
AMEN Bible Study 2025

“Excuses, Excuses”

Romans 2:1-3:20
October 2, 2025

Intro

- 1. I live by good morals (2:1–4)**
- 2. I know the Law (2:5–16)**
- 3. I practice religion (2:17–29)**
- 4. I have objections (3:1–8)**
- 5. The Verdict: All under sin (3:9–20)**

Conclusion

AMEN Action Steps

“Excuses, Excuses”

Romans 2:1-3:20

HEAR the Word

“Open my eyes, that I might behold wonderous things out of your law.”
-Psalm 119:18

1. In Romans 2, Paul turns from speaking about “them” (the openly immoral) to “you” (the moral, religious, and even the Jewish person). Why is this shift important?
2. How does Paul expose the emptiness of each excuse—morality, religion, and knowledge of the law—as a means of justification before God?
3. According to Paul, what is the real purpose of God’s kindness, patience, and tolerance (2:4)?

PRACTICE the Word

“...Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”
-Matthew 7:24

1. Which of Paul’s categories of excuses (morality, religion, law, objections) do you most often find yourself tempted to hide behind? How does the gospel dismantle that defense?
2. Romans 3:18 says, “There is no fear of God before their eyes.” What would a healthy, reverent fear of God look like in your daily decisions?
3. How does knowing the depth of our sin increase our gratitude for Christ’s righteousness?

RETELL the Word

“Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you...”
-Mark 5:19

1. Share a time when you tried to excuse yourself or justify your actions. How did God’s Word expose your need for Christ in that moment?
2. Paul concludes that “through the law comes knowledge of sin” (3:20). How could you explain this truth simply to a friend who thinks Christianity is just about “being good”?
3. Would you be willing to pray regularly for humility and openness to God’s Word – that Romans would reshape your life the way it reshaped Augustine, Luther, and Wesley?