



World Christian Fellowship

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Romans 40

Is there a Privilege of being a Jew? Part 01

Romans 3:1-8, *What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? ²Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God. ³For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? ⁴Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged." ⁵But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unjust who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.) ⁶Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world?*

⁷For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory, why am I also still judged as a sinner? ⁸And why not say, "Let us do evil that good may come"—as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just.

What is the privilege of being Jewish?

If we look at the picture historically and trace the story of the Jew then we might conclude that there was little or no advantage at all. Theirs is a sad saga of struggle, of war, captivity, and death.

They have been hated, persecuted, slandered, imprisoned, slaughtered, and this repeatedly through their history. Yet they live on almost defiantly as an indestructible seed.

Today rebuilding their small piece of land in the centre of the world, they are a noble people made even more noble by their struggles.

They were slaves in Egypt for over 400 years under the bondage of Pharaoh, who were given the most menial tasks and, they were given circumstances which made those tasks even more difficult.

When they were dispossessed from Egypt, they wandered in the desert for 40 years until an entire generation of them died off in the wilderness without ever having a home.

When they finally entered the land of Canaan, they had to save themselves from the destruction of the surrounding peoples who constantly attacked them both religiously, morally and in warfare.

They were slaughtered and taken captive finally by the Assyrians first and then the Babylonians. From the Assyrian captivity they never returned and from the Babylonian captivity it was 70 years before a remnant began to come back.

After returning from the captivity in Babylon, they set out to rebuild their land from the rubble and were mocked and harassed and hindered and unaided in their efforts.

They were dominated by the Greek Antiochus Epiphanes when they were under Greek rule and he took liberties to desecrate their religion, desecrate their priesthood, desecrate their holy place, quell their rebellions by slaughtering many of them.

Their babies were massacred by Herod.

Their land was oppressed by Roman legions. They were utterly devastated under the power of Rome.

In 70 A.D. the city of Jerusalem was destroyed by Titus Vespasian, the great general of the Roman army.

According to **Josephus 1.1 million** were murdered, slaughtered. **100,000 bodies** of the Jews were thrown over the wall in some kind of sport.

Two years before that, the Gentiles of Caesarea slew **20,000** Jews and sold thousands more of them into slavery.

In a single day, the inhabitants of Damascus cut the throats of **10,000** Jews. In the actual siege itself, there was devastation beyond description in the city of Jerusalem.

100,000 remaining fugitives from that sacking of the city were sold into slavery. Many more died in the gladiator games sponsored by Rome.

In **115 A.D.** the Jews of **Cyrene, Egypt, Cyprus,** and **Mesopotamia** rose up against Rome and tried to defeat Rome and were unsuccessful. **Hadrian, the emperor,** destroyed 985 towns in Palestine and slew at least **600,000** men.

More perished through starvation, through disease and through fire. So many were sold as slaves that their price dropped to that of a horse.

The legal code of **Theodosius,** who was the **emperor of Rome** around **380 A.D.,** contained ideas of Jewish inferiority permeated all western society in the centuries to follow.

For two centuries they were oppressed under the **Byzantines.** **Heraclitus** banished them from Jerusalem in **628 A.D.** and endeavoured to exterminate them again.

Leo the Assyrian in around **723 A.D.** gave them the choice between Christianity and banishment.

When the first crusade was launched in **1096** to recapture the holy places from the **Ottoman Turks**, the crusaders entered the Jewish settlement of **Anjon and Preton** and trampled **3,000 Jews to death under their horses' hooves**. They did it in the name of Christianity.

In **1254 Louis IX** banished them from France.

In **1306 Philip** the Fair expelled **100,000** of them from France.

During the scourge of the **Black Death in 1348 and 1349** the charge was made that the Black Death or the Great Plague was caused by the Jews who had poisoned the wells and they endeavoured to slaughter the Jews and many of them fled to Poland and to Russia.

In **1492** the Jews were expelled from **Spain as Columbus** was heading to discover America.

