

The foregoing discussion focuses on the Jews being custodians of the Law and scriptures entrusted to them. If they are condemned by the very Law given them to hold, to keep before God and as a testimony to the nations around them, are they even more responsible than those "less fortunate" nations? (The translations vary here so the question might be "Are we Jews better than they?" or it might be "Are we Jews more responsible than they?" Either way the answer is NO WAY! So the prosecutor declares the unassailable conclusion, "**we have proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;**"

Say what? The Jews are just as guilty as those "dogs of Gentiles?"

Say what? The Gentiles are just as guilty as those arrogant Jews who were given more light but despised it?

YES! To both.

**"...we have proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;"**

Now Paul, the prosecutor, enforces his case by calling highly respected, reliable, honest, irrefutable, well qualified witnesses. Their statements are found written in the Old Testament. Written years ago, centuries ago, never contested, but respected, valued and highly esteemed by God's people and mankind in general. Esteemed, but ignored, since the days they were uttered and put down in writing. But preserved by God for this very day. What do THEY say?

Verse 10 As it is written:

\* by **David** in Psalm 14:1-3; 53:1-3.

**10 There is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. 12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.**

\* By **David** in Psalm 5:9.

**13 Their throat is an open sepulchre; With their tongues they have used deceit;**

\* By **David** in Psalm 140:3

**The poison of asps is under their lips:**

\* Probably by **David**, Psalm 10:7.

**14 Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness:**

\* By **Isaiah**, chapter 59:7,8. Note also the beginning of that chapter.

**15 Their feet are swift to shed blood:**

**16 Destruction and misery are in their ways:**

**17 And the way of peace have they not known:**

\* By **David**, "the servant of Jehovah" in Psalm 36:1.

**18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.**

Note the testimonies cited focus a lot upon the spoken words of those condemned, then their action..

Throat, tongue, lips, mouth.

First, filthy, stinking talk from unclean throats.

Next, lying and deceitful tongues leading people astray and covering up sins.

Then, poisonous words, demonic like asps causing trouble between people and nations.

Then, those who carelessly or defiantly curse others, rather than blessing as God does, daring to curse man who was created in the image of God. They present a corrupt image of God before all Creation.

The focus then shifts to feet, ways and eyes.

**Feet**, rather than swift to bring the good tidings of the gospel to the lost (Romans 10:15), swift to ruthlessly murder and persecute others.

**Ways** Ruthless ways that leave a path of destruction and misery, whether rulers, governments, rebels, some corporations, organized crime, gangs, criminals, unruly protest groups, or unruly neighbors. Not Ways of Peace.

**Eyes** having no fear before God at what they gaze upon and take into their mind, soul and spirit.

Given this sevenfold testimony, what can anyone honestly say? The Law convicts every Jew and the whole nation of Israel, to whom it was given, of sin! No back talk! No "but's." Every mouth is stopped. The whole world is guilty before God.

*19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*