



**Why..why are you so old?**

# Romans



THE GOOD NEWS  
CHAPTERS 1-3

## Romans 1:16-18

<sup>16</sup>For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup>For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

<sup>18</sup>For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

## **Romans 2:1**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things...

## **Romans 2:9-12**

<sup>9</sup>There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek,  
<sup>10</sup>but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. <sup>11</sup>For God shows no partiality. <sup>12</sup>For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law...

## Romans 2:17-21

<sup>17</sup>But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God <sup>18</sup>and know his will and approve what is excellent, because you are instructed from the law; <sup>19</sup>and if you are sure that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, <sup>20</sup>an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of children, having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth — <sup>21</sup>you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? While you preach against stealing, do you steal?

## **Romans 2:25-26**

<sup>25</sup>For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. <sup>26</sup>So, if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the precepts of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision?

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5. People who have the Law, do the same as those who don't!
6. Therefore, Jewish people aren't exempt from being sinners along with everyone else and is on level playing field with God!

WHAT'S  
THE  
POINT?



## Romans 3:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Then what advantage has the Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? <sup>2</sup>Much in every way. To begin with, the Jews were entrusted with the oracles of God. <sup>3</sup>What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? <sup>4</sup>By no means! Let God be true though every one were a liar, as it is written, “That you may be justified in your words, and prevail when you are judged.” [Psalm 51:4]



## Romans 3:1-8

<sup>5</sup>But if our unrighteousness serves to show the righteousness of God, what shall we say? That God is unrighteous to inflict wrath on us? (I speak in a human way.) <sup>6</sup>By no means! For then how could God judge the world? <sup>7</sup>But if through my lie God's truth abounds to his glory, why am I still being condemned as a sinner? <sup>8</sup>And why not do evil that good may come? — as some people slanderously charge us with saying.

Their condemnation is just.

## Paul's Questions from Romans 3:1-8

### 1. Wait? Is there any advantage to being Jewish?

#### Romans 3:1-2

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### 2. What if they blew it?

Is God still righteous, just and faithful?

#### Romans 3:3-4

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## 3. Is God unfair to judge?

### Romans 3:5-6

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4. Doesn't sin simply show God off more, and therefore, we're actually helping God out?

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Romans is full of traps for the unwary reader. Just when we think we have understood what the letter is teaching, the argument takes an unexpected turn, and once again we are left puzzled and uncertain. Of course, this is one of the glories of Romans. No book capable of being understood on a first reading is likely to hold our attention or to stimulate our thinking for very long. Romans requires many readings; even then, we feel that there are points in the letter that still escape our gaze. The beginning of Romans 3 is one of those surprising turns in the argument.

By the end of Romans 2 we think we have understood Paul's basic point: gentile and Jew stand on the same footing before God. Both have been given revelation about God; both have failed to live up to that revelation; both stand under God's wrath. And so, when Paul asks in 3:1, "What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew?" we are ready to answer, "None."

But what does Paul answer? "Much in every way!" (v. 2).



