

SRMBC Family Bible Study
Romans: A New Lifestyle
1st and 2nd Quarter 2018
Reverend Thomas A. Keys, Pastor

Romans is different from most of Paul's other letters. He did not found the church in Rome; in fact, he had never even been there. It has been suggested that the church in Rome was founded by some of those who were present on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:10).

However, Paul had met some of the Christians in Rome, such as Priscilla and Aquila (Romans 16), during his missionary journeys to other cities. Other letters were written primarily to address specific problems within the churches. Romans seems relatively free of problems, although there is some evidence of a conflict between the Jewish and Gentile Christians in the church. The main problem the Romans faced was that they had never met the apostle Paul. Therefore, he felt a need to fully explain to them in a letter what he normally would have said in person.

Date	Lesson Title	Scripture
1/10/2018	Good News from God	Romans 1:1 -17
1/17/2018	The Wrath of God	Romans 1:18 - 32
1/24/2018	The Judgment of God	Romans 2
1/31/2018	The Verdict	Romans 3:1 – 20
2/7/2018	The Righteousness from God	Romans 3:21 – 31
4/4/2018	The Example of Abraham	Romans 4
4/11/2018	Reasons to Rejoice	Romans 5
4/18/2018	New Life, New Lifestyle	Romans 6:1 – 7:6
4/25/2018	Our Struggle with Sin	Romans 7:7 – 25
5/2/2018	The Spirit Brings Life	Romans 8
5/9/2018	The Potter & His Clay	Romans 9
5/16/2018	Misguided Zeal	Romans 10
5/23/2018	The Future of Israel	Romans 11
5/30/2018	Living as Living Sacrifices	Romans 12
6/6/2018	Submitting to Authorities	Romans 13 - 14
6/13/2018	Brothers & Sisters in Christ	Romans 15 - 16

Romans may be the most important letter you will ever read. It is Paul's masterpiece, the clearest and fullest explanation of the gospel in the Bible. As you study Paul's letter, may you be encouraged and challenged by the new life and the new lifestyle we have in Christ!

OUTLINE OF ROMANS

by Warren W. Wiersbe (in *Be Right*)

Theme: The righteousness of God

Text: "The just shall live by faith"

Introduction 1:1-17

- I. SIN – Righteousness Demanded (1:18-3:20)**
 - a. The Gentiles guilty – 1:18-32
 - b. The Jews guilty – 2:1-3:8
 - c. The whole world guilty – 3:9-20
- II. SALVATION – Righteousness Declared (3:21-5:21)**
 - a. Justification Stated – 3:21-31
 - b. Justification Illustrated in Abraham – 4
 - c. Justification Explained in Adam – 5
- III. SANCTIFICATION – Righteousness Defended (Ch. 6-8)**
 - a. Victory: The Flesh – 6
 - b. Liberty: The Law – 7
 - c. Security: The Spirit – 8
- IV. SOVEREIGNTY – Righteousness Declined (Ch. 9-11)**
 - a. Israel's past riches – 9
 - b. Israel's present rejection – 10
 - c. Israel's future restoration – 11
- V. SERVICE – Righteousness Demonstrated (12:1-15:7)**
 - a. In the Church body – 12
 - b. In society – 13
 - c. Toward the weaker believer – 14:1-15:7
- VI. Conclusion 15:8-16:27**

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Romans: A New Lifestyle

January 10, 2018

Reverend Thomas A. Keys, Pastor

Lesson 1: Good News from God Romans 1:1 – 17

"I'm engaged!" "I got a raise!" "My wife's having a baby!" What is our immediate response to good news? We tell others! We feel we will burst unless we share our joy with those around us. Paul felt excited about the gospel, the good news about Jesus Christ. As we read these opening verses in his letter to the Romans, we find his excitement is contagious.

Group Discussion: Why is it so difficult to keep good news to ourselves? Think of some good news you've heard recently. How did you respond when you heard it, and why?

We for some reason, when we receive good news for ourselves – deep inside we want others to share it as well. We innately want others to feel and share in the same thing that has made us happy (a joke, a movie, our new car, house, job).

Good News: Church attendance rose dramatically the last three weeks.

Bad News: You were on vacation.

I just heard from my niece in law that she just taken a job at Domino Sugar (a sweet job). I felt good about her news – excited for her opportunity, even though I am not on the same job with her.

I would have to admit that it is not my experience all the time, sometimes I feel envious, wishing that I either had the good news instead of them or in addition to them.

As I thought about the second response, I felt bad at first, but then, in part that is what we want people to feel as we share the Gospel with them – so they would long to experience the Good News that we have.

Read Romans 1:1 – 17

1. Imagine that verses 1 and 5 are the only information you possess about Paul. Describe everything you would know about him.

- Paul is totally committed and under control of Jesus Christ
- Called to be an apostle - one who is sent by Christ
- He is well versed in the Scriptures
- He knows Jesus and Salvation personally and Experiencially
- Paul is a committed believer and follower of Christ
- Paul trusts in the Grace of God through faith to accomplish the mission
- Paul has world-wide vision for the spread of the Gospel

Question: How would someone describe you – simply based on outward observance of your lifestyle. Would they see Christ in your walk and talk?