In **1496** they were expelled from **Portugal**. Soon after, all Western Europe was closed to them except a few spots in northern Italy and Germany.

Toward the middle of the **17th century in Poland**, more persecution broke out. Though the French Revolution tended

to emancipate some of the European Jews around **1789** or so, anti-Semitism continued in many areas, and particularly in the Ukraine early in the 1800s there were massacres of Jews.

19th century Dreyfus, a Jewish officer, was accused of treason. An attempt began to oust the Jews from all the higher ranks of the French army. Their only hope for preservation really was the rebirth of Zionism. It did happen and it rallied the Jewish people so that in 1897 they held their first Zionist congress in Basel.

The first little colony of Zionists returned to the land in about 1873, and by **1914** there were **90,000 Jews** in their land, though it was not yet their land. Their identity had been miraculously preserved through this incredible series of massacres through all the years of their existence.

A horrifying climax in the **1940s when six million** of them were systematically exterminated. Anti-Semitism was no longer racial as it had been in the Middle Ages.

So that the legacy of all of that today in the world is not that we have a religious anti-Semitism, but we still have what is left of a racial anti-Semitism. Jewish people today find themselves in many cases to be hated, to be slandered, to be defamed, to be misunderstood, to be mocked.

What advantage then hath the Jew?

From the historical perspective the answer would be no advantage.

But Paul is not really dealing in terms of history.

Look at it to spiritual advantage?

Do they have a spiritual advantage?

Do they have an in with God that nobody else has?

The answer to that question is **Romans 2:17-29**.

Romans 2:29, *but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.*

The heritage, being born of the seed of Abraham, the legacy of the law, the sign of circumcision, which is the mark of the Jew, those things bring no salvation. They offer no spiritual security.

For the tendency of the Jew was to hold on to his Abrahamic heritage, to hold on to his possession of the law of God, and to hold on to his sign, the sign of circumcision which marked him out as the covenant people, and to believe that because he had those things, he was therefore given spiritual exemption from condemnation.

Spiritually speaking the Jew really has no advantage. In fact, because he has been given the privilege of knowing so much and receiving so much from God, if he refuses to make it personal in his life and become one inwardly, he is at great disadvantage, because to whom much is given, much is required. And to whom much is required there is much greater condemnation.

There is no advantage historically.

There is no advantage spiritually.

So, we are right where we want to be then in chapter 3 and let us ask the question again.

What advantage then hath the Jew?

What profit is there in circumcision?

Is there any advantage at all?

Remember that Romans presents the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ.

The first part of the good news is bad news!

Then Paul presents the good news.

The bad news is that man is a sinner and man is condemned by God for his sin. That is the theme of chapters 1, 2 and 3.

The good news begins in the middle of chapter 3 and stretches on really for the remainder of the epistle. But before you hear the good news, you must understand the bad news.

It is like you cannot take the cure sickness until you realize you have got the disease.

Apostle Paul points out that man is sinful and therefore under condemnation.

Romans 1:18-32, he condemned the immoral, irreligious, pagan individual who just lives the wild and free and loose kind of lifestyle with little regard for law and order in a moral way or God or anything else.

Romans 2:1-16, he began to talk about the moral man who is ethical, who may even be religious. Paul shows how that man is condemned because by his morality and by his religion he cannot attain the perfect standard of God.

Romans 2:17-29, the Jew who not only was moral and religious but even had the right religion.

- You are condemned if you are irreligious.
- You can be condemned if you are even religious if you are depending on your religion to save you.

- You can even be condemned if you have the right religion if you are still depending only on its form rather than the knowledge of God.

Paul has condemned the pagan.

Paul has condemned the moralist.

Paul has condemned the Jew.

Paul has destroyed all of men's securities and their convenient hiding places. He has ripped off the covers and left them naked and condemned.

After having done all this argument Paul knows that the Jew is going to ask some very hard questions.

Precisely what we have in verses 1 through 8.

