfulness) revealed in Jesus (vv. 21, 22, 25, 26)
- Forgiveness, justification, redemption through Christ's sacrificial death (vv. 24-25)
- No distinction between Jew and Gentile: all are justified through faith (vv. 27-28)
- God is shown to be the God of Jew and Gentile alike (vv. 29-30)

Conclusion

God has made provision for us all

Boasting is excluded: a non-racial, non-status-based people of God

God is faithful: we can trust this God