

# Romans – The gospel according to Paul

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*“Romans – The world’s most influential letter.” – Bible Study Fellowship*

*Romans is "the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest gospel." – Martin Luther*

*Romans is "The principal and most excellent part of the New Testament" and "an introduction unto all the Old Testament." -- William Tyndale, 1534*

*"No man verily can read it too oft or study it too well: for the more it is studied the easier it is, the more it is chewed the pleasanter it is, and the more groundly it is searched the preciouser things are found in it, so great treasure of spiritual things lieth hid therein."  
-- William Tyndale, 1534*

## O. Key verse(s)

**Romans 1:16-17** (BSB) -- I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, then to the Greek. For the gospel reveals the righteousness of God that comes by faith from start to finish, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”

**Romans 12:1-2** (BSB) -- Therefore I urge you, brothers, on account of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

## I. Content - What is the passage about?

o) From Corinth on his 3rd journey, Paul writes to the church in Rome, sight unseen

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| <p>★ 1) Intro - Humanity’s unrighteousness &amp; need for gospel (Rom 1.1-17)</p> <p>2) Unrighteousness of all (Rom 1.18-3.20)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Gentiles? - God’s wrath against sin (Rom 1.18-32)</li> <li>o Jews - No excuses for anyone (Rom 2)</li> <li>o Everyone - No one righteous (Rom 3.1-20)</li> </ul>  | <b>Unrighteousness</b>           |
| <p>3) Justification and salvation (Rom 3.21-5.21)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o How God saves sinners (Rom 3.21-26)</li> <li>o Justification by grace through faith alone (Rom 3.27-31)</li> <li>o The gospel proved from Scripture (Rom 4)</li> <li>o Standing in grace (Rom 5.1-11)</li> <li>o Union with Christ (Rom 5.12-21)</li> </ul>  | <b>Justific.</b>                 |
| <p>★ 4) Sanctification and living the Christian life (Rom 6-8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Death to sin (Rom 6.1-11)</li> <li>o No way to go but forward (Rom 6.12-23)</li> <li>o Law and gospel (Rom 7)</li> <li>o Life through the Spirit (Rom 8.1-17)</li> <li>o Our future glory (Rom 8.18-27)</li> <li>o Secure in God’s love (Rom 8.28-39)</li> </ul> <p>5) True Israel (Rom 9-11)</p> | <b>Living the Christian Life</b> |

- God's glory in salvation (Rom 9.1-29)
  - Our responsibility in salvation (Rom 9.30-10.13)
  - Missions, Our privilege in salvation (Rom 10.14-21)
  - The gentiles and salvation for Israel (Rom 11.1-32)
  - Glory to God alone (Rom 11.33-36)
- ☆ 6) Practical Christianity in action – serving God (Rom 12.1-15.13)
- The church (Rom 12)
    - The Christian mind (Rom 12.1-2)
    - The Christian and others - The Body of Christ and 'Motivational' gifts of the Spirit (Rom 12.3-8)
    - The law of love (Rom 12.9-21)
  - The world (Rom 13)
    - Christians and the government (Rom 13.1-7)
    - Understanding the times (Rom 13.8-14)
  - Christian liberty and conscience (Rom 14)
  - Christian unity (Rom 15.1-13)
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- 7) Paul's ministry and plans (Rom 15.14-33)
- 8) Conclusion - The church in Rome and in Corinth (Rom 16)

Paul

## II. Divisions - What are the major sections of the passage?

- Unrighteousness – the need (Rom 1.1-3.20)
- Justification and sanctification – the answer (Rom 3.21-5.21)
- Living the Christian life (Rom 6.1-15.13)
- The example of Paul's ministry (Rom 15.14-16.23)

## III. Summarize - Subject sentence - Summary of the entire passage in 1 sentence

**All are sinners but Christ saved us and showed how to live.**

## IV. Aim - Spiritual truth - Meaning - Purpose - So what? Why does it matter?

**All are sinners, but Christ our Righteousness<sup>1</sup> paid our sin debt, saving us; so live for Him.**

## V. Application Questions - Now what? How will you apply it in your life?

- In your heart, are you basically good or basically flawed, fleshly, a sinner? How so?
- In what (or Whom) do you hope and rely to solve that problem? Explain.
- Given all that, how will you then live as a consequence? Explain.
- How do you compare to Paul? What is the Lord asking or calling *you* to do? Explain

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<sup>1</sup> Jehovah-tsidkenu – The LORD our Righteousness

## VI. Notes and things to consider as you read

### *Questions to consider as you read*

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### *Observations and notes*

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