Paul has torn all the securities and confidences apart and the Jewish person who reads this letter or who hears his message is going to then say, "Paul, if this is true, if being the seed of Abraham and possessing the law of God and having the sign of the covenant circumcision, if that does not secure me, then what advantage is it to be Jewish?"

If it does not mean anything that I am a child of Abraham and I have received the law, and I have been circumcised, then what good is it to be Jewish?"

Now he knows that is the question they are going to ask because he has had personal experience at it. When he wrote the epistle to the Romans, he was saying things that he had preached this message many times. He should have had gotten these reactions many times as well.

Paul gives three reactions.

1. **God's people.**
2. **God's promise.**
3. **God's purity.**

They accuse Paul of attacking God.

Acts 21:28, *crying out, "Men of Israel, help! This is the man who teaches all men everywhere against the people, the law, and this place; and furthermore he also brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place."*

What did they say?

Paul speaks against the people, against the law, against the holy place.

That was the kind of accusation that Paul had endured repeatedly. Whenever he would say no, your Jewishness will not save you any more than my being in a church necessarily saves me, or you are being a Presbyterian or a Baptist or an

Episcopalian or a Catholic or anything else saves you. It is not what you identify with externally.

So, when he would come and say all of this means nothing unless there is a change in your heart, they would say to him, "You are speaking against the law and against the people and against the holy place."

The people, the law, and his holiness, because those are the same three issues Paul brings up here.

1. God's People

V 1, *What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision?*

If our heritage and our law and our covenant sign, circumcision, give us no advantage, then being a Jew means absolutely nothing.

There is no benefit in Jewishness. If there is no benefit in Jewishness, then what you are saying is that God's called people are not special.

If that is the case, you are speaking against God's people!

Are they nothing special?

They believed that they were so special that they could be irresponsible, complacent, self-satisfied, and indulgent, and God was obligated to save them because they were Jewish. That is what they believed.

So, they are saying if you say this then being Jewish means nothing. In fact, the privileges of the Jew serve only to increase his condemnation and Jewishness would be more of a liability than an asset.

Romans 2:27, *and will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfils the law, judge you who, even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law?*

The underlying question is the integrity of God.

The underlying question is the credibility of God.

That is the issue.

God has called out His people and God has ordained them to noble purposes, but you are denying those noble intents.

To the Jew this seems totally inconsistent with God's purpose in choosing His people.

Many scriptures would enter the mind of the Jew.

Deuteronomy 10:14-15, *Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the Lord your God, also the earth with all*

that is in it. ¹⁵The Lord delighted only in your fathers, to love them; and He chose their descendants after them, you above all peoples, as it is this day.

Deuteronomy 14:2, *For you are a holy people to the Lord your God, and the Lord has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.*

Exodus 19:6, *And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”*

Isaiah 43:21, *"The people whom I formed for Myself will declare My praise."*

Psalms 135:4, *"For the Lord hath chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His own possession."*

They would say God has separated us out of all other people for His own holy purposes and now you say being Jewish is nothing. It is reminiscent of Esau when he said, "I am about to die, what good is this birth right?" It does not mean anything if I am condemned.

So, what good is our Judaism if it does not save us from sin, condemnation, it does not offer some advantage over the heathen.

The reason they even ask the question is because they believed that their national identity marked them out for salvation.

What is the advantage to being Jewish?

"Much every way."

There are many advantages. They are not necessarily historical, and they are not necessarily spiritual because it certainly did not provide much protection for them through their history, and it did not provide salvation for them.

What is the advantage?

If you go back in the Old Testament, you will read repeatedly of the tremendous and consistent blessing of God upon that people.

Romans 9:4, *who are Israelites, to whom pertain the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises;*

What advantage?

Many advantages.

- ✓ You have been the ones who are adopted as God's special people.
- ✓ You have received the glory. The very Shekinah glory of God led them by day and night, was amid their holy places.
- ✓ You have received the covenants, Abrahamic, Davidic, Mosaic, Palestinian, all of those.
- ✓ You have been given the law.
- ✓ Yours has been the service of God through the priests and the prophets.
- ✓ You have received the promises.
- ✓ Yours are the fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and Joseph.
- ✓ Yours is the Christ.

