

# Peale or Paul?

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Romans 3:9-26.

B. There is none that is righteous—one cannot improve himself.

## II. Paul has gathered data from the Scriptures to demonstrate the final indictment of man—no one is righteous.

A. Many think that no one is righteous except for himself or herself.

B. In man's heart, there is much seeking after a god but not the God.

C. God must draw a man to Himself in order for man to come to Him.

## III. The results of man's rejection of God.

A. It affects his speech—his tone, words, sarcasm, curses, etc.

B. It affects his walk.

## IV. What no man can do by self-effort—to be in right standing before God—God will do for him if he trusts in Jesus Christ.

A. This is accomplished on the cross of Jesus Christ.

B. The cross makes clear that although God overlooked evil before He is still righteous. God has a holy hatred against all that is against Him.

C. The cross reveals God's willingness to receive all who come to Him by Jesus. God denies all power of positive thinking until the utter need is realized. He meets that need for us.

D. God is offering a life in Jesus Christ that finds no fulfillment in itself but only in Christ. (Exodus 15)

### Application questions:

1. Why is the realization of a person's lack of personal righteousness so important for salvation?

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2. How does the cross demonstrate that only God can bring about a man's righteousness?

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3. How does knowing that righteousness only comes through the cross help you to be obedient daily? Explain.

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