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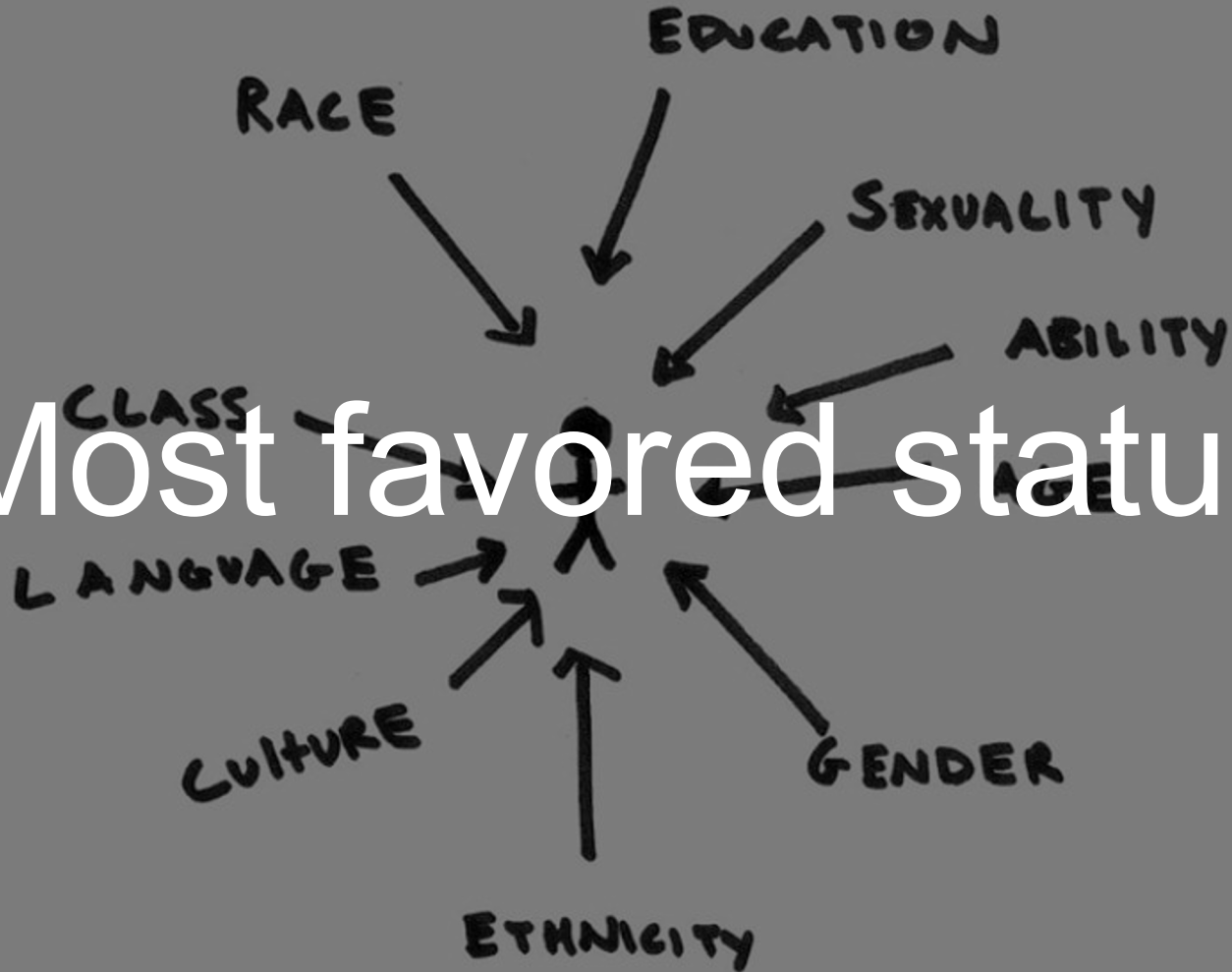
## Deuteronomy 4:5-8

<sup>5</sup>See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>6</sup>Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” <sup>7</sup>What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

## Psalm 147:19-20

<sup>19</sup>He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel. <sup>20</sup>He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his rules. Praise the LORD!

Most favored status



## Paul's Questions from Romans 3:1-8

2. What if they blew it (weren't trustworthy)?  
Is God still righteous, just and faithful?

### Romans 3:3-4

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## Deuteronomy 19:3-6

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup>‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”







## Paul's Questions from Romans 3:1-8

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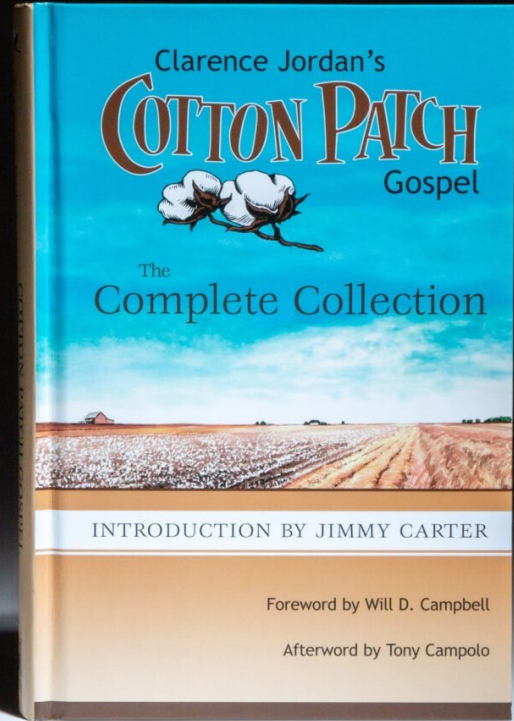
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μὴ γένοιτο