Many privileges.

- They were marks of God's care and God's concern.
- They were marks of God's love.
- They were aids to their deliverance from sin.
- They were instructions for the blessing of the Holy Spirit.

God gave them all these things and they just never really lived up to what they possessed. Great advantage, great privilege,

great priority, great pre-eminence was given to the people of Israel, but they wasted it.

- They had the privilege of proclaiming the true God.
- They had the privilege of revealing the Messiah.
- They had the privilege of blessing from God as they served faithfully.
- They had the privilege of a land.
- They had a privilege of an ultimate restoration and glory in the final kingdom.
- They had all these privileges.

Amos 3:2, *"You only have I known of all the families of the earth;*

Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."

It does not mean that the only people God knows about intellectually are Jews, but He really knows about everybody.

But the word "know" is a word of intimacy.

In the New Testament of the Lord and the church, *"I know My sheep."* Means there is more than just an awareness, it is the intimacy.

Joseph was upset when Mary was with child because the Bible says he had never known her. It did not mean he did not know who she was. He had never entered an intimate relationship physically with her.

You find it in the Old Testament where it talks about Cain knew his wife and she bore a child. It is the knowing of intimacy.

That is privilege. But they never understood the rest of the verse.

High privilege, High responsibility.

Greater privilege, Greater accountability.

Matthew 22:1-3, *And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: ²“The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, ³and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.*

Who is that?

Israel.

Matthew 22:4-7, *Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.” ’ ⁵But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. ⁶And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. ⁷But when the king*

heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

That is precisely what happened in 70 A.D.

Matthew 22:8-10, *Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. ⁹Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.'* ¹⁰*So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.*

Where did the guests come from?

The church!

The parable is very simple. Israel had the privilege, but Israel never lived up to the privilege.

So, they lost out on the blessing.

They were privileged.

Isaiah 5:4, *What more could have been done to My vineyard That I have not done in it? Why then, when I expected it to bring forth good grapes, Did it bring forth wild grapes?*

What more God could have done?

Nothing.

They were privileged in so many ways but in disobedience they wasted the privilege. They are little different than many people in the church today who have a great privilege but never commit their heart to Jesus Christ and tragically they waste, inestimable privilege.

V 2, *Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God.*

Paul was saying that you have a great advantage in every way. Chiefly/primarily because unto them were committed the words of God.

Their primary advantage was they received the Word of God. That is the greatest advantage anybody can have!

For where there are no knowledge people perish. But they had the knowledge.

Deuteronomy 4:5-6, *“Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should act according to them in the land which you go to possess. ⁶Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’*

You have all the statutes, commandments, and the judgments and keep them.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9, *“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*

God gave them His Word.

The scriptures were entrusted to the Jews.

You would have thought that they would have absolutely cherished that, but as you read the Old Testament you find there were times in their history when they could not even find the Scripture, they did not even know where it was.

When somebody would discover it and bring it out, it would be something that was a marvel because that which was lost for so long had finally been found.

What privilege?

Word of God.

They paid no attention to it on the one hand and on the other hand they absolutely smothered it in their tradition. They just overpowered it with all their own manmade traditions.

Acts 7:38-39, *“This is he who was in the congregation in the wilderness with the Angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, the one who received the living oracles to give to us,³⁹ whom our fathers would not obey, but rejected. And in their hearts they turned back to Egypt,*

1 Peter 4:11, *If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

Scripture is the Word of God.

What was committed to the Jew was not the word of man; it was the Word of God.

The tragedy today is that the Conservative and the Reformed Jews do not even believe the Old Testament is the Word of God. The Orthodox have got so much other stuff in their traditions that you cannot find the Word of God in there. They have literally denied or drowned their greatest legacy.

By the way, the Bible claims at least two thousand six hundred times to be the Word of God.