2. In verses 1 – 5 Paul gives a summary of the gospel for which he had been set apart. What do we learn about the gospel from these verses?

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. 5 Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name,

Summary	Remarks
The Exclusivity of the Gospel	There is only One True Gospel (Gal.1:6-8)
	There is only One Savior – Jesus (John 3:16; Acts 4:12)
	Separates Us for Christ (Phil 3:11 – 12)
	Requires Our Separation to Christ
The Immutability of the Gospel	According to God's Plan (Gen 3:15; Rev 13:8)
	Prophesied/Verified by the Scriptures (I Cor 15:3 -4)
	Jesus the One and only God-Man (John 1:14; I John 4:2)
	Verified by the Power of the Spirit/Resurrection (Matt 3:13 – 14)
Our Responsibility of the Gospel	(We) - To walk in the Grace of God (Eph. 2:8 – 9)
	To be His Disciples and Ambassadors of Gospel (II Cor. 5:20)
	To spread the Gospel to all (Matt 28:19 – 20)

KFC – the new ads have different people playing the Role of Col. Sanders – but all of them pitching the same product – 5-dollar fill-up, the family meal deal. Regular and Extra – Crispy. They all say the same thing (it's finger- licking good) wear the same uniform. But once you eat a few hour later and it's gone. But we have a deal – that is greater and will stick with you for this life and the life to come.

3. What do verses 8 – 13 reveal about Paul's attitude toward the Romans? Why do you think he was so encouraged and motivated?

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. 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.

- Paul was thankful in Jesus for them and their faith in Christ –
- Paul prayed for them constantly – for God’s blessings
- He prayed to be with them – to give and to share Spiritual Blessings of the Lord with them.
- Even though he wanted to visit them – but was hindered - yet not deterred.

Paul was encouraged by the people – even though he never met them because they are faithful followers of Jesus Christ. We are all on the same team. We ought to be encouraging one another not fighting or in competition with one another.

4. Because he was an apostle (“one who is sent”), Paul felt obligated to preach the gospel to everyone (v. 14). Whom do you have the greatest opportunity of reaching with the gospel?

- Our neighbors – those around us
- Our Co-Workers
- Our family
- Strangers
- Using Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, snapchat, Instagram, Text, Email, etc.

There are some good ways and bad ways to witness – What are some effective ways to share the Gospel?

5. Paul says we can be eager to preach the gospel or be ashamed of it (vv. 15-16). What might lead us to adopt one attitude or the other?

15 So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. The Just Live by Faith 16 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.

Eagerness to Preach the Gospel	Ashamed to Preach the Gospel
Joy of Forgiveness	Sin in Our Lives
Assurance of the Power of the Gospel	Lack of Confidence in the Gospel
Unction of the Holy Spirit	Fear of Rejection
Command/Example of Jesus Christ	Persecution For the Sake of the Gospel
The Power of God in the Gospel	Bad Previous Experiences
Heavenly Perspectives	Hardships – Pressures of Life

6. In verse 16 Paul describes the gospel as “the power of God” for salvation. How have you seen this power demonstrated in your life or the lives of others?

I have seen it in my own life – God has changed me – I used to be so depressed, ungrateful fearful, sinful, purposeless. God has changed me – this Gospel has become my life. I am free, forgiven and I have eternal life along with a joy that the world can’t give or take away. Now look at me – a Pastor/Evangelist/Ambassador for Christ – a part of the family of God.

- I’ve seen God change my brothers – Ted and Brian – both now deacons
- Franklin Graham – A rebel - even though the Son of Billy Graham – now heads the Billy Graham Evangelistic Assoc.

7. What do you think it means to “live by faith” (v. 17)?

17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

- Our new life with God starts with our **faith** in Christ for Salvation
- Our life continues by **faith** from Salvation to Sanctification
- Whatever life throws at us is to be overcome by **faith in Christ**

Living by Faith means to have our relationship with Jesus as the central focus in our lives. Our problems in life occurs when we do not allows Jesus and His Gospel to the Center of everything we do (Matt 6:33)

8. In what areas do you struggle to live by faith?

- **Finances** – I need to be able to trust God in finances just as much as I can trust Him with my salvation
- **Disappointments** – When things don’t go my way – I need to allow faith to override my circumstances
- **Relationships** – Manage my relationships – I need to let God manage my relationships (let the right folks come in and the wrong folks go...)
- **The Church** – By Faith let the Lord build the church – all I need to do is to be faithful in preaching, teaching and loving people.

Pray that God will use Romans to give you Paul’s attitude toward the gospel and toward those who need its message.

Keys for Living



The Gospel of Salvation in Jesus Christ is the Good News that once individually received, needs to be shared locally as well as globally.



The Church needs to never be ashamed of the message of the Gospel (especially when facing opposition and persecution from the world) because its power to save.



Living by faith means to allow our faith in Jesus Christ and His Gospel to undergird every area of lives no matter what comes our way.