*may genoito*



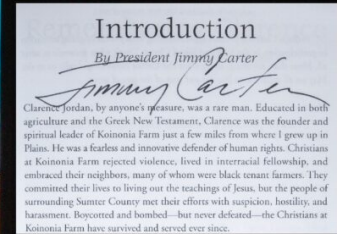
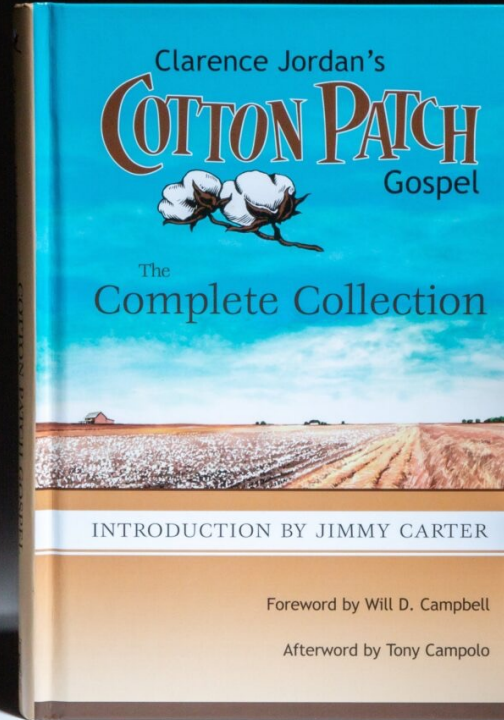
## Introduction

By President Jimmy Carter

Clarence Jordan, by anyone's measure, was a rare man. Educated in both agriculture and the Greek New Testament, Clarence was the founder and spiritual leader of Koinonia Farm just a few miles from where I grew up in Plains. He was a fearless and innovative defender of human rights. Christians at Koinonia Farm rejected violence, lived in interracial fellowship, and embraced their neighbors, many of whom were black tenant farmers. They committed their lives to living out the teachings of Jesus, but the people of surrounding Sumter County met their efforts with suspicion, hostility, and harassment. Boycotted and bombed—but never defeated—the Christians at Koinonia Farm have survived and served ever since.

After they had checked  
out, the Lord's  
messenger made  
connection with Joseph  
in a dream and said,  
“Get moving, and take  
your wife and baby and  
highball it to Mexico.”

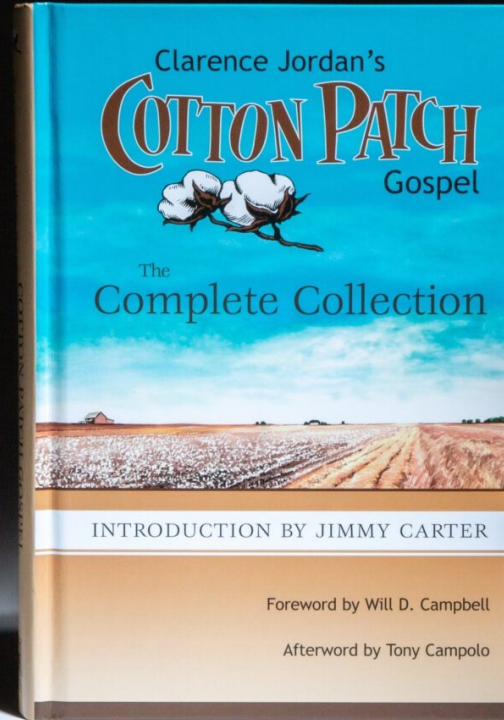
Matthew 2:13



Does their  
hypocrisy nullify  
God's sincerity?

Hell no!

**Romans 3:3**



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## Psalm 51

*For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.*

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. <sup>2</sup>Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. <sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. <sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

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When you  
can't handle  
the shame,

You always  
move to  
blame.



## Genesis 3:8-12

<sup>8</sup>Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”

<sup>10</sup>He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

<sup>11</sup>And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

<sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman you put here with me — she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

GOD IS

**JUST**

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# GASLIGHTING

MANIPULATE SOMEONE BY PSYCHOLOGICAL  
MEANS INTO DOUBTING THEIR OWN  
SANITY.



— I FEEL BAD ABOUT  
WHAT YOU SAID EARLIER.



WHY ARE YOU SO  
SENSITIVE!? —

You can't speak  
sense  
to  
non-  
sense!

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— I FEEL BAD ABOUT  
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WHY ARE YOU SO  
SENSITIVE!? —

A black and white illustration of a speech bubble. The bubble is roughly oval-shaped with a pointed tail at the bottom center. Inside the bubble, the text "Yeah, but..." is written in a simple, black, serif font. The entire bubble is centered on a light gray rectangular background.

Yeah, but...



→ THIS IS .

Our Story



→ THIS IS .  
Our Story

1. We have AMPLE access to the Word of God

→ THIS IS .  
Our Story

1. We have AMPLE access to the Word of God
2. We are NOT a righteous people

→ THIS IS .  
*Our Story*

1. We have AMPLE access to the Word of God
2. We are NOT a righteous people
3. God is still completely just

→ THIS IS .  
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1. We have AMPLE access to the Word of God
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4. The cross of Jesus Christ demands us to lay down all our “yeah, buts”

