

Eleutheros Newsletter

April 2026

Thoughts on Romans

3:12 *They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable, there is none that doeth good, no, not one.*

In [verses 10-11](#) the Apostle declares “there is none righteous” (v.10) and “there is none that seeketh after God” (v.11). These verses indicate an innate depravity and a lack of desire to do anything about that depravity in all of mankind.

In verse 12 he expands on the unsaved man’s miserable condition by saying “they are all gone out of the way.” In other words, mankind—Jews and Gentiles alike—is ignorantly (note “there is none that understandeth” in verse 11) moving around in the dangers of offending Holy God. Isaiah emphasized this truth: “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all” ([53:6](#)).

Simply put, man’s natural and hopeless condition is universal.

Paul makes this point even more clear by saying “they are together become unprofitable.” If all the “righteousness” and “good intentions” of unsaved men were added together, the record would be a huge ZERO in the all-knowing and holy mind of God!

A.T. Robertson (*Word Pictures in the New Testament*, vol. IV, pp. 144-45) points out that the verb translated “become unprofitable” (ἠχρηιώθησαν in the Greek) is well translated become “useless” and the Hebrew equivalent of this word means “to go bad, become sour like milk.”

God is known to be disgusted with “lukewarmness.” Consider John’s message to the church of Laodicea: *“I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of My mouth because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that that thou thou mayest be rich; and white raiment that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear: and anoint thine eyes with eye-salve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten be zealous therefore, and repent”* ([Revelation 3:15-19](#)).

If God delivers such a message to an early church, what is His attitude toward those who have never known Him through salvation in His Son Jesus Christ?!

Based on this, what should today’s believers conclude?

Here are some answers:

1. We have not presented the Gospel to unsaved souls correctly if we do not make it clear that they are lost in sin and without hope.
2. Of course, that message should be delivered in love and present the glorious message that Jesus saves!
3. We surely need to avoid “lukewarmness” and obey our Lord in all matters, presenting the Gospel to a world that desperately needs it! That Gospel message has a negative message (our desperate condition) and a positive conclusion (eternal life)!

We will continue these thoughts on Romans in next month's newsletter.