ROMANS: A FIRM FOUNDATION

Hope for the Hopeless
Romans 3:21-31
21 But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his
forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished — 26 he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

27 Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. 28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law. 29 Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, 30 since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the
uncircumcised through that same faith. 31 Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law.
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KEY TERMS

• Sin =
  To fall short of the mark
• Justice =
  An absolute standard
KEY TERMS

• Atonement =
  A religious term: To appease a god.
  Expiation:
    Satisfying the demands of justice.
  Propitiation:
    To gain favor and goodwill.
KEY TERMS

• Atonement =  
  A religious term: To appease a god.

• Justification =  
  A legal term: To make right.

• Redemption  
  A slavery term: To buy back.
THE ONLY CURE

• Faith (42x)
  = believing enough to act
  Surrendering your will to the will of the Father
  Giving up our excuses and declaring our bankrupt status before God
THE ONLY CURE

• Faith in what?
  That Jesus atoned for my sin
  That Jesus justified me despite my sin
  That Jesus redeemed me from my sin
The need for forgiveness in experienced on a moment by moment basis:

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. 1 John 1:8–10
SO... 

1) What about boasting?
2) Is this good news only for the Jews?
3) Do we do away with the law when we respond in faith?
TO GO:

• Do you know Jesus?
• What impact has his grace and mercy had on your life?
• How do you say thanks for all that he has done for you?
• Homework: Romans 4 – 3x