

The Book of Romans **a commentary**

by David Scott Nichols MD

Introduction

- Are you going to Heaven?
 - a. I hope so... I have been a good person.
 - b. I don't really know... I think so.
 - c. I have been better than most people, so I guess so.
 - d. I don't really think about things like that.
- What is your answer?

Romans - background

- Many consider this to be the most important book in the Holy Bible
- Paul wrote this book to explain the gospel message to the early Roman Church... and to succeeding generations
- Paul's *Magnum Opus*

Topics discussed in Romans include...

- The gospel message
- The revelation of God to man
- The wrath of God
- The depravity of man
- Justification by faith
- Sanctification
- Eternal Security
- Perseverance of the saints
- The last judgment & the fall of man
- The final restoration of the Jews
- Divine election
- And more...

The power of this book

- Many great people have been totally changed through the reading and study of God's message in Romans... these people include:
- St. Augustine
- Martin Luther
- John Wesley
- John Calvin
- William Tyndale
- Dr. Donald Barnhouse

St. Paul the Apostle

- Childhood in Tarsus – a Roman citizen
- Educated in Tarsus and Jerusalem – a Pharisee
- Totally dedicated man... first against Christ... then, for Christ
- The road to Damascus
- “Seminary school” in the desert with God
- The meeting in Jerusalem
- Back to Tarsus

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- His call to Antioch
 - Those great mission trips...
 - While in Corinth, he writes to the Romans

Reasons why Paul wrote this epistle

- Enlist help for his trip to the West (ex. Spain)
- Ask for prayer for his trip to Jerusalem
- **To write a comprehensive treatise of Christian beliefs to this chief city of the day**
- To let his fellow saints know of his love for them and his plans to visit them soon

God's Plan of Salvation

- The work of the Triune God
- Creation of man
- Characteristics of “love” and “free will”
- The law is given
- Mankind's free will leads to sin
- The stain of sin is not allowed in God's Heaven
- How can man be re-united with God? His sin must be forgiven.
- God's plan for this results in the “good news” the “gospel”

God's Gift to Man

- Jesus Christ came to give Himself as a ransom for all those who will turn to Him
- He died on the cross and suffered the penalty for mankind's sins
- He rose on the third day as the "first fruit" of our salvation and sits at the right hand of God, the Father in Heaven...
- Jesus now is awaiting His disciples' arrival!

Romans 1

Paul, a **bondservant** of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an **apostle, separated** to the gospel of God

² which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures,

³ concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was **born of the seed of David** according to the flesh,

⁴ *and* declared *to be* the **Son of God with power** according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. Romans 1:1-4

- Through Him we have received **grace** and **apostleship** for **obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name,
- ⁶ among whom you also are **the called of Jesus Christ**;
- ⁷ To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, **called *to be saints***: **Grace to you and peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 1:5-7

- First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.
- 9 For God is my witness, **whom I serve with my spirit** in the gospel of His Son, that **without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers,**
- 10 making request if, by some means, now at last I may find a way in the will of God to come to you. 11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established-- 12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me. Romans 1:8-12

- ¹³ Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now), that I might have some fruit among you also, just as among the other Gentiles.
- ¹⁴ I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise.
- ¹⁵ So, as much as is in me, *I am* ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. Romans 1:13-15

- For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,
- for it is the **power** of God
- to **salvation**
- for everyone who **believes**, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
- ¹⁷ For in it the **righteousness** of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written,
- *"The just shall live by faith."* Romans 1:16-17

- “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ”
- "We preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Gentiles foolishness. But unto them who are called, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God." (1 Cor 1:23)
- Paul certainly proved himself many times
- How about you???

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- for it is the **power of God to salvation**
 - Where does this power come from?
 - What does it supply?
 - Who is the recipient of this power?

- *This power of God to salvation is for everyone who believes, everyone who has faith*
- *In to what or whom must this faith be placed?*
- *Good Works?*
- *A church?*
- *A position?*
- *A benevolent God?*
- *What is the answer? How does one obtain salvation? Where should one's faith be placed?*

We must place our faith in Jesus!

- Let us review the gospel message...
- “Salvation comes because a man or a woman recognizes that he has no resources and he sees himself lost and undone and he sees the filthiness and deformity of his sin. And he perceives the rottenness of his heart and the pollution of his nature and he is drawn to Christ as a remedy. And he sees One who died for his sin and who conquered his sin and paid the price and wants to give him new life. And he says - I believe ... I believe”. John MacArthur

Faith leads to righteousness

- For in it the **righteousness** of [from] God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "*The just shall live by faith.*"
Romans 1:17
- ***Faith*** (in the gospel of Jesus) was how ***righteousness*** would be ***imputed*** to the sinful man. Mankind could not merit salvation; however, God would grant us grace (i.e. unmerited favor) through faith in His only begotten Son. Once we place our faith in Jesus and His completed work on the cross, God no longer views us as sinners. Instead, God sees us through the *prism* of a perfect Jesus. *Jesus stands between us and God as our righteousness.*

- "And be found in Him *not having mine own righteousness which is of the law but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.*" (Phillipians 3:9)

How shall we then live?

