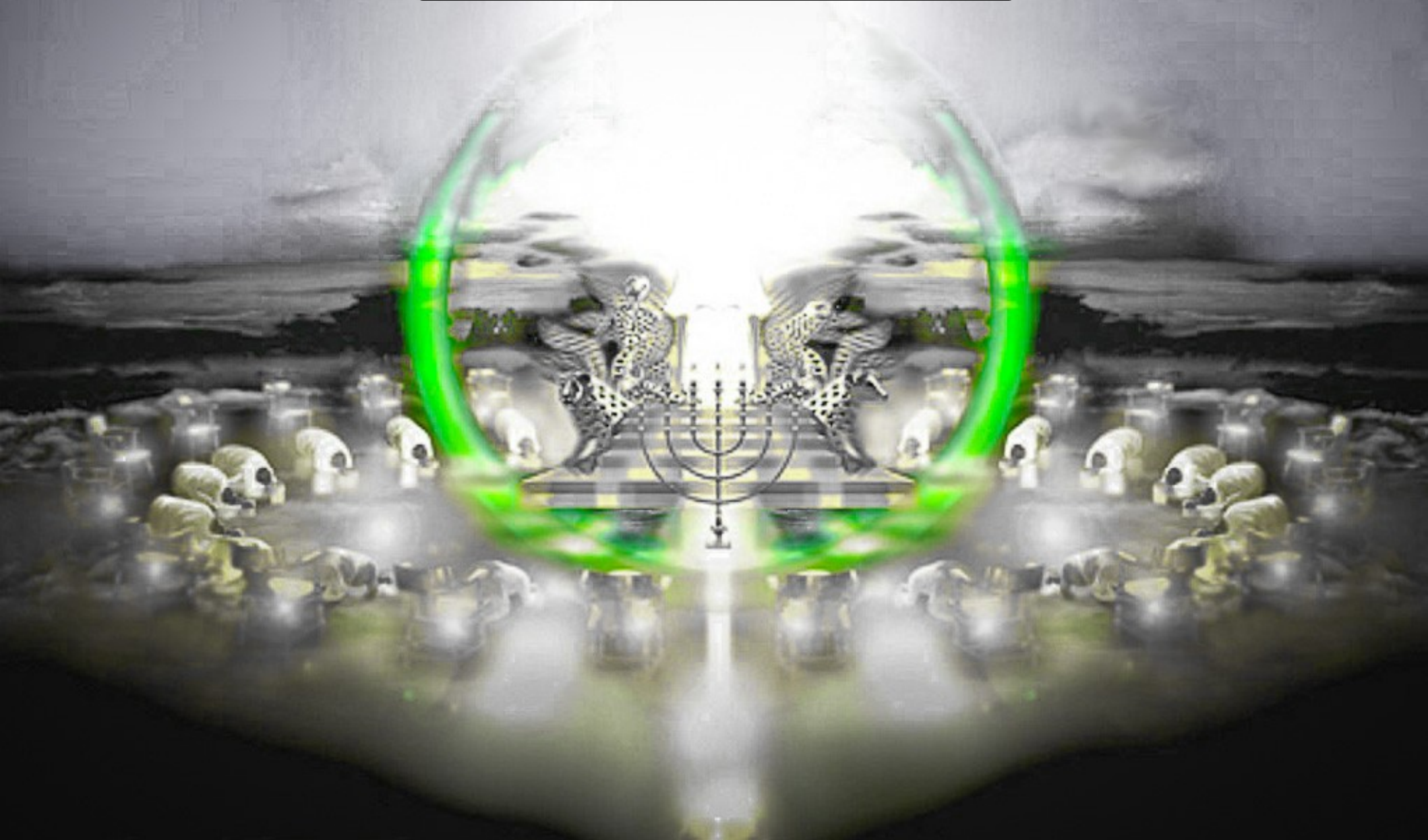


# Justified!

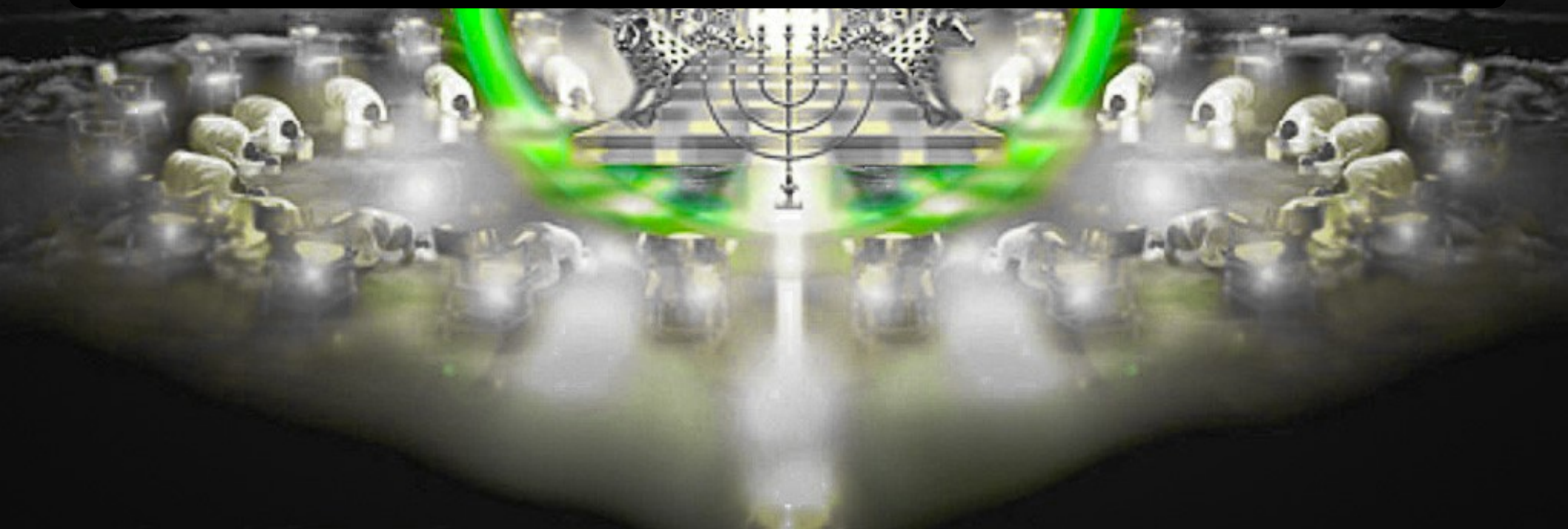
The book of Romans



# Justified!

## The book of Romans

**Rom 5:1** Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.



# Justified!

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How God enabled us to have peace with himself.

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Our theme for 2016: “Be transformed!”

**Rom 12:2** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

In view of God's mercy!

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Previously

**Rom 1:18** The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness

**Rom 3:21** But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Previously

**Rom 5:1** Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

**Rom 7:24** What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?

**Rom 7:25a** Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Previously

**Rom 8:1** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,  
**Rom 8:2** because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Lament for Israel





# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Lament for Israel

**Rom 9:1** I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit—

**Rom 9:2** I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

**Rom 9:3** For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race,

**Rom 9:4** the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises.

**Rom 9:5** Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

# Justified!

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Israel had every advantage – yet mostly rejected the Gospel

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### The Purposes of God

**Rom 9:6** It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.

**Rom 9:7** Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."

**Rom 9:8** In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.

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Promise was to those who have the faith of Abraham (Rom 4:16)

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### The Purposes of God

**Rom 9:11** Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad—in order that God's purpose in election might stand:

**Rom 9:12** not by works but by him who calls—she was told, "The older will serve the younger."

**Rom 9:13** Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

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God chose Jacob for his own reasons

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God chose Jacob for his own reasons

He has that right!

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### The Purposes of God

**Rom 9:14** What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all!

**Rom 9:15** For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

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Justice and mercy are two different things!

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Justice and mercy are two different things!

God can give mercy to anyone he wants. Or not.

# Justified!

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### The Purposes of God

**Rom 9:17** For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

**Rom 9:18** Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.

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God gave an unbeliever rule over Egypt

Then hardened his heart with ten plagues

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## The book of Romans

### The Purposes of God

**Rom 9:20** But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'"

**Rom 9:21** Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?

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**Isa 55:9** "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Israel's problem

**Rom 9:30** What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith;

**Rom 9:31** but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it.

**Rom 9:32** Why not? Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works. They stumbled over the "stumbling stone."