Many people, like these Jews, think that they belong to a church, they do some religious activities thinking that they are going to be fine.

When you tell them just being in a church is not going to do it. Their answer will be then what is the advantage to being in the church if that does not save us?

The answer is much advantage. You get to be with the best people in the world to start with. But most of all, you get to hear the Word of God. That is the highest privilege there is.

1 Corinthians 7 it says that if a believing wife has an unbelieving husband, and that unbelieving husband wants to stay married to her, she should keep him and hold on because he is sanctified by her very presence. In other words, he receives benefit by just being where God is blessing her. It will spill on to him. There is a lot of advantages to being in the church and just being by believers who get blessed, but the chief advantage is the Word of God. That is their advantage.

2. God's Promise

V 3, *For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect?*

What if some did not believe?

What if some were not trustworthy, shall their untrustworthiness make God untrustworthy?

What is this saying?

God made promises.

God made covenants.

God told us He would bless us.

He gave us the promise in Abraham that we would be multiplied as the sand of the sea, and we would be blessed and so forth. He gave us the promise through David that we would inherit a kingdom and a King and all these wonderful promises through Isaiah, that there would come a time of refreshing, etc., etc.

Because we have not believed, has then God cancelled His promises?

Listen, Paul, you are speaking against the promises of God.

They accused Paul of speaking against the law of God, the Word of God and the promise of God.

When Paul says our great privilege is the Word and you are speaking against it. You are saying that because we did not believe and we did not accept that Word internally, that God just cancelled all His promises.

That makes Israel unfaithful and causes God then to be unfaithful.

Shall the unbelief of the Jew make the faithfulness of God ineffective?

Is God not going to grant salvation to His people based on their heritage, and their ceremonies?

If God does not, then God is unfaithful.

You are striking a blow at the faithfulness of God.

- a) God had nothing in mind when He chose Israel.
- b) God's promises are meaningless.

Very serious attack.

God breaks His promises.

This is the reason why we see in **Acts 21** they said, "This man speaks against the law, he speaks against the Word of God. He denies that God will keep His promise."

Of course, they thought in their own perverted self-centred thinking that God made all these promises and no matter what they did, God would just pour out blessing abundant and save them no matter what they did.

That was never ever the intention that God had.

But this is an attack, they say, on the character of God.

- Has not God promised to be a God to Abraham and his seed?
- Has not God entered a solemn covenant to grant His people the blessings and benefits of the Messiah's kingdom?
- Have we not accepted Abraham as our father?
- Have we not taken the sign of circumcision to identify with the covenant?
- Is not therefore God obligated to keep His side of the bargain?
- Even though some of us do not believe, does that mean God's going to cancel all His promises?

This is reminiscent of the ritualists in Christianity today who say, "I have been baptized. Just because I have messed up a little bit here and there, God's going to be faithful. After all, I went through the ritual. I joined the church. I signed the card. I got the baptism."

So, they really accused Paul of attacking God's promises. Therefore, he is attacking God's fidelity, God's character.

V 4, Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar.

Certainly not/ God forbid, the Greek word **genoito**, which is the strongest negative the Greek language knows.

Could never be,
Utterly impossible,
Cannot be.

What can't be?

God cannot break His word.
God cannot break His promise.
It is impossible.

The Old Testament includes and excludes anything but the words of God. In fact, 3,808 times Old Testament writers refer to their words as the very words of God.

The unbelief of some does not bring to naught the faithfulness of God.

Paul just makes that statement, and he does not here go into explain how.

Contemporary reformed covenant theology, they do not see any place for Israel. If there is no place for Israel then this argument is right, God did cancel all His promises.

Zechariah 12:10, *“And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.*

Their day is future, which is explained later in **Romans 9, 10 and 11**.

Romans 11:1, *I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.*

Romans 11:26-27, *And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; ²⁷For this is My covenant with them, When I take away their sins.”*

God will keep it, but it will be future when they believe. It is just postponed.