- “The just shall live by faith”.
- The “just” are Christians

Another perspective...

- Who is the power? Jesus! “God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.” 1 Tim 3:16
- “Mine eyes have seen Thy **salvation.**” Luke 2:30 (Simeon said these words of thanks to God after seeing the baby Jesus)
- “It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God--that is, **our righteousness, holiness and redemption.** “ 1 Cor 1:30-31
- “Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith.” Hebrews 12:2
- “Much more then, having now been **justified by His blood,** we shall be **saved from wrath** through Him.” Rom 5:9-10

The Wrath of God

- “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.” Romans 1:18
- But is this fair for all mankind? Should man be held responsible for his actions?

The Evidence for God

- Because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

- ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Romans 1:19-23

God - A Proper and Fair Judge

- God judges people based on their knowledge of Him
- Old Testament times
- New Testament Times
- The “African Tribesman”
- A typical American

- “Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

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- ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.”
Romans 1:24-27

- “And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:”

Romans 1:28-31

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- “Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”

Romans 1:32

Romans 2

- Judgment of sin
- You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Romans 2:1
- God is longsuffering... but He has His limits!

- God "will give to each person according to what he has done." 7 To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. 8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. 9 There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile;

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- **10** but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. **11** For God does not show favoritism. **Romans 2:6-11**

- All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. **13** For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. **14** (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law,

- **15** since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) **16** This will take place on the day when God will **judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ**, as my gospel declares. Romans 2:12-16

- Paul warns the Jewish hypocrites
- Now you, **if you call yourself a Jew**; if you rely on the law and **brag about your relationship to God**; **18** if you know his will and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law; **19** if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark, **20** an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth--

- **21** you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? **22** You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? **23** **You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law?** **24** As it is written: "**God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.**" Ezek 36:22
Romans 2:17-24

Romans 3

- The advantage of being a Jew...First of all, they have been entrusted with the very words of God. Romans 3:2
- What if some do not believe?
- But if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say? That God is unjust in bringing his wrath on us? (I am using a human argument.) **6** Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world?

- 7 Someone might argue, "If my falsehood enhances God's truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?" 8 Why not say--as we are being slanderously reported as saying and as some claim that we say--"Let us do evil that good may result"? Their condemnation is deserved.

Romans 3:5-8

- Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. **10** As it is written:
"There is no one righteous, not even one; **11** there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. **12 All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.**" Romans 3:9-12
- There is no fear of God before their eyes" Romans 3:18

- Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. **20** Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, **through the law we become conscious of sin.** Romans 3:19-20

The Gospel

- The righteousness of God
- But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. **22** This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, **23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. **25** God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood Romans 3:21-25

- Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. Romans 3:27
- Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, 30 since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. 31 Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law. Romans 3:29-31

Romans 4

- Faith of the “Fathers”
- Abraham – several demonstrations of his faith
- Faith is what saved him before God ... not his works

- What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? 2 If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about-- but not before God. 3 What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Romans 4:1-3 (NIV)
- No one is justified by works

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- Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.
Romans 4:4-5 (NIV)
 - King David – also justified by faith

- "Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. 8 Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him."

Romans 4:7-8 (NIV) Psalm 32:1-2

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- Psalm 51 – a beautiful psalm of David
 - David was saved by faith

Psalm 51

- To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.
² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me.
⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight-- That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge

Psalm 51 cont.

- . 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. 6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice.

Psalm 51 cont.

- 9 Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, And my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.

Psalm 51 cont.

- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. ¹⁶ For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart-- These, O God, You will not despise. ¹⁸ Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem. ¹⁹ Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar. Psalms 51:1-19 (NKJV)

- Circumcision is no longer required. Remember, it is faith that saves, not works.
- Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness. Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or before? It was not after, but before! And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.

Romans 4:9-11 (NIV)

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- It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who live by law are heirs, faith has no value and the promise is worthless, because law brings wrath. Romans 4:13-15 (NIV)

- A brief review of the faith of Abraham...
- "it was credited to him as righteousness." The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Romans 4:22-25 (NIV)

Romans 5

- Adam vs. Jesus
- Therefore, having been justified by faith, **we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ**, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in **hope** of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2
- Paul explains again that everyone that is saved is being saved by grace, through faith, and faith alone. Our faith gives us justification and peace with God. Legally, we have this justification due to what Jesus did for us.
- Then, we should all continue to use our faith as we **work** toward sanctification.

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- And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Romans 5:3-4

- Note that this faith does not guarantee a worry-free life.