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Righteousness cannot be obtained through law!

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**Rom 10:1** Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved.

**Rom 10:2** For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge.

**Rom 10:3** Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

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Sincerity is not enough!

# Justified!

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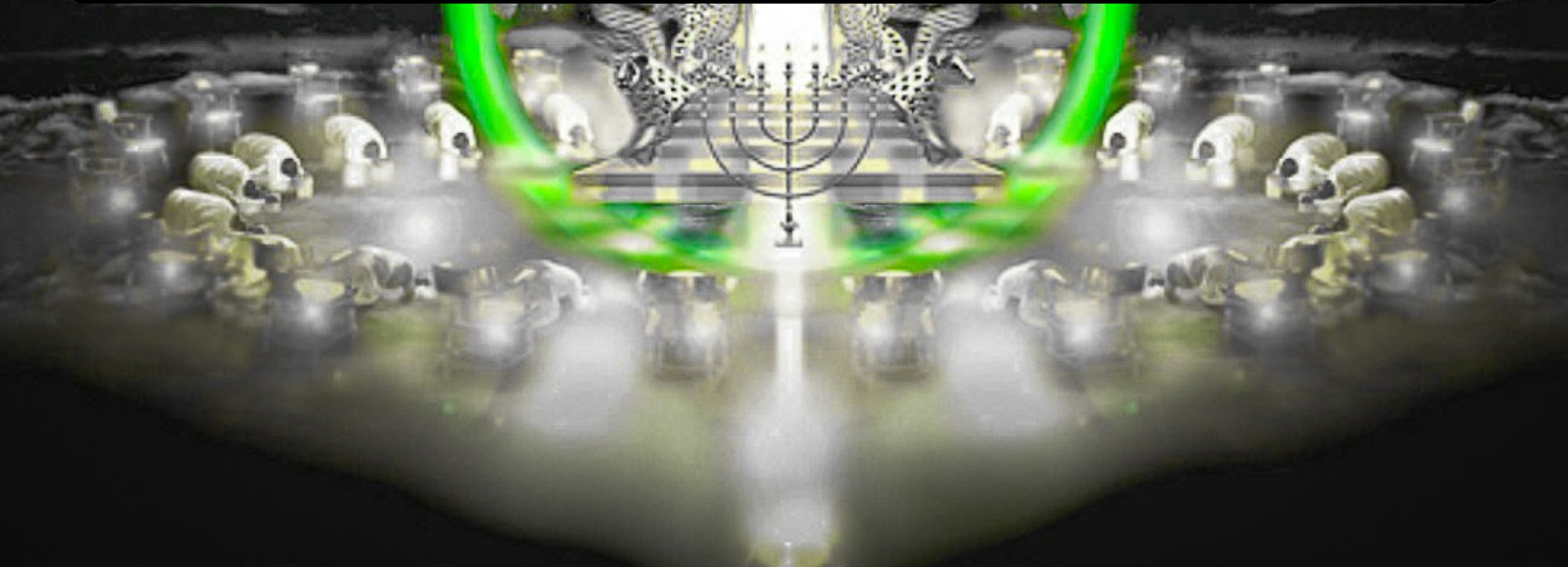
Must receive righteousness on God's terms!

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### The Gospel vs Law

**Rom 10:4** Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.





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Righteousness by faith, apart from law

# Justified!

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**Rom 10:5** Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them."

**Rom 10:6** But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down)

**Rom 10:7** "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

**Rom 10:8** But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming:

**Rom 10:9** That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

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Confess with your mouth: Lordship of Jesus

