THROUGH THE LAW COMES KNOWLEDGE OF SIN

Romans 3:9–20

Key Verse: 3:20

1. What is Paul’s conclusion thus far? (9; cf. 1:18; 2:1) What does it mean to be “under sin”? (6:6,12,14a; 7:14b,15,20)
2. What is Paul’s main statement? (10) Compare verses 10–12 with Psalm 14:1–3 and Psalm 53:1–3. What can we learn from these verses about the nature of sin?
3. What is the common theme of verses 13–14? (Compare with Ps 5:9; 140:3; 10:7) What can we learn here about how sin affects our speech?
4. What is the common theme of verses 15–17? (Compare with Isaiah 59:7,8) What else can we learn here about how sin affects our lives?
5. How does Paul conclude these quotations? (18; Ps36:1) How does this illustrate the root cause of all human sin?
6. How does “whatever the law says” and “those who are under the law” (19a) summarize verses 10–18? What does Paul mean by “every mouth may be stopped” and the whole world “be held accountable to God”? (19b)
7. Read verse 20. To what misunderstanding about the law does Paul refer? (Compare with Gal 2:16) For what purpose did God give the law? (20b; cf. 7:7) What does Paul mean by “knowledge of sin,” and why is this so important?