- But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. Romans 5:8-11

Adam vs. Jesus

- just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-- Romans 5:12
- Adam – “who is a type of Him who was to come.”
Romans 5:14
- Paul next compares and contrasts Adam with Jesus

Jesus Christ – the second Adam

- For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. Romans 5:15
- The gift of Jesus is much different than the curse of Adam... it is much greater in power and scope

Adam vs. Jesus

- **Adam** – sin, Garden of Eden, disobedience to God, condemnation and death, inability to keep the Law, to all mankind it abounded
- **Jesus** – righteousness, cross, obedience to God, life in Heaven, Grace, to believers it abounded much more

Romans 6

- The Sanctification of the believer
- Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?
2 **Certainly not!** We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 **We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.** Romans 6:1-4

- If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. **6** For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that **we should no longer be slaves to sin--** Romans 6:5-6

- because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. **Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.** For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. Romans 6:7-10

Sanctification

- Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. **13** Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. **14** For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. Romans 6:12-14

Types of Man

- The Atheist
- The Religious Man
- The Christian

Paul's conclusion...

- You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. **19** I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves.

Romans 6:18-19

- now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. Romans 6:22

The Gift of God

- For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Romans 7

- the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? 2 For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage
Romans 7:1-2
- This is analogous to the Jewish Christian's new legal standing in Christ

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- Faith in Christ – Christians die to sin and rise to a new life with our new *Bridegroom, Jesus*
 - The old body has died
 - Jesus also is now under a New Covenant
 - Yet, Jesus will always remember His *chosen people*

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- So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. Romans 7:4
 - we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. Romans 7:6

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- Our new Master is Jesus Christ – we no longer serve the Law
 - We must let the Holy Spirit control our lives

Is The Law Sin?

- What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. Romans 7:7
- in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it produced death in me through what was good, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful. Romans 7:13

The Christian's Daily Battle

- We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. **15** I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. **16** And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. **17** As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. Romans 7:14-18
- Old Self = the 'Flesh' --- there is a constant battle between the 'Flesh' and the New Self

The New Self vs. The Old Self

- So I find this law at work: **When I want to do good, evil is right there with me.** 22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law; 23 but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the **law of my mind** and making me a prisoner of the **law of sin at work within my members.** 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Romans 7:21-24

Paul's Battle

- What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Romans 7:24-25
- Thanks be to God--through Jesus Christ our Lord!
Romans 7:25
- So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.
Romans 7:25

Romans 8 – Eternal Security

- This may be the most important chapter in the Bible
- Paul will describe many important doctrines in this chapter, including that of Eternal Security
- Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, **2** because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death Romans 8:1-2

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- For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, **4** in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:3-4

Jesus Saves!

- Christians can “put on” the righteousness of Jesus. God looks at a Christian and sees Jesus.
- God imputes the righteousness of Jesus to all who repent and trust in Jesus for their salvation.
- Christians then must learn to live by faith toward their sanctification

Sanctification

- Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. Romans 8:5
- The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; Romans 8:6-7

Who has the Holy Spirit?

- You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.
Romans 8:9a
- And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. **10** But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. Romans 8:9b-10

Christians are debtors

- Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation
Romans 8:12
- if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, **14** because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. Romans 8:13-14
- the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. Romans 8:26

The Christian - Heirs of God

- For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the **Spirit of sonship**. And by him we cry, "*Abba, Father.*" **16** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17** Now if we are children, then **we are heirs-heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. Romans 8:15-17

The Glorious Future

- I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. Romans 8:18-19
- the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Romans 8:21-22
- Christians await the redemption of the body

Romans 8:28-30

- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28
- For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. Romans 8:29
- And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. Romans 8:30

Our Eternal Security

- Who can separate us from the love of God?
- No one and no thing!
- If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Romans 8:31-32

Who can separate us from God?

- Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. **34** Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Romans 8:33-35

God will never let us go!

- Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? **36** As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."
37 No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** **38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, **nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Romans 8:35-39

Romans 9

- God's dealings with Israel
- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.
3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, **4** the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. **5** Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised!
Romans 9:2-5
- Jesus was the prophesied Messiah

Paul teaches from Genesis

- It is not as though God's word had failed. *For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel.* 7 Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, **"It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."** (Gen 21:12) 8 In other words, it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is **the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring.** 9 For this was how the promise was stated: "At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son." (Gen 18:10,14) Romans 9:6-9

Jacob and Esau

- Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac. **11** Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad--in order that God's purpose in election might stand: **12** not by works but by him who calls--she was told, "The older will serve the younger." **13** Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I *hated*." Romans 9:10-13
- “hated” means “prefer them less”

God's Sovereign Election

- Let us discuss this concept of God choosing one people over another or one person over another
- What does Paul tell us in the Bible...
- What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all!
15 For he says to Moses,
"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."
(Exodus 33:19) Romans 9:14-15

God and Pharaoh

- It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy. **17** For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." **18** Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden. Romans 9:16-18
- One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who resists his will?" Romans 9:19

The concept of “Divine Election”

- But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" **21** Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?
Romans 9:20-21

Divine Election

- **God is omniscient and omnipotent**
- God will save anyone who comes to Him and accepts the Gospel message – **we have *free will***
- **God elects those He wants to save from eternity past – the truth of *election***
- **Everyone, other than Adam and Eve, was born with a sin nature** that did not allow any possibility to live a life free of sin
- **God gives people the faith they need to be saved**
- **“God is Love”** (1 John 4:8b)

Two ways to view “Election”

- Using human logic – Since God knows all, He “elects” those that will eventually choose Him
- God’s own “potter and clay” explanation
- "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. ³ You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. ⁴ "You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' ⁵ My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. ⁶ Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes."