# Justified!

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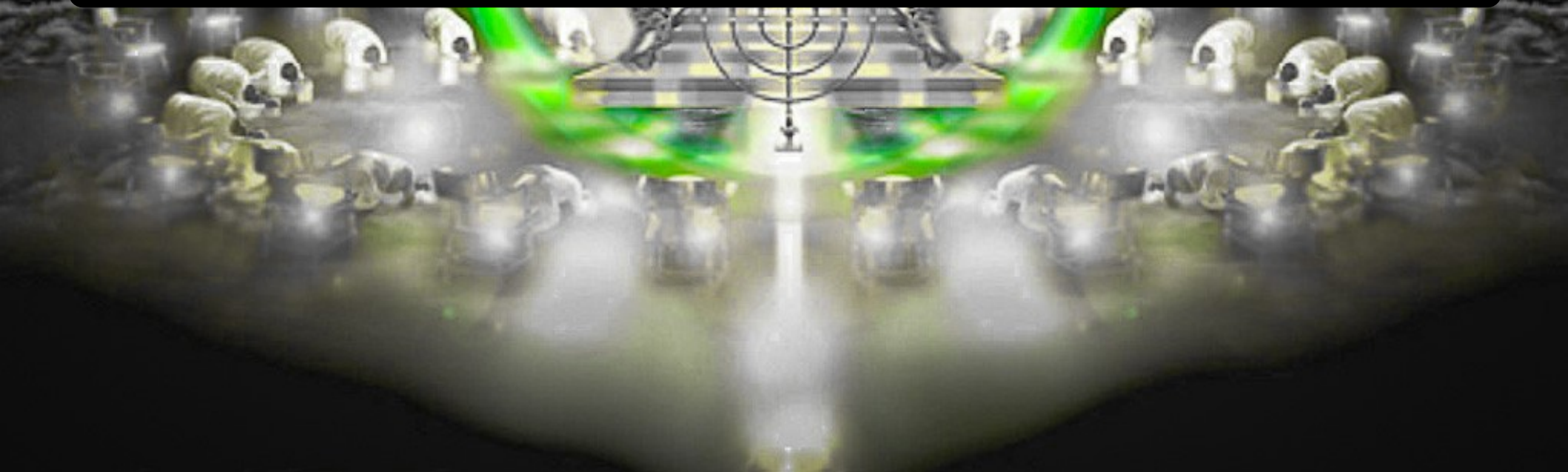
Believe in your heart: Faith, completed by deeds

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 10:12** For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,  
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**Joh 14:6** Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

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Same terms for Jews and Gentiles

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### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 10:14** How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

**Rom 10:15** And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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Israel's confusion is understandable until they've been taught

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Israel's confusion is understandable until they've been taught

But haven't they been taught by now?



# Justified!

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### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 10:16** But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?"

**Rom 10:17** Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

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### Israel and the Gospel

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**Rom 10:17** Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

And so not all Israelites received the blessings of the Gospel.

# Justified!

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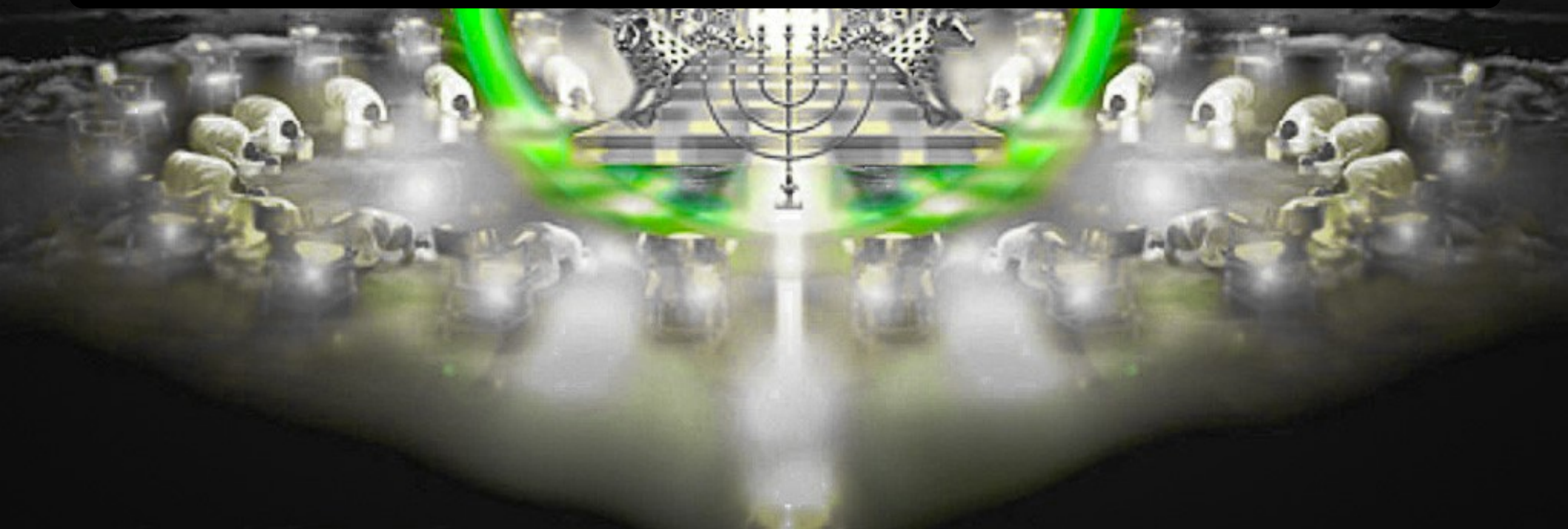
Hearers either respond with faith, or not!

