

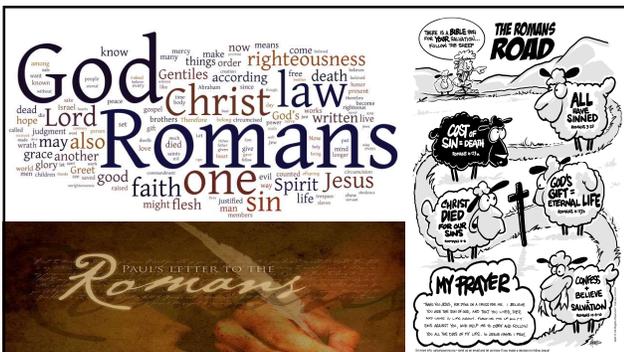
INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

Week 6: Romans

Application Project Discussion and Questions



The slide features the 'Life Application' logo in a green box on the left. To its right is a graphic of four lightbulbs in a row, with the rightmost one glowing yellow, symbolizing an idea or application.



The slide contains two main visual elements. On the left is a word cloud with 'Romans' as the largest word, surrounded by other terms like 'God', 'Christ', 'Law', 'Faith', 'One', 'Spirit', 'Jesus', 'Life', 'Sin', 'Flesh', 'Man', 'Justified', 'Might', 'Good', 'Grace', 'Another', 'Wish', 'May', 'Also', 'Lord', 'Hope', 'Dead', 'Gentiles', 'According', 'Righteousness', 'Free', 'Death', 'Written', 'Live', 'Comp', 'Means', 'Flow', 'Many', 'Make', 'Things', 'Order', 'Know', 'Gentiles', 'According', 'Righteousness', 'Free', 'Death', 'Written', 'Live', 'Comp', 'Means', 'Flow', 'Many', 'Make', 'Things', 'Order', 'Know'. Below the word cloud is a small image of a hand holding a quill pen over an open book titled 'PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS'. On the right is a cartoon titled 'THE ROMANS ROAD' featuring sheep and a signpost. The signpost has four directions: 'UP' to 'GOD'S SIN-FLESH', 'DOWN' to 'CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS', 'LEFT' to 'MY PRAYER', and 'RIGHT' to 'GOD'S GIFT OF LIFE'. A speech bubble from the sheep says 'ALL ARE SINNED'. Another speech bubble says 'CONFESS BELIEVE SALVATION'. A final speech bubble says 'MY PRAYER: "GOD, BE TRUE TO THOU THYSELF... I WILL NOT BE SHAMEFACED AND NOT BE ASHAMED, BUT ASKED BY, AND HELP BY A GIFT AND CALLED TO BE THE KING OF MY LIFE... I AM NOT ASHAMED."

Romans: Major Ideas

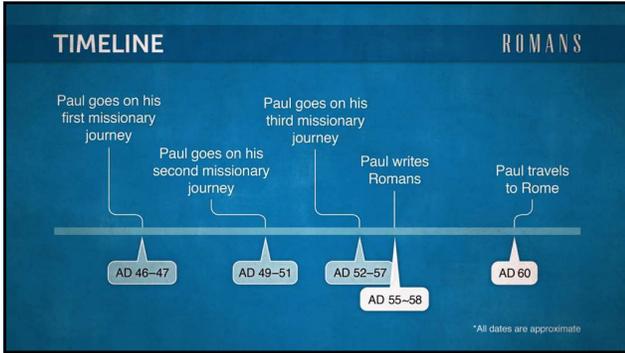
- The most theologically significant letter of Paul.
- A treatise on: “the righteous revelation of God in the Gospel.”
- Called “The Very Purest Gospel” by Luther
- Sin and Salvation/Law and Gospel
- Unity between Jew/Gentile
- Practical application of what we know to be true (Chapters 12-16)

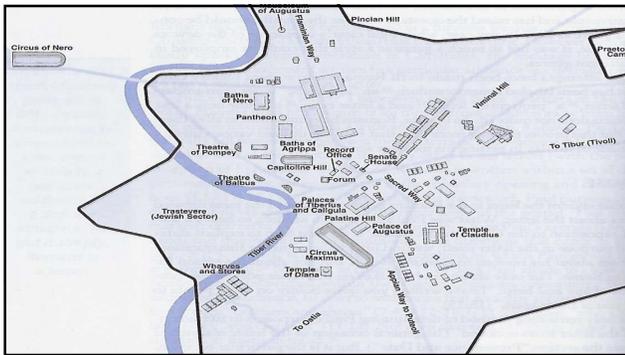
Romans: Authorship and Acceptance

- Written by Paul (1:1), with the aid of a scribe Tertius (16:22)
- Adopted/accepted into the Canon from very early days









To the saints in Rome...