Job 42:2-6

God builds our faith

- Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Heb 11:6

- It is very valuable for a person to accept, by faith, certain events and biblical truths that otherwise may be difficult to understand. This shows our trust and faith in God

Gentile Believers

- What if God, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath--prepared for destruction? **23** What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory-- **24** even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? **Romans 9:22-24**

Paul references Hosea...

- As he says in Hosea:
"I will call them 'my people' who are not my people;
and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved
one," **Hosea 2:23** Romans 9:25
- "It will happen that in the very place where it was said
to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called
'sons of the living God.'" **Hosea 1:10** Romans 9:26

A Remnant Will Be Saved

- Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:
"Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, **only the remnant will be saved. 28** For the Lord will carry out his sentence on earth with speed and finality." (Isaiah 10:22,23)
29 It is just as Isaiah said previously:
"Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah." (Isaiah 1:9) Romans 9:27-29

Faith is the Key

- What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a **righteousness that is by faith**; **31** but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it. **32** Why not? Because **they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works**. They stumbled over the "stumbling stone." Romans 9:30-32
- And just who is that “stumbling stone”?

The Stumbling Stone/Rock

- "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." **Isaiah 8:14**
Isaiah 28:16 Romans 9:33
- The 8th and 28th chapters of Isaiah speak a lot about the “stumbling block”... their difficulty in accepting Jesus will result in only a remnant of Israel being saved... and the grafting in to the family of God of many, many Gentiles

Romans 10

- Paul speaks of his fervent desire that his Jewish brothers be saved
- Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. **2** For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but **their zeal is not based on knowledge.** **3** Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. **4 Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.** Romans 10:1-4
- The coming of Jesus made an end of salvation via the Law and the Old Covenant. From the days of Jesus onward, everyone is saved through faith in Jesus and His gospel message. Period.

Paul continues his speech on salvation

- One may attempt to be saved via the Law...
- It won't work --- Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." Romans 10:5
- We are saved by faith... How?
- if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Romans 10:9-10

The Jew and the Greek...

- For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile-- the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, **13** for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:12-13

Go and preach the gospel

- How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? **15** And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"
(Isaiah 52:7) Romans 10:14-15

Many Jews will reject Jesus

- But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?"
17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. 18 But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did:
Romans 10:16-18
- And Isaiah boldly says,
"I was found by those who did not seek me; I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me." **Isaiah 65:1**
Romans 10:20

God's word to Israel...

- But concerning Israel he says,
"All day long I have held out my hands to a
disobedient and obstinate people." **Isaiah 65:2**
Romans 10:21

Romans 11

- God's plan for Israel
- I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Romans 11:1-2
- Elijah pleaded with God... God's answer...
- "I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." Romans 11:4

God and the Jews

- God will always save a remnant of the Jews
- So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.
Romans 11:5-6
- What then? What Israel sought so earnestly it did not obtain, but the elect did. Romans 11:7
- God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes so that they could not see and ears so that they could not hear, to this very day." Romans 11:8

The Age of the Gentiles

- Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious.
Romans 11:11
- But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring! Romans 11:12

Gentiles grafted in to the Root

- Paul reminds the reader that he is the Apostle to the Gentiles
- If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches. Romans 11:16
- If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not boast over those branches. You do not support the root, but the root supports you. Romans 11:17-18

Paul's Warning to the Gentiles

- "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in." Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either." Romans 11:19-21
- Israel will one day be grafted in again
- if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in
Romans 11:23

All Israel will be saved

- Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: Romans 11:25-26
- The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.“

Romans 11:26-27

The Redeemer will come to Zion

- "The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the LORD. "As for me, this is my covenant with them," says the LORD. "My Spirit, who is on you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of your children, or from the mouths of their descendants from this time on and forever," says the LORD. Isaiah 59:20-21

God will have mercy on Israel

- As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable Romans 11:28-29
- Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you
Romans 11:30-31

Paul's Doxology

- Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. Romans 11:33-36

Romans 12 - Sanctification

- Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.

Romans 12:1-2

- Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

Using God's Gifts

- Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Romans 12:3
- Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. Romans 12:4-6

The Proper Christian Attitude

- Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Romans 12:9-10
- Live a victorious Christian life... not a defeated carnal life
- Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:12-13

More Excellent Advice

- Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Romans 12:14-16
- Do not repay anyone evil for evil. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:17-21

Romans 13

- Respect for the Government
- Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Romans 13:1
- This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Romans 13:6-7

A Christian's relationship to the world

- Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. Romans 13:8
- "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Romans 13:9-10

- 
- And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. Romans 13:11-12
 - Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature. Romans 13:14

Romans 14

- Paul tells how they should relate to other Christians – especially those of weaker faith
- Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters. One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. Romans 14:1-2
- Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand. Romans 14:4

Live for Christ

- Whatever you do, do it for Christ
- If no clear guidelines in the Bible, do what you believe the Bible leads you to do
- If the Bible is clear about an issue... there is no question
- we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: "As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.'" So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. Romans 14:10-12

One last point...

- Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.
Romans 14:13
- As one who is in the Lord Jesus, I am fully convinced that no food is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for him it is unclean.
Romans 14:14
- Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died. Romans 14:15

- For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men. Romans 14:17-18
- It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall. So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin. Romans 14:21-23

Romans 15

- Consideration of the weaker brother
- We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Romans 15:1
- Jew and Gentile need to work together for Christ
- Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:7

Jesus came for Jews and Gentiles

- Jesus underwent circumcision as a sign to the Jews
- Paul gives four Old Testament verses to show how Jesus also came for the Gentiles
- And again, Isaiah says,
"The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him."
Romans 15:12

Paul begins to close...

- May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13
- Paul begins his closing as he reminds them of his reasons for writing... including his work as missionary to the Gentiles

Paul's Summation Continues

- It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. Rather, as it is written:

"Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand." This is why I have often been hindered from coming to you.

Romans 15:20-22

Paul's Future Plans

- Now, however, **I am on my way to Jerusalem** in the service of the saints there. For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased **to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.** They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings. So after I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this fruit, **I will go to Spain and visit you on the way.** I know that when I come to you, I will come in the full measure of the blessing of Christ. Romans 15:25-29

Pray for Me

- I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed. Romans 15:30-33

Romans 16

- Paul bids his Roman friends so long
- Watch out for heretics
- I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people. Romans 16:17-18
- Timothy, my fellow worker, sends his greetings to you, as do Lucius, Jason and Sosipater, my relatives. I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord. Gaius, whose hospitality I and the whole church here enjoy, sends you his greetings. Romans 16:21-23

Conclusion

- So Paul ended his great epistle to the Roman Church. He had given them excellent guidelines on what it meant to be a follower of Christ. He wrote concerning those things that were required of those who wanted to be disciples... and those beliefs that needed to be rejected.
- Paul had carefully outlined what it meant to be a Christian – he had explained the gospel
- Are you a Christian?









Romans - background

- Many consider this to be the most important book in the Holy Bible
- Paul wrote this book to explain the gospel message to the early Roman Church... and to succeeding generations
- Paul's *Magnum Opus*

The Book of Romans

a summary

Topics discussed in Romans include...

- The gospel message
- The revelation of God to man
- The wrath of God
- The depravity of man
- Divine election
- Justification by faith
- Sanctification
- Eternal Security
- Perseverance of the saints
- The last judgment
- The final restoration of the Jews
- And more...

The power of this book

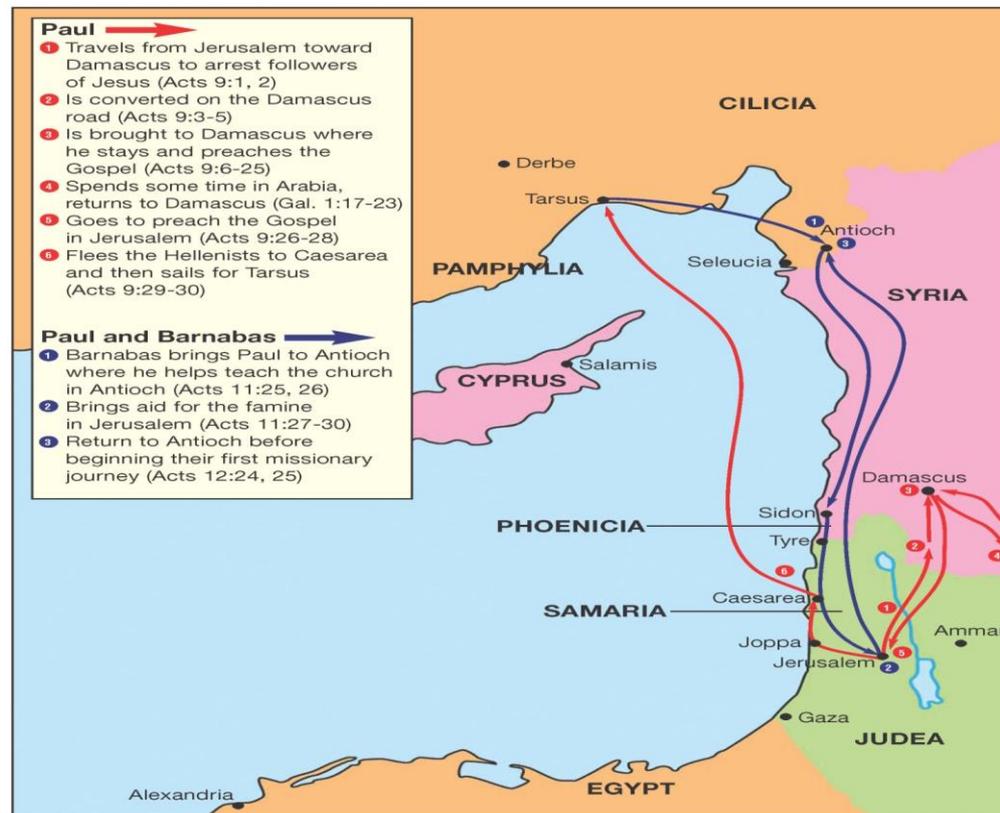
- Many great people have been totally changed through the reading and study of God's message in Romans... these people include:
- St. Augustine
- Martin Luther
- John Wesley
- John Calvin
- William Tyndale