National salvation will come to the people of Israel, but these people missed personal salvation and so do all other Jews who will not believe in Christ.

So, Paul resists any suggestion at all that God's going to be unfaithful.

V 4, *Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged."*

What does that mean?

If every single person in the world said God is not true, He's still true.

If every man in the world speaks evil about God, if every man in the world says God does not keep His Word, God is still true.

God is true if every man in the world says He's not true.

The integrity of God must be upheld.

Then Paul uses a marvellous illustration.

"As it is written," and he calls the Scripture to his support!

No matter who speaks against You, God, You will overcome no matter who wants to criticize or speak evil. You will be justified in everything You say. God will be vindicated. God will be justified. God's character will be upheld.

Paul quotes out of Psalm 51.

Psalm 51:4, *Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge.*

Now that is an interesting passage.

David was the king. David was, of course, the greatest person in the history of Israel. Paul quotes David, because whenever you quote David, you really pull a coup in terms of a debate with a Jew. This is what happened in David's life.

David was up on his roof, and he looked over on somebody else's roof and there was Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah. He just hung around and kept looking. He really liked what he saw.

So, he decided that he would commit adultery with her and when he committed adultery with her, he not only did that, but he impregnated her. When he found out that she is pregnant he decided to marry her, but in order to marry her he had to get rid of her husband. David worked out a way in which Uriah would be killed. So, he was an adulterer and a murderer.

During all this the Lord sent Nathan the prophet. Nathan the prophet comes in and he says, "David, I want to tell you a story." He said there was a rich man who went to a poor man

and the poor man only had one little ewe lamb. And the rich man took that ewe lamb away from the poor man. And David said, "Nathan, as the Lord lives, whatever man you're telling me about deserves to die."

Nathan looked him in the eye and said, "You are the man." David said, "O, I have sinned against the Lord." God punished David. That little baby that was born of that union died. There was death continually among David's other children.

His Son Absalom over whom he cried, "Absalom, Absalom, Absalom, my son, my son, my son," turned to be a rebel and literally sought his own father's life to steal his throne. He lived a life of pain.

He spent his time running and hiding from Absalom and his enemies, from bush to bush in the wilderness and crying out in the caves to God to deliver him.

But in all of that David would still say, *"God, You are justified in everything. When somebody tries to impugn You, or speak evil against You, You will triumph."*

David was simply saying no matter what God does, it is right, even if it is to punish the king. So do not you ever impugn God's Word. If God makes a promise, He will keep it. If God

appears to be unjust, He is being just because the punishment is deserved.

God always is just. David upheld the character of God and that's why Paul quotes David.

David would never so speak against God.

David would never impugn the character of God.

David will not say God is unfair or God is unkind, God is unjust.

David would say, "God, I have deserved everything You have given me." David acknowledged that God was without flaw.

In spite of David's sin, God will fulfil the Davidic Covenant. He did, in the coming of Messiah.

In spite of Israel's sin, God will ultimately fulfil the Abrahamic Covenant.

God's Word is true. God's word is valid.

God's character can always be upheld.

So, the Jew is going to say, "Your theology attacks the people of God." Paul says no, no, no, no, you still have great advantage in every way, chiefly the Scripture.

But what good is the Scripture, says the Jew, if our unbelief cancels it?

No, he says, God does not break His promises.

Just realize that it is yet future.

He will say in **Romans 9 to 11**.

The illustration is that even David, who was chastened and punished, yet received the promise and upheld God's character.

That is a tremendous statement because when somebody becomes the victim of God's chastening to the degree that David did, it was lifelong and it was excruciating and he was getting hit as close as you can be hit right in your own family, with your entire family turning against you and becoming rebellious toward God.

It was extremely painful. Yet he never one-time impugned God, "*Against You, You only have I sinned and done this evil in Thy sight.*" God, You are just.

You will overcome when anybody tries to condemn You. So do not you ever, ever believe for a moment that God does an unjust, unkind, untrue act or in any way breaks His word.