- The church in Rome was a group of house churches
- There are different traditions about who founded the churches in Rome, but it is likely that believers brought the message back after Pentecost (Acts 2:10)
- There were tensions in the church between Jewish and Gentile believers
 - Jews were exiled from Rome by Claudius in AD 49
 - They eventually returned to find Gentile Christians leading the church
 - Paul addresses these tensions and seeks to bring unity in His letter

To Jewish Christians? Or Gentiles?

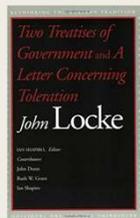
- "To all in Rome who are loved by God and called saints"
- Christianity began among the Jews, Romans was written to Jewish Christians
 - Paul greets Jewish Christians and his fellow Jews (16:3, 7, 11)
 - Paul addresses himself as a Jew (2:17)
 - Paul associates his readers as knowledgeable of Mosaic Law
 - Paul calls Abraham "our forefather" (4:1)
 - Much of the letter has a Jewish bent/theme
 - Mosaic Law, Abraham, the place of Israel

To Jewish Christians? Or Gentiles?

- Gentile Christians became prominent. Romans is written to them.
 - Paul includes his readers among the Gentiles who he has been called to (1:5-6)
 - He addresses readers as "You Gentiles" in 11:13
 - Paul's plea to accept one another appears to be directed to Gentiles (15:7)
 - It was Gentiles who needed to understand the plan of God for the nation of Israel, and how Christ related to the OT
- **"To all in Rome who are loved by God and called saints"**
 - Paul addresses a mixed community, but the Gentiles played a large part

What Kind of Letter is Romans?

- Though Romans is a timeless treatise, and a great document on doctrine, it is a letter
- This letter fits best with the form of a long essay to reach a wide audience
- Tractate-Treatise or Essay: A written work dealing formally and systematically with a subject.
 - Paul's subject is theology. It is bold defense to remind Christians of what they believe: the Gospel (Romans 1:16-17, 15:15)



Purpose of Romans?

- For Paul to introduce himself to the Roman Christians
- To impart spiritual strength to believers (1:11-12, 16:25-26)
- To request prayer and express his desire to come to Rome (15:30-32)
- To enlist support on his planned mission to Spain (15:23-29)
- To unite the church, heal divisions, and warn about false teachers (16:17-18)
- **To proclaim the glory of Jesus Christ, and the hope of the Gospel to encourage and strengthen believers!**

Romans: Basic Outline

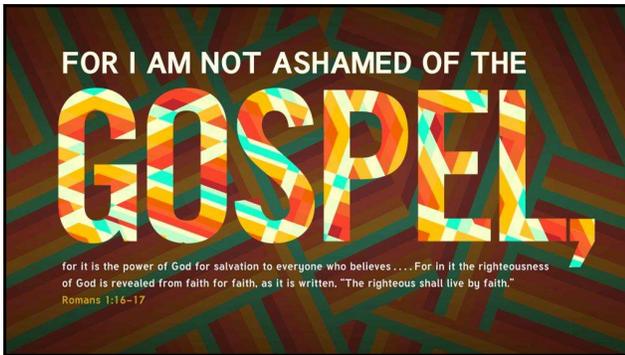
- I. Introduction (1:1-15)
- II. The Universal Need of Righteousness (1:16-3:20)
- III. Justification: The Imputation of Righteousness (3:21-5:21)
- IV. New Life in Christ (6:1-8:39)
- V. The Mystery of Israel (9:1-11:36)
- VI. Exhortations about Christian Life (12:1-15:13)
- VII. Epilogue: Greetings and Travel Plans (15:14-16:27)

Romans: Basic Outline

- I. Introduction (1:1-17)
- II. Justification: The Imputation of Righteousness (1:18-5:11)
- III. Sanctification: The Impartation of Righteousness (5:12-8:39)
- IV. Vindication: God's Righteousness in Israel(9:1-11:36)
- V. Application: God's Righteousness at work(12:1-15:13)
- VI. Conclusion: Paul's Purpose, Plans and Praise (15:14-16:27)

