



N.T. Survey

Romans

Theme: Righteousness of God

Outline:

- I. God's Righteousness Revealed
- II. God's Righteousness Vindicated
- III. God's Righteousness Applied

Romans 1-8

Romans 9-11

Romans 12-16

Content Summary: Writing to a church that didn't likely know Paul personally, Paul introduces himself and Christianity in a personal letter that is a masterpiece of God's grace. Following a logical flow of thought, Paul clarifies that justification is a gift of God's righteousness received by faith by condemned sinners otherwise unable to be declared righteous by God. The centrality of the person and work of Christ is paramount in that only through Christ can anyone be saved, but in Him anyone can be saved. While justifying faith alone leads to salvation, that faith is never alone as it always results in a changed life and never in licentious living. The attempts of Judaizers to maintain the requirements of the law as a requirement of Christianity is preventatively refuted and Paul seeks to diffuse tension between Jewish and Gentile believers. Paul's concern over Israel underlies all that he writes.

Key Chapters:

- 1 Need for the Gospel, Gentiles condemned
- 2 Jews condemned
- 3 Whole world condemned because of sin
- 4 Justified by faith: Abraham and David
- 5 Christ's substitution for sinners
- 6 Sanctification and sin
- 7 Sanctification and the law
- 8 Sanctification and the Spirit
- 9 Elected: Israel's past
- 10 Rejected: Israel at present
- 11 Restored: Israel's future
- 12 Responsibilities toward God and men
- 13 Responsibilities toward government and neighbors
- 14 Principles of Christian liberty
- 15 Practices of Christian liberty

Key Passages:

- 1:16-17 Gospel is the power to save Jews and Greeks
- 1:18-32 God's wrath against man's sin
- 2:4-10 God's impartiality
- 3:21-28 God's pardon
- 5:1-10 God's justification; God's gift of righteousness
- 7:15-25 Legalism is false sanctification
- 8:1-4 The new law—no condemnation for those in Christ
- 8:28 All things work together for good for the elect
- 8:38-39 Nothing can separate us from the love of God
- 9:6 They are not all Israel who are from Israel
- 9:19-24 God's wrath and mercy
- 10:9-13 The Gospel
- 11:13-32 Israel's rejection is temporary
- 12:1-3 Present your bodies as a living sacrifice
- 13:1 Be subject to ruling authorities
- 13:13-14 Behave properly, put on Christ, make no provision for the flesh

Structure of Romans

*I prefer John MacArthur's outline of Romans as follows:

- I. Greeting and Introduction (1:1-15)
- II. Theme (1:16-17)
- III. Condemnation: The Need of God's Righteousness (1:18-3:20)
- IV. Justification: The Provision of God's Righteousness (3:21-5:21)
 - A. The Source of Righteousness (3:21-31)
 - B. The Example of Righteousness (4:1-25)
 - C. The Blessings of Righteousness (5:1-11)
 - D. The Imputation of Righteousness (5:12-21)
- V. Sanctification: The Demonstration of God's Righteousness (6:1-8:39)
- VI. Restoration: Israel's Reception of God's Righteousness (9:1-11:36)
- VII. Application: The Behavior of God's Righteousness (12:1-15:13)
- VIII. Conclusion, Greetings and Benediction (15:14-16:27)

Purpose of Romans

Paul articulates and lets truth define the unity of Jewish and Gentile Christians—that all are acceptable to God based on the common righteousness received by faith in Christ that leads to justification.

Introduction to Romans:

Title: Romans

Author: Paul

Recipients: Christians in Rome—mostly Gentiles, Jewish Christians as well

Date: approximately 54-57 AD

Major Themes in Romans

1. Jews/Gentiles in Christ (22x; "Jew" – 1:16; 2:9, 10, 17, 23, 29; 3:1, 9, 29; 9:24; 10:2; "Israel" – 9:6, 27, 31; 10:19, 21; 11:2, 7, 25, 26) and Gentile/Greek (35x; "Gentile" – 1:5, 13; 2:14, 24; 3:29; 4:17, 18; 9:24, 30; 10:19; 11:11, 12, 13, 25; 15:9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 27; 16:4, 26; "Greek" – 1:14, 16; 2:9, 10; 3:9; 10:12)

2. Righteousness/Justification [69x] — primarily in chapters 1-10, 14

3. Wrath [12x] (1:18; 2:5, 8; 3:5; 4:15; 5:9; 9:22; 12:19; 13:4, 5)

4. Salvation [13x] (1:16; 5:9, 10; 8:24; 9:27; 10:1, 9, 10, 13; 11:11, 14, 26; 13:11)

5. Law [73x] - (primarily chapters 2-10, 13)

What Romans says about the Old Testament Code:

- Reveals sin (3:20)
- Incites Sin (5:20; 7:8)
- Brings Wrath (4:15; 5:13)
- Is Provisional (7:1-3) – the Law had jurisdiction over man
- Is of Divine Origin (7:14)
- Is Fulfilled by the Indwelling of the Spirit in Believers (8:4)

But, Romans 8, in the New Covenant we are under the Law of Christ!

6. Flesh [26x] (primarily in chapters 1-4, 6-9, 11, 13)

7. Sin [54x] (primarily in chapters 2-8, 11,14)

8. Spirit [33x] (primarily in chapters 1-2, 5, 7-9, 11-12, 14-15)

Notes on the Roman Context & Paul's Intention for the Letter: