



Questions:

1. What stood out for you from Romans 3:20-31?
2. What do you think might be Paul's motive for starting out his letter to the Romans with such a vitriolic condemnation of the Gentiles?
3. Why do you think Paul's broad list has so often been used recently to specifically assert that homosexuality is a sin? What do you think Paul really intended?
4. What do you think would be different about Paul's message if he wrote it today?
5. Jack suggests that it is difficult to be people of faith together with people who are different than we are unless we worship together. How might we make that happen? What do you think the results might be?

EPISODE TITLE: "Romans 1, 2, 3"

For the Love of God, Episode 4

Featured Guest: Dr. Jack Levison

Called a "brilliant and spirited theologian" by author Phyllis Tickle, Jack Levison has a passion for ideas and an obsession with writing. Raised in a small tract house in Levittown, New York, Jack left to attend Wheaton College, where his Greek professor captured his imagination with visions of Cambridge University. When he returned from England to pursue doctoral studies at Duke University, Jack fell in love with a divinity student, Priscilla Pope, alongside of whom he now teaches at Seattle Pacific University. Jack is an internationally recognized scholar, whose books have received wide acclaim. *future studies of the Spirit,* and Walter Brueggemann hailed it as "inspired."

Pneuma Divina Scripture: Romans 3: 20-31

20For 'no human being will be justified in his sight' by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. 21 But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; 26it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. 27 Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. 29Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, 30since God is one; and he will justify the circumcised on the ground of faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. 31Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

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