



ROMANS

LESSON ONE

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE CHAPTER ONE

The purpose of this course is to teach the basic doctrines of the Book of Romans. This book is an important foundation for the message of grace that was revealed through the Apostle Paul. Some of the basic doctrines are: the righteous judgment of God, redemption through the death of Christ, justification by faith without works, and deliverance from the bondage of sin. You will also find helpful instructions on how to live the Christian life.

Before beginning each lesson, pray that the Holy Spirit will help you understand each portion of Scripture you are studying, and how it may be applied to your daily life. Read the Book of Romans straight through as often as possible while doing this course to become better acquainted with the scope of the book. Pay special attention to the chapter on which you are currently working. Read each question carefully using the given Scripture reference to find your answer. When answering a question, use your own words as much as possible. If you have any questions or comments related to Romans or one of the lessons, please feel free to write them down.

May your study of the Book of Romans lead you to a greater understanding of the Bible and into a closer relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

INTRODUCTION

AUTHOR: The Apostle Paul

PLACE OF WRITING: Probably from the Greek city of Corinth on Paul's third missionary journey.

DATE OF WRITING: About 57-58 AD, some 20 years after Paul had become a Christian.

THEME OF ROMANS: The theme of Romans is the *gospel of grace*. The word *gospel* means *good news*. What better news could there be than that God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to save mankind from the penalty of sin? Though Christ came to fulfill the promises God made to Israel throughout Old Testament history, the Jews rejected their Messiah. Their denial opened the door for the gospel of grace to be proclaimed among the Gentiles. The gospel which Paul preached is the good news that we are made just and accounted righteous before God by faith in Jesus Christ, his death on the cross for our sins, and his resurrection from the dead. Please read Romans 1:16-17 and 1 Corinthians 15:1-4. _____ Check.

PURPOSE OF LETTER: Romans was written to establish believers in the faith. It more fully explains the gospel of grace to those who have already accepted Christ. It shows how they were saved and how they should live the Christian life. Please read the entire book of Romans. _____ Check.

Please memorize the following verse and be prepared to write it out at the end of this lesson.

“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes, first for the Jew, then for the Gentile (Rom. 1:16 - NIV).”

GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS NEEDED (Chapters 1-3)

Read Romans 1:1-32 and answer the following questions.

1. In the first verse Paul is identified as the author of Romans. For what purpose does he say he was called?
_____ For what was he set apart? _____

2. (v. 3) The gospel is about whom? _____
3. (v. 4) What demonstration of power proved Jesus is the Son of God? _____
4. (v. 7) To whom is Paul writing? _____
5. (v. 8) For what was Paul very thankful? _____

6. (vv. 9-13) What was Paul hoping to do? _____
Why? _____

7. (v. 15) What was Paul ready to do? _____
8. (v. 16) Why was Paul not ashamed to preach the gospel? _____

9. What two things are revealed in the gospel?
(v. 17) the _____ of God (v. 18) the _____ of God
10. (v. 17) How are we saved? by _____ How are we to live? by _____
11. (v. 18) What is God angry about? _____

Note: Two conclusions can be made by observing creation: first, that God exists and second, that He is powerful. While this knowledge is insufficient to save a person, it should be enough to cause him to seek God. However, instead of seeking God, man suppresses the truth and denies God the Creator.

12. (vv. 19-20) Will God excuse people who do not know the scriptures? _____
Give a reason for answering as you did. _____

13. (v. 21) List four problems with the character of unsaved people.
1. _____ 2. _____
 3. _____ 4. _____
14. (v. 22) What does God call people who take pride in their own wisdom? _____
15. (v. 25) What two things did sinful men do? _____
 and _____
16. Because men chose to live without God, God gave them up to do as they please. Note carefully though the result of lives lived apart from God.
- (v. 24) God gave them over to _____

- (v. 26) God gave them over to _____
- (v. 28) God gave them over to a _____

Note: The Bible makes it clear that God did not create men and women as homosexuals. Homosexuality is the result of man's fallen sinful nature. Verses 26-27 show the sinfulness of homosexuality and God's judgment for it. (See also Leviticus 18:22-24.)

13. 17. (vv. 29-31) List at least ten sins of mankind.
1. _____ 2. _____
 3. _____ 4. _____
 5. _____ 6. _____
 7. _____ 8. _____
 9. _____ 10. _____
14. 18. (v. 32) What do people who practice such things deserve?

19. Do men deserve God's wrath (punishment) for their evil deeds? _____

Though we have sinned against God, we will discover in Romans 5 that Christ died for our sins so that we may be forgiven and saved from God's wrath and judgment. Romans 1:16 speaks of this salvation through Christ. Please write out verse 16 from memory.

CHAPTER TWO

Chapter one exposed the sin of mankind and their rejection of the God of creation. In this chapter you will look at those who are self-righteous. These are people who try to justify themselves while judging the sins of others, yet are themselves guilty and in need of salvation.

1. (v. 1) Hypocrites who condemn others for their sins face what problem? _____

2. (v. 2) God's judgment is based on _____ and is against _____

Note: God alone knows a man's heart and will judge honestly.

3. (v. 4) The patience and goodness of God should lead men to what? _____

4. (v. 5) What awaits people who have hardness of heart and despise God's goodness? _____

5. (v. 6) One day God will repay each person according to what? _____

6. (v. 7) What is given to those who persist in doing good, seek for glory, honor, and immortality? _____

7. (vv. 8-9) What comes upon those who do not obey the truth, but follow evil? _____

Note: Paul is not teaching here that a man is saved by his good works. If he were, he would be contradicting his teaching of "justification by faith" in Chapters 3 and 4. All Paul is showing at this point is a general principle that God rewards good and punishes evil. God will reward good people with eternal life if there are any who are truly good. Romans 3:10-12 makes it clear that there is no one who qualifies. In laying this foundation, Paul establishes the utter hopelessness of man and his absolute need for God's mercy and grace.

8. (v. 11) Though a person might think of himself as superior to others, what does scripture say about this? _____

9. In verses 12-15 the Law is mentioned. This refers to the commandments given to Moses in the Old Testament, as in Exodus 20.

a. Will those without the Law (the Gentiles) be judged by the Law? Yes _____ No _____

b. Will those who had the Law (the Jews) be judged by it? Yes _____ No _____

10. (v. 15) Why are the Gentiles, who did not have the Law, not excused from knowing right and wrong? _____

11. (v. 16) God will judge the secrets of men through _____ according to _____.

Note: The gospel Paul preached tells of salvation through Christ. It also warns those who disobey the truth and love unrighteousness. Men are judged not only for their immoral deeds, but for the greater sin of rejecting Christ.

12. In verses 17-29, Paul addresses the religious Jew who trusts in law-keeping. What four things did the religious Jew claim about himself?

- (v. 17-18) 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

13. (vv. 19-20) List four things in which the religious Jew was confident.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

14. (Matt. 23:28-29) What did Jesus call this type of person? _____

15. (v. 23) How do those who boast in the Law dishonor God? _____

16. (v. 24) What effect did this have on God's name? _____

STOP! In the following verse, the Jewish ceremony of circumcision is mentioned. Circumcision was an outward sign of God's covenant with Abraham and Israel. Read about this in Genesis 17:5-14. _____ Check.

17. (v. 25) Did circumcision, or any other ritual, profit the Jew if he broke the Law? _____

18. (v. 28) What does Paul say about a Jew who is only outwardly a Jew? _____

19. What does Paul say about a Jew's circumcision? _____

20. (v. 29) What does this verse tell us of spiritual circumcision? _____

In summing up this portion of scripture, we can say that the Jew under the Law will perish the same as the Gentiles without the Law because all have sinned (Romans 3:23).

Write out Romans 2:11, which is the key verse of this chapter. _____

Take time now to memorize this verse. It will help you to remember the important lesson Paul was teaching.

CHAPTER THREE

This chapter teaches more about mankind's sinful condition. It does not matter whether one is a Jew or a Gentile, a good moral person or someone who is highly religious. All have sinned and are therefore condemned under the Law of sin and death. The latter section of this chapter reveals how we may be delivered from the condemnation of the Law. It teaches us that we may be redeemed and justified (counted righteous) through the death of Christ.

1. What advantage did the Jew have? (vv. 1-2) _____

2. (vv. 3-6) Discuss Israel's unbelief and disobedience to the word of God in contrast to the truthfulness and faithfulness of God.

In vv. 5 and 6, if man's unrighteousness brings out (in contrast) the righteousness of God, would God be wrong in judging mankind? _____

Note: The word *faith* in the King James Version should be translated "*faithfulness*."

3. (vv. 7-8) These verses say that man's lie will cause God's truthfulness to enhance his glory. What did some wrongfully accuse Paul of saying? _____

4. (v. 9) What did Paul prove, that is also in Romans 1 and 2? _____

5. (vv. 10-11) These verses are quoted from Psalm 14. Name the three things said of mankind in these verses.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

6. (vv. 14-18) List five results of sin in these verses.