St. Paul the Apostle

- Childhood in Tarsus – a Roman citizen
- Educated in Tarsus and Jerusalem – a Pharisee
- Totally dedicated man... first against Christ... then, for Christ
- The road to Damascus
- “Seminary school” in the desert with God
- The meeting in Jerusalem
- Back to Tarsus

Paul's Early Travels

34 • Paul's Early Travels



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- His call to Antioch
 - Those great mission trips...
 - While in Corinth, he writes to the Romans

Reasons why Paul wrote this epistle

- **To write a comprehensive treatise of Christian beliefs to this chief city of the day**
- To let his fellow saints know of his love for them and his plans to visit them soon
- Enlist help for his trip to the West (ex. Spain)
- Ask for prayer for his trip to Jerusalem

God's Plan of Salvation

- The work of the Triune God
- Creation of man
- Characteristics of “love” and “free will”
- The law is given
- Mankind's free will leads to sin
- The stain of sin is not allowed in God's Heaven
- How can man be re-united with God? His sin must be forgiven.
- God's plan for this results in the “good news” the “gospel”

God's Gift to Man

- Jesus Christ came to give Himself as a ransom for all those who will turn to Him
- He died on the cross and suffered the penalty for mankind's sins
- He rose on the third day as the "first fruit" of our salvation and sits at the right hand of God, the Father in Heaven...
- Jesus now is awaiting His disciples' arrival!

Romans 1

“Paul, a **bondservant** of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an **apostle, separated** to the gospel of God”... Romans 1:1

Paul introduces himself to his readers in Rome so that they will recognize that he speaks with authority as he brings them a word from God.

So, as much as is in me, *I am* ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also.

Romans 1:13-15

An Outline of the Gospel

- For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,
- for it is the **power** of God
- to **salvation**
- for everyone who **believes**, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
- For in it the **righteousness** of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written,
- *"The just shall live by faith."* Romans 1:16-17

- “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ”
- "We preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Gentiles foolishness. But unto them who are called, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God." (1 Cor 1:23)
- Paul certainly proved himself many times
- How about you???

Faith

- *This power of God to salvation is for everyone who believes, everyone who has faith*
- *In to what or whom must this faith be placed?*
- *Good Works?*
- *A church?*
- *A position?*
- *A benevolent God?*
- *What is the answer? How does one obtain salvation? Where should one's faith be placed?*

Faith leads to righteousness

- For in it the **righteousness** of [from] God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "*The just shall live by faith.*"
Romans 1:17
- ***Faith*** (in the gospel of Jesus) was how ***righteousness*** would be ***imputed*** to the sinful man. Mankind could not merit salvation; however, God would grant us grace (i.e. unmerited favor) through faith in His only begotten Son. Once we place our faith in Jesus and His completed work on the cross, God no longer views us as sinners. Instead, God sees us through the *prism* of a perfect Jesus. *Jesus stands between us and God as our righteousness.*

The Wrath of God

- “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.” Romans 1:18
- But is this fair for all mankind? Should man be held responsible for his actions?

The Evidence for God

- Because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

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- ²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man--and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Romans 1:19-23

God - A Proper and Fair Judge

- God judges people based on their knowledge of Him
- Old Testament times
- New Testament Times
- The “African Tribesman”
- A typical American

- “And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:”
Romans 1:28-31

Romans 2

- Judgment of sin
- You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Romans 2:1
- God is longsuffering... but He has His limits!

- God "will give to each person according to what he has done." 7 To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. 8 But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger. 9 There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile;

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- **10** but glory, honor and peace for everyone who does good: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. **11** For God does not show favoritism. **Romans 2:6-11**

- All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. **13** For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. **14** (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law,

- **15** since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) **16** This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares. Romans 2:12-16

- Paul warns the Jewish hypocrites
- Now you, **if you call yourself a Jew; if you rely on the law and brag about your relationship to God; You who say that people should not commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? You who brag about the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? 24** As it is written: "**God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.**" Ezek 36:22 Romans 2:17,23-24

Romans 3

- The advantage of being a Jew...First of all, they have been entrusted with the very words of God. Romans 3:2
- Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written: "**There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.**" Romans 3:9-12
- There is no fear of God before their eyes" Romans 3:18

- Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. **20** Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, **through the law we become conscious of sin.** Romans 3:19-20
- Simply put, everyone is a sinner and no one can save himself. This is a terrible predicament.

