

John A. "Jack" Crabtree

Romans, Portion One, section 1

How the Traditional View Would Look at the Early Paragraphs of Romans

<i>Paul proclaims the fact that—</i>	<i>In order to make the further point that—</i>	<i>In order to make the point that—</i>	<i>In order to finally make the point that—</i>	<i>With the implication that—</i>	PROBLEMS
[A] Human moral depravity is incurable and universal.	[B] It is impossible for any human being to attain <i>dikaiosune</i> by their obedience to the Mosaic Covenant; for it is impossible for any human being to be good in the way the Covenant demands.	[C] No human being will ever attain <i>dikaiosune</i> through his acts of obedience to the Mosaic Covenant in the light of the fact of human moral depravity.	[D] Through believing the truth about Jesus, and only through believing the truth about Jesus, will any human being be granted <i>dikaiosune</i> .	[E] If someone pursues obedience to the Mosaic Covenant, they are forsaking belief in the truth about Jesus as the only way to attain <i>dikaiosune</i> and therefore are forfeiting their salvation.	As one can see in 13.4–13.6, 14.3–14.5, and 16.2–16.7, all of the following do not conform to what Paul actually believes: [B], [C], [D], and [E].
[A] Jews will not be shown any favoritism.	[B] Jewish failure to meet the demands of the Covenant, like Gentile failure, will result in their condemnation; it will not be overlooked because of their Jewishness so that they are granted <i>dikaiosune</i> in spite of their failure.	[C] No human being will ever attain <i>dikaiosune</i> through his acts of obedience to the Mosaic Covenant in the light of the fact of human moral depravity.	[D] Through believing the truth about Jesus and only through believing the truth about Jesus will any human being be granted <i>dikaiosune</i> .	[E] If someone pursues obedience to the Mosaic Covenant, they are forsaking belief in the truth about Jesus as the only way to attain <i>dikaiosune</i> and therefore are forfeiting their salvation.	As one can see in 13.4–13.6, 14.3–14.5, and 16.2–16.7, all of the following do not conform to what Paul actually believes: [C], [D], and [E].
[A] It is the inward condition of the heart, not the outward conformity of one's actions, in relationship to the Mosaic Covenant, that determines who is <i>dikaios</i> in the eyes of God.	[B] The outward conformity of a Jew's behavior to the demands of the Mosaic Covenant is not enough for him to attain <i>dikaiosune</i> ; consequently, no Jew's behavior is good enough to meet the demands of the Covenant in a way that will bring him <i>dikaiosune</i> .	[C] No human being will ever attain <i>dikaiosune</i> through his acts of obedience to the Mosaic Covenant in the light of the fact of human moral depravity.	[D] Through believing the truth about Jesus and only through believing the truth about Jesus will any human being be granted <i>dikaiosune</i> .	[E] If someone pursues obedience to the Mosaic Covenant, they are forsaking belief in the truth about Jesus as the only way to attain <i>dikaiosune</i> and therefore are forfeiting their salvation.	As one can see in 13.4–13.6, 14.3–14.5, and 16.2–16.7, all of the following do not conform to what Paul actually believes: [C], [D], and [E].

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Traditional view would see 21.13 <3:20> as the *telos* of the argument of the whole first section of Portion One: “For this reason, no human being will ever be decreed *dikaios* in the sight of God on the merit of Covenant achievements, for through the Covenant comes the knowledge of sin.”

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<i>Paul proclaims the fact that—</i>	<i>In order to make the further point that—</i>	<i>In order to make the point that—</i>	<i>In order to finally make the point that—</i>	<i>With the implication that—</i>	PROBLEMS
[A] It is the bona fide quest to be good, and not the ability to recognize damnable behavior in others that determines who is <i>dikaios</i> in God's eyes.	[B] The facility to apply the Covenant in judging the behavior of others is not enough for him to attain <i>dikaiousune</i> ; consequently, no Jew's behavior is good enough to meet the demands of the Covenant in a way that will bring him <i>dikaiousune</i> ; only those who "do" the Covenant will attain <i>dikaiousune</i> ; "hearing" it is not adequate.	[C] No human being will ever attain <i>dikaiousune</i> through his acts of obedience to the Mosaic Covenant in the light of the fact of human moral depravity.	[D] Through believing the truth about Jesus and only through believing the truth about Jesus will any human being be granted <i>dikaiousune</i>	[E] If someone pursues obedience to the Mosaic Covenant, they are forsaking belief in the truth about Jesus as the only way to attain <i>dikaiousune</i> and therefore are forfeiting their salvation	As one can see in 13.4–13.6, 14.3–14.5, and 16.2–16.7, all of the following do not conform to what Paul actually believes: [C], [D], and [E].
[A] A Gentile who "does" the Covenant is in a position to pass judgment on a Jew who does not "do" the Covenant.	[B] Jewish failure to meet the demands of the Covenant will result in their condemnation; it will not be overlooked so that they are granted <i>dikaiousune</i> in spite of their failure.	[C] No human being will ever attain <i>dikaiousune</i> through his acts of obedience to the Mosaic Covenant in the light of the fact of human moral depravity	[D] Through believing the truth about Jesus and only through believing the truth about Jesus will any human being be granted <i>dikaiousune</i> .	[E] If someone pursues obedience to the Mosaic Covenant, they are forsaking belief in the truth about Jesus as the only way to attain <i>dikaiousune</i> and therefore are forfeiting their salvation.	As one can see in 13.4–13.6, 14.3–14.5, and 16.2–16.7, all of the following do not conform to what Paul actually believes: [C], [D], and [E].

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[A] A Gentile who “does” the Covenant will be considered <i>dikaios</i> by God.	[B] If a person “does” the Covenant that person will attain <i>dikaiosune</i> , whether Jew or Gentile. There need not be any actual Gentile individual who can “do” the Covenant in order for this point to be valid; for the point is that it is outward obedience to the Law, not mere knowledge of the Law that is required for <i>dikaiosune</i> .	[C] No human being will ever attain <i>dikaiosune</i> through his acts of obedience to the Mosaic Covenant in the light of the fact of human moral depravity.	[D] Through believing the truth about Jesus and only through believing the truth about Jesus will any human being be granted <i>dikaiosune</i> .	[E] If someone pursues obedience to the Mosaic Covenant, they are forsaking belief in the truth about Jesus as the only way to attain <i>dikaiosune</i> and therefore are forfeiting their salvation.	As one can see in 13.4–13.6, 14.3–14.5, and 16.2–16.7, all of the following do not conform to what Paul actually believes: [C], [D], and [E].

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