1. _____

2. _____

- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____

7. (v. 19) Why was the Old Testament Law given? _____

8. (v. 20) Will anyone be found justified (found righteous) by keeping the Law? _____

9. (vv. 21-22) Paul begins to introduce God's way of righteousness without the Law. The righteousness of God here is in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ who, by his death in our place, has met every demand of the Law. Using your own words where does this righteousness come from?

10. (v. 23) A person must understand the truth of this verse before he will turn to Christ. Using your own words tell us what this truth is. _____

11. (v. 24) Explain this verse in your own words. _____

Note: *Redemption* means to set free by paying a price, to be bought back from the slave market of sin.

12. (vv. 25-26) In v. 25 we find the word "*propitiation*" in some translations. This word is translated "*mercy seat*" in Hebrews 9:5, and refers to the place in the Old Testament where blood was offered for sin (see Leviticus 16:14-16). The Lord Jesus Christ became the sacrifice for man's sin. Therefore God is declared to be righteous in the forgiveness (remission) of sins. In v. 26, who does God justify?

13. (v. 27) What does this verse say about boasting? Use your own words. _____

14. (v. 28) What is the conclusion of this verse? Use your own words. _____

15. (v. 30) How will God justify the circumcision (Israel) and the uncircumcision (Gentiles)? _____

CHAPTER FOUR

This chapter is a very important illustration of God's principle of justification by faith. Paul uses Abraham and David as examples to show that even those in the Old Testament were saved by faith, apart from any merit of their own. Please memorize Romans 4:5 and be prepared to write it out at the end of this lesson.

1. (v. 1-2) Did Abraham's works justify him before God? _____

2. (v. 3) What do the scriptures say about Abraham's belief in God (he believed what God promised him)?
(See Genesis 15:6). _____
3. (v. 4) The one who works for his salvation thinks to put God in debt to him. So for him salvation is not a _____.
4. (v. 5) This verse is one that every Christian should memorize. Please write out what this verse means to you using your own words. _____

5. (v. 6) The King James Version uses the word "*impute*" and the NIV uses the word "*credit*". What does God credit us with, while not looking at our works? Why? _____
6. (vv. 7-8) What is said of those whose sins are forgiven? _____

Note: In verses 9 through 12, the "*circumcision*" refers to the Jews, the "*uncircumcision*" refers to the Gentiles. The Jewish rite of circumcision was given to Abraham after he was justified by faith as a sign of his right standing before God (see Genesis 17:4-14). This occurred 14 years after God counted him righteous (Genesis 15: 6). Similarly, our position as believers in Christ is neither obtained nor made more secure by observing any ordinance or religious rite.

7. (v. 11) Is Abraham the father of all believers, whether circumcised or not? _____

8. (v. 12) Abraham is the spiritual father of those Jews who are not only Jews outwardly, but who also walk _____

Read Romans 4:13-25 _____ Check.

God promised Abraham that from his seed (descendants) would come forth a great nation (Israel) and that all the people of the earth would be blessed through it.

9. (v. 13) Did the promise of God come to Abraham through the Law or faith? _____
10. (v. 16) God's promise did not come by the Law but by faith so that God's grace could be shown to whom?

11. (v. 17) When Abraham was ninety-nine years old (see Gen 17:1) , yet without heirs, God made him a promise. What was this promise? _____

12. (v. 19) Why did this promise seem impossible? _____

13. (vv. 20-21) How did Abraham react to God's word? _____

14. Read Genesis 21:1-3 _____ Check. Did God fulfill His promise? _____
15. (v. 22) What was the result of Abraham's faith? _____
16. (v. 23) Is this righteousness imputed to us also? _____ Why? (v. 24) _____

17. Why was Christ delivered to death? (v. 25) _____
18. Why was He raised (or resurrected)? _____

The resurrection of Jesus Christ cannot be overemphasized, for the preaching of the Gospel is not complete without it. Christ's resurrection from the dead proves that God was completely satisfied with His redemptive work for mankind. Nothing could or should be added to it. Let's summarize Chapter 4.

Salvation is by God's grace through man's faith, by believing the Word of God.

Please write out verse 5 from memory.

Notice that God only justifies "*ungodly*" people. Have you ever considered yourself "*ungodly*"? Unless you do, you will never see your need for salvation. Will you pray this prayer with a believing heart?

"O Lord, make plain to me my sinful and ungodly nature, that I will turn to you and be made righteous by faith in Jesus Christ, who died for my sins and arose for my justification. Amen."

Use the space below for any questions or comments:

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