ROMANS				
THE GOSPEL				
Saving the Sinner		Concerning Israel	Concerning Christian Conduct	
Depavity of humanity		Divine sovereignty and human will	Social	
Grace of God		Past, present, and future of the nation	Civil	
Justification by faith			Personal	
Sanctification through the Spirit				
Security of the saint				
CHAPTERS 1:18-8:39		CHAPTERS 9-11	CHAPTERS 12:1-16:27	
Introduction—Personal (1:1-17)				Conclusion—Relational (15:14-16:27)
Emphasis	Doctrinal	National	Practical	
Response	Faith	Hope	Love	
Doctrine of God	Wrath	Righteousness	Glory	Grace
Doctrine of Humanity	Fallen	Dead	Saved	Freed
Doctrine of Sin	Exposed	Conquered	Explained	Forgiven
Scope	Dead in sin	Dead to sin	Peace with God	Love for others
Theme	God's righteousness is given to those who put their faith in Jesus Christ.			
Key Verses	1:16-17			
Christ in Romans	Jesus is the focus of the gospel and the means of salvation by God's grace apart from works (1:1-4, 16-17).			

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“The Gospel as Righteousness of God By Faith” (1:18-4:25)

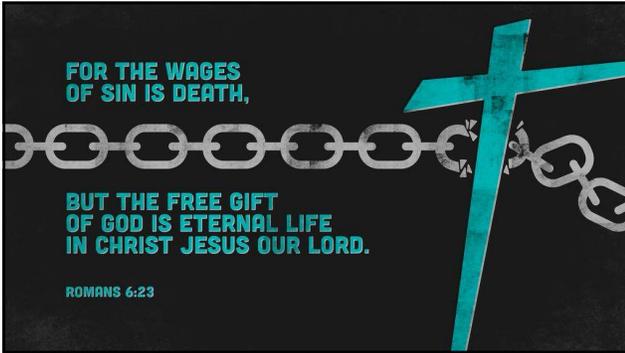
- Sin has formed a stranglehold on all people, which only the free gift of faith can break (1:18-3:20)
- Only God can rescue us, through the sacrifice of His son, which justifies us before God (3:21-31)
 - *Justification: declared righteous, receive the righteousness of Jesus Christ*
- Abraham becomes a model of faith (4:1-25)

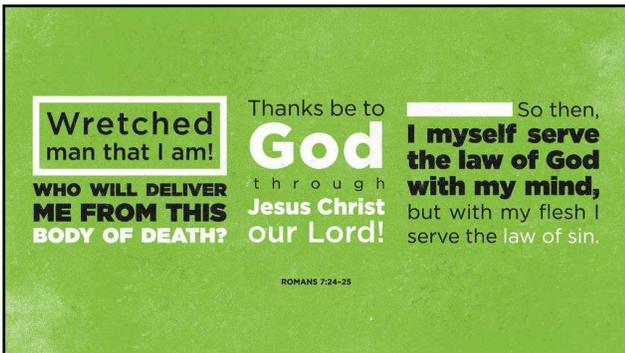


“The Gospel as the Power of God for Salvation” (5:1-8:39)

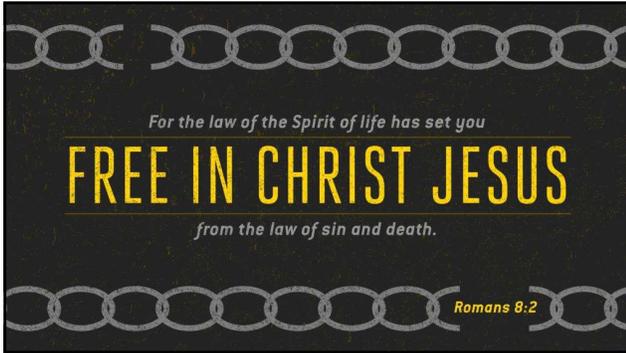
- Being justified gives us peace with God, and hope for vindication (5:1-11)
- Sin can no longer dictate to us, and is not our master, but God should rule in our hearts (6:1-23)
- There is still war between the flesh and the Spirit, but we are saved by trust in Christ (7)
- The Spirit assures us of our victory and leads us to Christlikeness (8)













Make No Mistakes!