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 10:18** But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did: "Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world."



# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Israel and the Gospel

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Israel cannot claim ignorance

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### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 10:19** Again I ask: Did Israel not understand? First, Moses says, "I will make you envious by those who are not a nation; I will make you angry by a nation that has no understanding."

**Rom 10:20** And Isaiah boldly says, "I was found by those who did not seek me; I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me."

**Rom 10:21** But concerning Israel he says, "All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people."

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Israel cannot blame God for their unbelief.

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Even the Gentiles were accepting it. So Israelites have no excuse.



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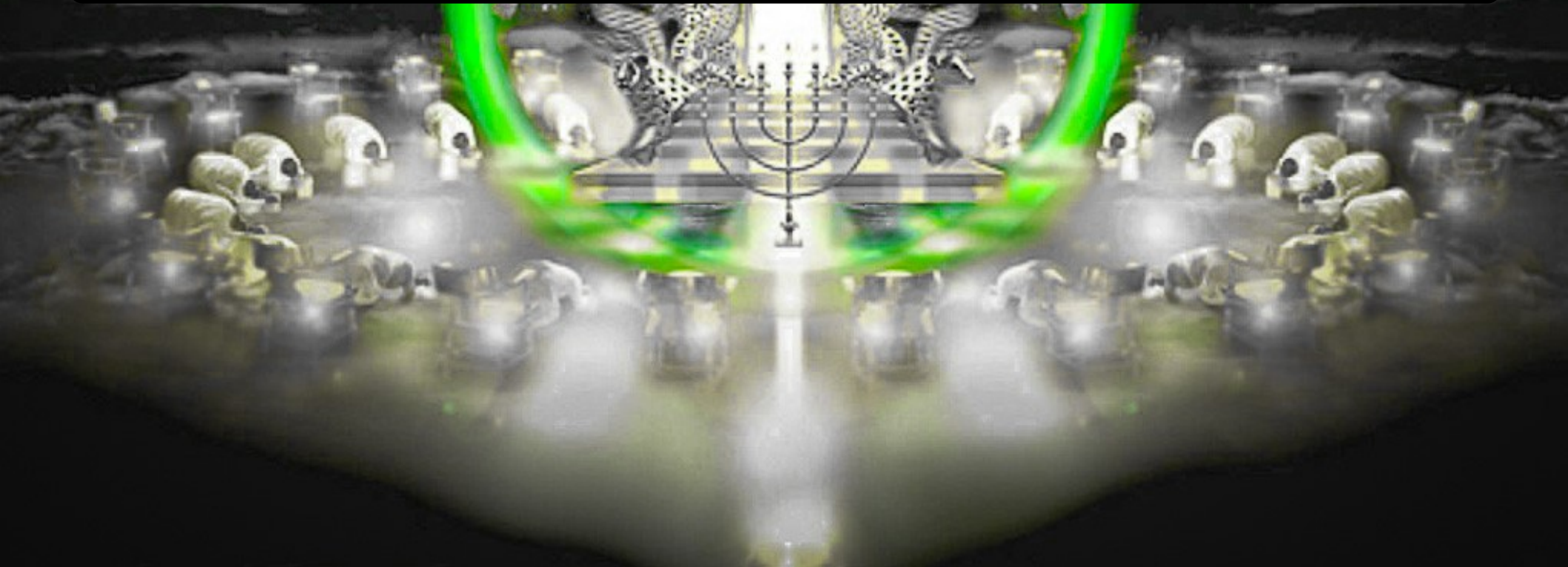
The fault lies with the unbelieving Israelites

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## The book of Romans

### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 11:1** I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin.



