

Outline of the Argument of Portion 1, Section 1 of ROMANS

Step 1> Every human being is innately and hopelessly evil and is, therefore, under the wrath of God.

• *The explicit pronouncement of Sub-section 1*

Step 2> Accordingly, unless God shows mercy, granting *dikaiosune* as a gift, every human being will be condemned.

• *The implicit conclusion of Sub-section 1 (left to be inferred; not explicitly stated)*

Step 3> Before Jesus appeared, the standard for measuring the inward orientation of one’s heart (the condition for receiving the mercy of *dikaiosune* as a gift) was the requirements of the Mosaic Covenant. Keeping the Covenant was the tangible outward evidence of a right inward orientation.

• *Implicit in the pronouncements of Sub-section 2*

Step 4> Contrary to the Jewish expectation and presumption, keeping the Mosaic Covenant is neither a sufficient condition nor a necessary condition for being granted *dikaiosune*.

• *The implicit conclusion of Sub-section 2 (clearly and explicitly stated but not explicitly stated in this succinct form)*

Step 5> Since Jesus has appeared, a new standard for measuring the inward orientation of one’s heart has appeared: namely, a willingness to embrace the truth about Jesus.

• *Implicit in the pronouncement of Sub-section 4*

Step 6> The new basis for *dikaiosune*—belief in Jesus—is independent of the Mosaic Covenant.

• *The explicit pronouncement of Sub-section 4*

Step 7> Neither the Jew nor the Gentile who believes in Jesus needs to meet the demands of the Mosaic Covenant in order to attain *dikaiosune*.

• *Implicit in the pronouncements of Sub-section 4*

Conclusion> The one and only God of every human being will ultimately declare every person *dikaios* on exactly the same basis: on the basis of their belief in Jesus, irrespective of whether they keep the demands of the Mosaic Covenant.

• *Explicit conclusion stated in ¶24–25, the climax of Section 1*