The Gospel

- **The righteousness of God...**
- But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. **22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. 25 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood**
Romans 3:21-25

- Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. Romans 3:27
- Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, 30 since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. 31 Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law. Romans 3:29-31

Romans 4

- Faith of the “Fathers”
- Abraham – several demonstrations of his faith
- Faith is what saved him before God ... not his works

- What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? 2 If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about--but not before God. 3 What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Romans 4:1-3
- No one is justified by works

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- Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. Romans 4:4-5
 - King David – also justified by faith

- Circumcision is no longer required
- Is this blessedness only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness. Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he was circumcised, or before? It was not after, but before! And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. Romans 4:9-

- A brief review of the faith of Abraham...
- "it was credited to him as righteousness." The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Romans 4:22-25

Romans 5

- Adam vs. Jesus
- Therefore, having been justified by faith, **we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ**, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in **hope** of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2
- And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.
Romans 5:3-4

Adam vs. Jesus

- just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-- Romans 5:12
- Adam – “who is a type of Him who was to come.”
Romans 5:14
- Paul next compares and contrasts Adam with Jesus

Jesus Christ – the second Adam

- For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. Romans 5:15
- The gift of Jesus is much different than the curse of Adam... it is much greater in power and scope

Romans 6

- The Sanctification of the believer
- Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?
2 **Certainly not!** We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 **We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.** Romans 6:1-4

- If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. **6** For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that **we should no longer be slaves to sin--** Romans 6:5-6

Let the Holy Spirit Reign

- Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. **13** Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. **14** For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. Romans 6:12-14

Paul's conclusion...

- You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. **19** I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Romans 6:18-19
- now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. Romans 6:22

The Gift of God

- **For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23**

Romans 7

- the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? 2 For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage
Romans 7:1-2
- This is analogous to the Jewish Christian's new legal standing in Christ

- 
- Faith in Christ – Christians die to sin and rise to a new life with our new *Bridegroom, Jesus*
 - The old body has died
 - Jesus also is now under a New Covenant
 - Yet, Jesus will always remember His *chosen people*

- 
- So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. Romans 7:4
 - we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. Romans 7:6

- 
- Our new Master is Jesus Christ – we no longer serve the Law
 - We must let the Holy Spirit control our lives

The Christian's Daily Battle

- We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. **15** I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. **16** And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. **17** As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. Romans 7:14-18
- Old Self = the 'Flesh' --- there is a constant battle between the 'Flesh' and the New Self

Romans 8 – Eternal Security

- This may be the most important chapter in the Bible
- Paul described many important doctrines in this chapter, including that of Eternal Security
- Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, **2** because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death Romans 8:1-2

- 
- For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, **4** in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:3-4

Jesus Saves!

- Christians can “put on” the righteousness of Jesus. God looks at a Christian and sees Jesus.
- God imputes the righteousness of Jesus to all who repent and trust in Jesus for their salvation.
- Christians then must learn to live by faith toward their sanctification

Sanctification

- Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. Romans 8:5
- The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; Romans 8:6-7

Who has the Holy Spirit?

- You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.
Romans 8:9a
- And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. **10** But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. Romans 8:9b-10

The Christian - Heirs of God

- For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the **Spirit of sonship**. And by him we cry, "*Abba, Father.*" **16** The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. **17** Now if we are children, then **we are heirs-heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. **Romans 8:15-17**

The Glorious Future

- I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. Romans 8:18-19
- the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Romans 8:21-22
- Christians await the redemption of the body

Romans 8:28-30

- **And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28**
- **For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. Romans 8:29**
- **And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. Romans 8:30**

Our Eternal Security

- Who can separate us from the love of God?
- No one and no thing!
- If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?
Romans 8:31-32

Who can separate us from Christ's Love?

- Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. **34** Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Romans 8:33-35

God will never let us go!

- Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? **36** As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."
37 No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** **38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, **nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Romans 8:35-39

Romans 9

- God's dealings with Israel
- I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.
3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, **4** the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. **5** Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised!
Romans 9:2-5
- Jesus was the prophesied Messiah

God's Sovereign Election

- Let us discuss this concept of God choosing one people over another or one person over another
- What does Paul tell us in the Bible...
- What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all!
15 For he says to Moses,
"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."
(Exodus 33:19) Romans 9:14-15

God and Pharaoh

- It does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy. **17** For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." **18** Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden. Romans 9:16-18
- One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who resists his will?" Romans 9:19

The concept of “Divine Election”

- But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" **21** Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?
Romans 9:20-21

Divine Election

- **God is omniscient and omnipotent**
- God will save anyone who comes to Him and accepts the Gospel message – **we have *free will***
- **God elects those He wants to save from eternity past – the truth of *election***
- **Everyone, other than Adam and Eve, was born with a sin nature** that did not allow any possibility to live a life free of sin
- **God gives people the faith they need to be saved**
- **“God is Love”** (1 John 4:8b)

Two ways to view “Election”

- Using human logic – Since God knows all, He “elects” those that will eventually choose Him
- God’s own “potter and clay” explanation
- "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. ³ You asked, 'Who is this that obscures my counsel without knowledge?' Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. ⁴ "You said, 'Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.' ⁵ My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. ⁶ Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes."

