

# **Romans 3: 27-31**

## Boasting is Excluded

- Transitional passage
  - points back to prior argument that justification is conditioned on faith and not works of the law (of Moses), and
  - forward to chapter 4, that Abraham too was accepted based on faith.
- Boasting/arrogance by Jews of this era was common – both in their observing of the law, in their national pride and in their 3 covenant markers (circumcision, Sabbath, diet).
- No boasting - humility, poverty in spirit and thankfulness is the response

# Boasting is Excluded – Con't

## Boasting is not allowed because (summary of 1:18-3:26):

1. No one can follow the law perfectly to be accepted by God on judgement day
2. Law stirs up disobedience, not obedience
3. Law stirs up Pride
4. Jews boasted in being better than Gentiles because they worshiped the one true God (monotheism) and had the law. Paul turns this argument upside down and says the one true God is uniting all humankind (Gentiles too) based on justification by faith (3:29)
5. Purpose of the law is bring humanity to realization they fall short of righteousness of God and thereby drive all people to the gospel.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BGO9Mmd\\_cU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BGO9Mmd_cU)

## Romans 3:27-31

# Boasting is Excluded – Con't

Paul sees these two covenants in tension and explains that the Abrahamic covenant actually anticipated the gospel.

### Abrahamic Covenant

- Based on **Faith** of individual
- Rooted in **God's grace**
- Unconditional

#### Abrahamic Covenant

This **unconditional** covenant, first made to Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3, promised God's blessing upon Abraham, to make his name great and to make his descendants into a great nation. The covenant also promised blessing to those who blessed Abraham and cursing to those who cursed him. Further, God vowed to bless the entire world through Abraham's seed. Circumcision was the sign that Abraham believed the covenant (Romans 4:11). The fulfillment of this covenant is seen in the history of Abraham's descendants and in the creation of the nation of Israel. **The worldwide blessing came through Jesus Christ, who was of Abraham's family line.**

### Mosaic Covenant

- Based on **Law of Moses**
- Rooted in **individual's works**
- Conditional – blessings based on response to the Law

#### Mosaic Covenant

This **conditional** covenant (Sinai covenant), found in Deuteronomy 11 and elsewhere, promised the Israelites a blessing for obedience and a curse for disobedience. Much of the Old Testament chronicles the fulfillment of this cycle of judgment for sin and later blessing when God's people repented and returned to God.

Sacrifices and offerings were prescribed for sins, **The purpose of the Law, says Paul, was to make people aware of their inability, so that when Jesus Christ came, they would recognize their need for Him.** The existence of the Mosaic covenant is not a contradiction of God's grace, but instead it is an illumination of man's need for that grace.

# Summary of Romans 1-3 by Jesus

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16

“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

John 3:36

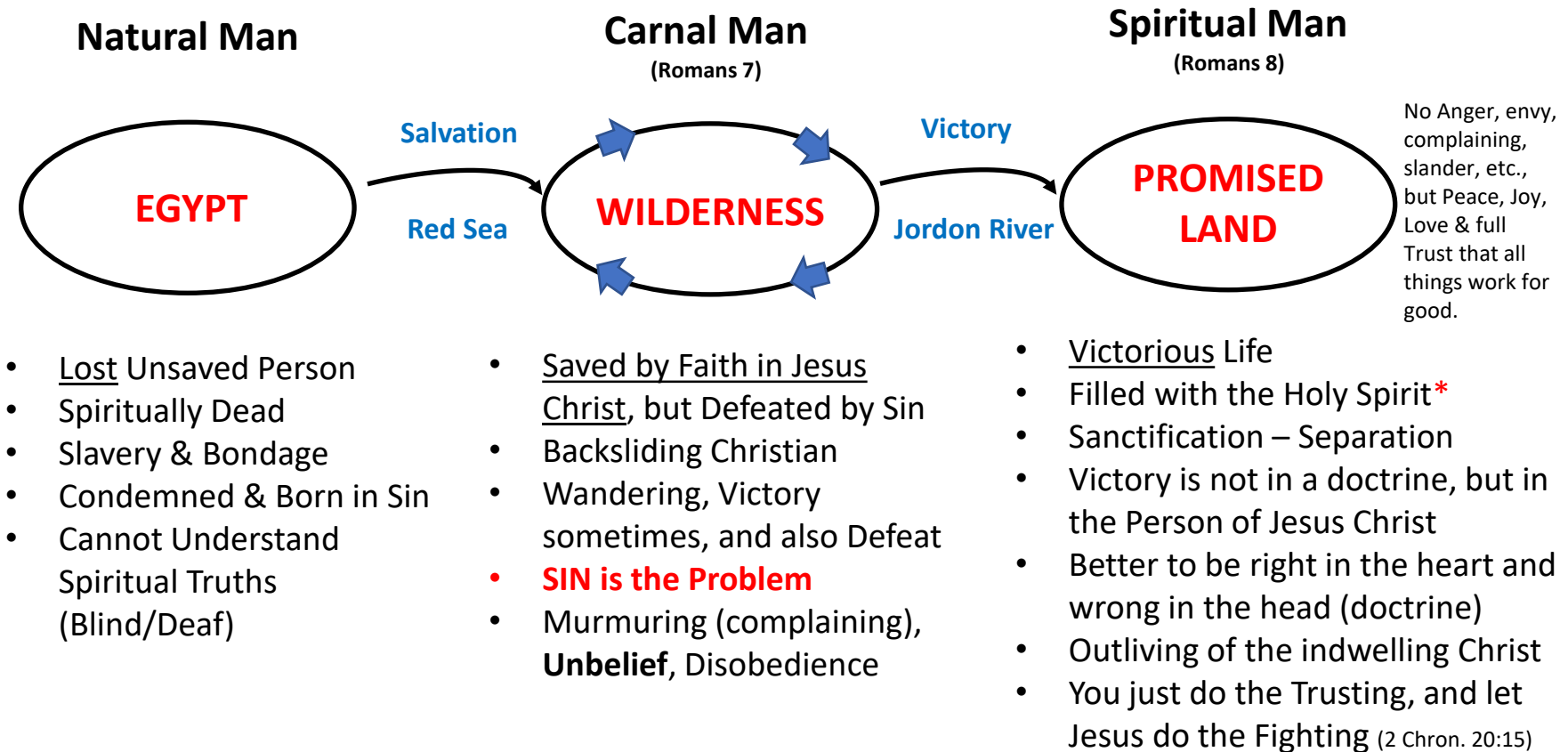
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sL\\_x8ZtaXIE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sL_x8ZtaXIE) – Song – To Rescue a Sinner Like Me

# Pilgrim's Progress - Status Update

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- Hopefully after these first 3 chapters of Romans you have now been convicted of your sin by the Holy Spirit, admitted your utter wretchedness and decided to put your trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour.
- If you did, then you have now just been freed from the bondage of slavery in Egypt, and crossed the Red Sea into the Wilderness.
- Be strong and courageous, this journey is just beginning....

# The Spiritual Journey



## \* Requirements to be Filled with the Holy Spirit – to receive **POWER** over **SIN** & in **SERVICE**

1. Confession & Renunciation of Sin (daily)
2. Obedience & Dedication (Bible, Prayer, Forgiveness, etc.)
3. Surrender (time, \$, self – “Deny Yourself”)
4. FAITH – **TRUST IN JESUS like a child**, Don’t Fear, just Believe