- Romans must be interpreted in context, because Paul is using logical arguments.
- Case study: Romans 8:28
 - How do we understand the goodness and working together of all things described in these verses?
 - Take into context what Paul has been discussing (Suffering in this present age 8:18)
 - Take into context the explanation that Paul gives in vs. 29
 - Goodness here describes our transformation into the glory of Christlikeness, not material or other blessings

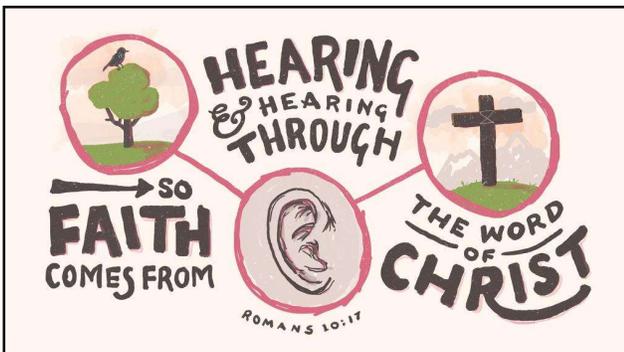
AND WE KNOW THAT IN
All Things
 GOD WORKS FOR THE GOOD
 OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM

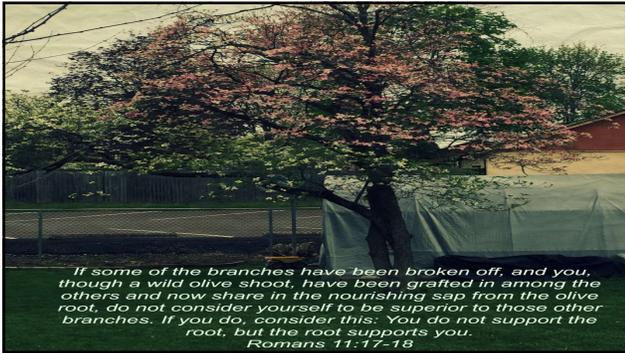
For I am sure that neither **death** nor **life**, nor **angels** nor **rulers**, nor things **present** nor **things-to-come**, nor **powers**, nor **height** nor **depth**, nor anything else in all **creation**, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-9

“The Gospel and Israel” (9:1-11:36)

- Does the fact that Gentiles have received the promise replace Israel? No.
- The people rejected God, despite God’s clear word
- Nevertheless, some are being saved through faith.





**“The Gospel transformation of Life”
(12:1-15:13)**

- Practical outworkings of God’s grace
- What does service to God look like?
 - Many gifts, but love permeates all of them
 - Service does not mean ignoring the government or other responsibilities

I APPEAL TO YOU THEREFORE, BROTHERS,
BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, TO **PRESENT**
YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE,
HOLY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, WHICH IS
YOUR SPIRITUAL WORSHIP.

ROMANS 12:1

DO NOT BE CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD, BUT

BE TRANSFORMED

BY THE RENEWAL OF YOUR MIND, THAT BY TESTING YOU MAY DISCERN WHAT IS THE WILL OF GOD, WHAT IS GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE AND PERFECT.

< ROMANS 12:2 >

DO ALL THAT YOU CAN TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH EVERYONE.
ROMANS 12:18 NLT

LET EVERY SOUL BE SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES. FOR THERE IS NO AUTHORITY EXCEPT FROM GOD, AND THE AUTHORITIES THAT EXIST ARE APPOINTED BY GOD.

- ROMANS 13:1

K-LOVE

Romans: Unique Contributions

- Justification by faith as a theme
- Union with Christ and the work of God's Spirit
- A history within a history (Jews and Gentiles)
- Paul's clearest statement of the Gospel and His call to it (1:16-17)
- Shows us how the life transforming message of the Gospel can be applied to the way we think and live!

Assignments, Wrap Up

- 2 Week Discussion Board: Throughout the letters of Paul, He is forced to confront issues that have arisen in different churches, and speak to major issues in regards to our faith. In the first week of this assignment: Pick one of the major issues Paul addresses (i.e. false teaching, the Second Coming, etc) at length in one or more of his letters (it must be addressed over at least 6 verses) and discuss what the problem or issue is, how Paul addresses it, how the person and work of Jesus relates to it, and how his teaching helps us as we face similar issues in the church today.

Assignments, Wrap Up

- Read: Carson/Moo: Chapters 13-15, 18
- Read: Witherington: Chapters 11-12
- Read: Scripture: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon
