

**Title: Can Two Wrongs Make A Right? – Romans 3 1-8**

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**Read:**

<sup>1-2</sup>So what difference does it make who's a Jew and who isn't, who has been trained in God's ways and who hasn't? As it turns out, it makes a lot of difference—but not the difference so many have assumed. <sup>2-6</sup>First, there's the matter of being put in charge of writing down and caring for God's revelation, these Holy Scriptures. So, what if, in the course of doing that, some of those Jews abandoned their post? God didn't abandon them. Do you think their faithlessness cancels out his faithfulness? Not on your life! Depend on it: God keeps his word even when the whole world is lying through its teeth. Scripture says the same: Your words stand fast and true; Rejection doesn't faze you. But if our wrongdoing only underlines and confirms God's rightdoing, shouldn't we be commended for helping out? Since our bad words don't even make a dent in his good words, isn't it wrong of God to back us to the wall and hold us to our word? These questions come up. The answer to such questions is no, a most emphatic No! How else would things ever get straightened out if God didn't do the straightening? <sup>7-8</sup>It's simply perverse to say, "If my lies serve to show off God's truth all the more gloriously, why blame me? I'm doing God a favor." Some people are actually trying to put such words in our mouths, claiming that we go around saying, "The more evil we do, the more good God does, so let's just do it!" That's pure slander, as I'm sure you'll agree.

**Think:**

So some people are going around saying that Paul's gang are doing wrong stuff so that good stuff might happen. What's Paul's answer to this? He's straight on their case, "lies it's all lies." Why? Well Paul simply does not believe that the Bible teaches that we can do wrong as long as our motives are pure. You hear that sometimes don't you? You hear people say "I did the lesser of two evils", or "I know it was wrong to do, but I did it with the best motives." But Paul's is clear that is wrong. If your mates are getting smashed every Friday night and you think you can help them get to know Jesus by getting smashed with them, Paul would shout NO. If you think that I can cheat at my exams, because eventually I will become a doctor and help people, Paul would shout NO. Wrong is wrong, that is it and all about it. Being a Christian can be a bit uncomfortable sometimes. When someone does something wrong to you, you probably feel that you have the right to go and do something horrible to them to. The problem is that Paul doesn't mess around, two wrongs don't make a right.

**Pray:**

Father I am sorry for when I have retaliated for something that someone has done to me. Please help me learn to have your love and grace towards all people. Amen.

**Action:**

Lets see if this week we can try and not retaliate when someone hurts us. It's going to need Gods help so we should probably pray about it every day as well. Bye.