Job 42:2-6

God builds our faith

- Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Heb 11:6

- It is very valuable for a person to accept, by faith, certain events and biblical truths that otherwise may be difficult to understand. This shows our trust and faith in God

Paul references Hosea...

- As he says in Hosea:
"I will call them 'my people' who are not my people;
and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved
one," **Hosea 2:23** Romans 9:25
- "It will happen that in the very place where it was said
to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called
'sons of the living God.'" **Hosea 1:10** Romans 9:26

A Remnant Will Be Saved

- Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:
"Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, **only the remnant will be saved. 28** For the Lord will carry out his sentence on earth with speed and finality." (Isaiah 10:22,23)
29 It is just as Isaiah said previously:
"Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah." (Isaiah 1:9) Romans 9:27-29

Faith is the Key

- What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a **righteousness that is by faith**; **31** but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it. **32** Why not? Because **they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works**. They stumbled over the "stumbling stone." Romans
9:30-32
- And just who is that “stumbling stone”?

The Stumbling Stone/Rock

- "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." **Isaiah 8:14**
Isaiah 28:16 Romans 9:33
- The 8th and 28th chapters of Isaiah speak a lot about the "stumbling block"... their difficulty in accepting Jesus will result in only a remnant of Israel being saved... and the grafting in to the family of God of many, many Gentiles

Romans 10

- Paul speaks of his fervent desire that his Jewish brothers be saved
- Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. **2** For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but **their zeal is not based on knowledge.** **3** Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. **4 Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.** Romans 10:1-4
- The coming of Jesus made an end of salvation via the Law and the Old Covenant. From the days of Jesus onward, everyone is saved through faith in Jesus and His gospel message. Period.

Paul continues his speech on salvation

- One may attempt to be saved via the Law...
- It won't work --- Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." Romans 10:5
- We are saved by faith... How?
- if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Romans 10:9-10

The Jew and the Greek...

- For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile-- the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, **13** for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:12-13

Many Jews will reject Jesus

- But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?"
17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. 18 But I ask: Did they not hear? Of course they did:
Romans 10:16-18
- And Isaiah boldly says,
"I was found by those who did not seek me; I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me." **Isaiah 65:1**
Romans 10:20

Romans 11

- God's plan for Israel
- I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Romans 11:1-2
- Elijah pleaded with God... God's answer...
- "I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." Romans 11:4

God and the Jews

- God will always save a remnant of the Jews
- So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.
Romans 11:5-6
- What then? What Israel sought so earnestly it did not obtain, but the elect did. Romans 11:7

The Age of the Gentiles

- Did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious.
Romans 11:11
- But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring! Romans 11:12

Gentiles grafted in to the Root

- Paul reminds the reader that he is the Apostle to the Gentiles
- If the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches. Romans 11:16
- If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not boast over those branches. You do not support the root, but the root supports you. Romans 11:17-18

Paul's Warning to the Gentiles

- "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in." Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either." Romans 11:19-21
- Israel will one day be grafted in again
- if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in
Romans 11:23

All Israel will be saved

- Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: Romans 11:25-26
- The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.“ Romans 11:26-

Romans 12

- Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.
Romans 12:1-2
- Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2

Using God's Gifts

- Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. Romans 12:3
- Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. Romans 12:4-6

The Proper Christian Attitude

- Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Romans 12:9-10
- Live a victorious Christian life... not a defeated carnal life
- Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:12-13

More Excellent Advice

- Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Romans 12:14-16
- Do not repay anyone evil for evil. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans 12:17

Romans 13

- Respect for the Government
- Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Romans 13:1

A Christian's relationship to the world

- Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. Romans 13:8
- "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Romans 13:9-10

- And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. Romans 13:11-12
- Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature. Romans 13:14

Romans 14

- Paul tells how they should relate to other Christians – especially those of weaker faith
- Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters. One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. Romans 14:1-2
- Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand. Romans 14:4

Live for Christ

- Whatever you do, do it for Christ
- If no clear guidelines in the Bible, do what you believe the Bible leads you to do
- If the Bible is clear about an issue... there is no question
- we will all stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: "As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.'" So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. Romans 14:10-12

Romans 15

- Consideration of the weaker brother
- We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Romans 15:1
- Jew and Gentile need to work together for Christ
- Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:7

Romans 16

- Paul bids his Roman friends so long
- Watch out for heretics
- I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people. Romans 16:17-18
- Timothy, my fellow worker, sends his greetings to you, as do Lucius, Jason and Sosipater, my relatives. I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord. Gaius, whose hospitality I and the whole church here enjoy, sends you his greetings. Romans 16:21-23

Conclusion

- So Paul ended his great epistle to the Roman Church. He had given them excellent guidelines on what it meant to be a follower of Christ. He wrote concerning those things that were required of those who wanted to be disciples... and those beliefs that needed to be rejected.
- Paul had carefully outlined what it meant to be a Christian – he had explained the gospel
- Are you a Christian?





















