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Israel and the Gospel

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Not all Israelites have rejected the Gospel

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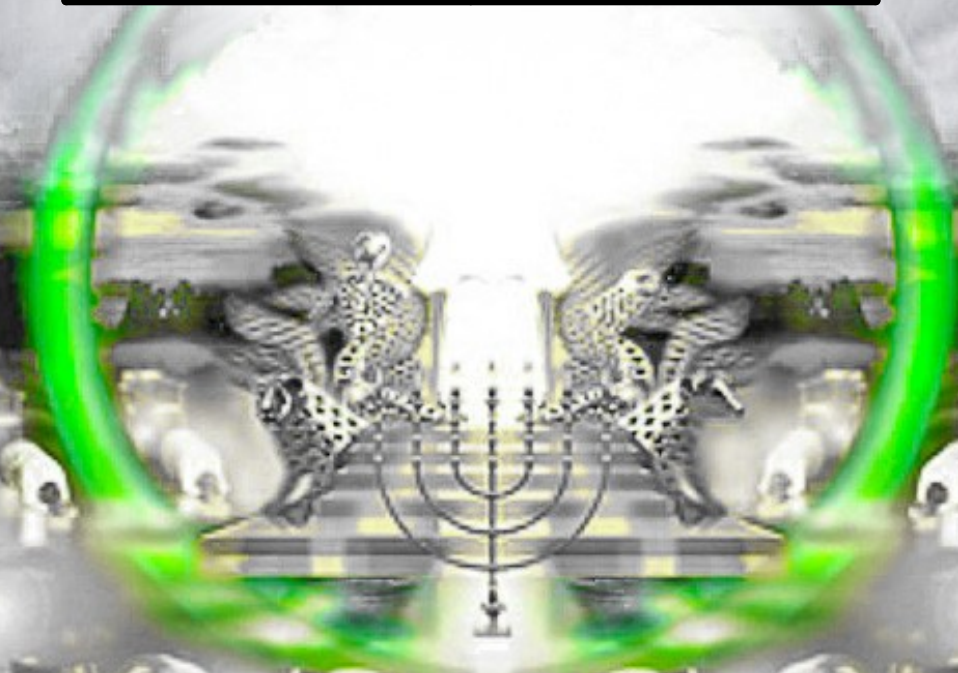
**Rom 11:5** So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace.

**Rom 11:6** And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Gentiles and the Gospel



# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Gentiles and the Gospel

**Rom 11:17** If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root,

**Rom 11:18** do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you.

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Gentile Christians must stay humble!

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Gentiles and the Gospel

**Rom 11:19** You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in."

**Rom 11:20** Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid.

**Rom 11:21** For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either.



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Unbelief leads to being cut off

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Faith enables us to stay grafted in

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You and I can also be cut off.

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Gentiles and the Gospel

**Rom 11:22** Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off.

**Rom 11:23** And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.

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Don't overlook the sternness

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**Rom 11:23** And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again.

His kindness is conditional

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 11:25** I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in.

**Rom 11:26** And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.

**Rom 11:27** And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins."

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**Rom 11:27** And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins."

But remember....

**Rom 9:6** It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.



# Justified!

## The book of Romans

### Israel and the Gospel

**Rom 11:30** Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience,

**Rom 11:31** so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you.

**Rom 11:32** For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

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“All” - both Jew and Gentile

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Praise God!



# Justified!

## The book of Romans

Praise God!

**Rom 11:33** Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

**Rom 11:34** "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?"

**Rom 11:35** "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?"

**Rom 11:36** For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

# Justified!

## The book of Romans

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No man could have invented the Gospel!

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The generous love of God!

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Creator, Saviour, and Lord!

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Be amazed at God who gave us the Gospel!



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## The book of Romans

Next week: Transformation because of the Gospel

