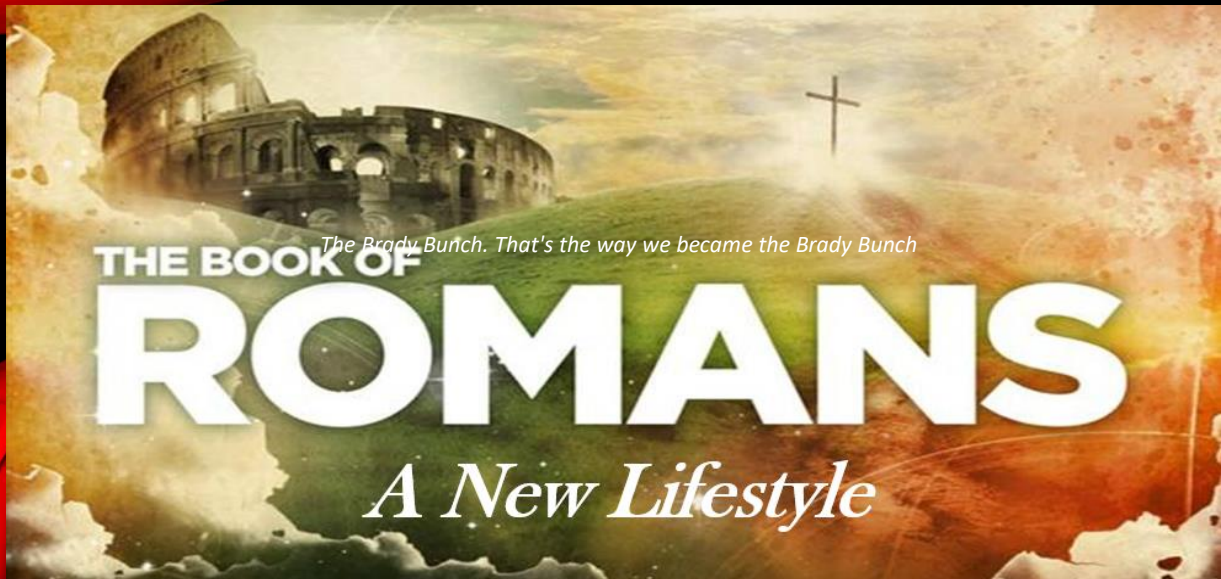


# SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



## SRMBC 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> QTR BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Date	Lesson Title	Scripture
1/10/2018	Good News from God	Romans 1:1 - 17
1/24/2018	The Wrath of God	Romans 1:18 - 32
1/31/2018	The Judgment of God	Romans 2
4/4/2018	The Verdict	Romans 3:1 – 20
4/11/2018	The Righteousness from God	Romans 3:21 – 31
4/18/2018	The Example of Abraham	Romans 4
4/25/2018	Reasons to Rejoice	Romans 5
5/2/2018	New Life, New Lifestyle	Romans 6:1 – 7:6
5/9/2018	Our Struggle with Sin	Romans 7:7 – 25
5/16/2018	The Spirit Brings Life	Romans 8
5/23/2018	The Potter & His Clay	Romans 9
5/30/2018	Misguided Zeal	Romans 10
6/6/2018	The Future of Israel	Romans 11
6/13/2018	Living As Living Sacrifices	Romans 12
6/20/2018	Submitting to Authorities	Romans 13 - 14
6/27/2018	Brothers & Sisters in Christ	Romans 15 - 16

## SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

### Romans: A New Lifestyle: **Lesson 4: The Verdict** Romans 3:1 – 20

#### The Apostle Paul – The Letter to the Romans

- **Author:** Romans 1:1 identifies the author of the Book of Romans as the apostle Paul.
- **Date of Writing:** The Book of Romans was likely written A.D. 56-58..
- **Purpose of Writing:** His purpose in writing was to proclaim Jesus Christ by teaching doctrine and edify and encourage the believers.

##### The Book Of Romans Tells Us:

- About God, who He is and what He has done.
- It tells us of Jesus Christ, what His death and resurrection accomplished.
- It tells us about ourselves, what we were like without Christ and who we are after trusting in Christ.



## My Prison Without Bars

After denying it for nearly 15 years, sports legend Pete Rose admitted that he bet on baseball and on his own team while managing the Cincinnati Reds. "I bet on baseball in 1987 and 1988," the baseball great told ABCNEWS' Charles Gibson in an interview on Primetime.

"That was my mistake, not coming clean a lot earlier," he said. The revelation is also expected to be included in Rose's new autobiography published by Rodale, *My Prison Without Bars*.

In his interview with Primetime, Rose says he bet without knowing how drastic the penalties would be. "You don't think you're going to get caught," he said. He said he didn't think he was special, or above the law.



### Group Discussion:

**Describe some of the thoughts and feelings you might have if you were on trial for committing a serious crime — and you knew you were guilty.**

- Part of me would start thinking of how my crime/character compares to other people – especially those who have done “worse” than I.
- I would be hoping that somehow the judge would see that my “good” far outweighs my bad.
- I would also have a great deal of fear – knowing that sooner or later the guilty Judgement would come down – and I have no leg to stand on.

### **Romans 3:1 – 5 (NLT)**

**1** Then what's the advantage of being a Jew? Is there any value in the ceremony of circumcision?

**2** Yes, there are great benefits! First of all, the Jews were entrusted with the whole revelation of God.

**3** True, some of them were unfaithful; but just because they were unfaithful, does that mean God will be unfaithful?

**4** Of course not! Even if everyone else is a liar, God is true. As the Scriptures say about him, "You will be proved right in what you say, and you will win your case in court."

**5** "But," some might say, "our sinfulness serves a good purpose, for it helps people see how righteous God is. Isn't it unfair, then, for him to punish us?" (This is merely a human point of view.)

### **Romans 3:6 – 9 (NLT)**

**6** Of course not! If God were not entirely fair, how would he be qualified to judge the world?

**7** "But," someone might still argue, "how can God condemn me as a sinner if my dishonesty highlights his truthfulness and brings him more glory?"

**8** And some people even slander us by claiming that we say, "The more we sin, the better it is!" Those who say such things deserve to be condemned. All People Are Sinners

**9** Well then, should we conclude that we Jews are better than others? No, not at all, for we have already shown that all people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin.

### Romans 3:10 – 15 (NKJV)

10 As the Scriptures say, “**No one is righteous — not even one.**

11 No one **is truly wise**; no one **is seeking God.**

12 All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one.”

13 “Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave. Their tongues are filled with lies.” “Snake venom drips from their lips.”

14 “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”

15 “They rush to commit murder.

### Romans 3:16 – 20 (NKJV)

16 Destruction and misery always follow them.

17 They don’t know where to find peace.”

18 “They have no fear of God at all.”

19 Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God.

20 For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

1. What were some of the spiritual advantages in being a Jew? What are some of the religious advantages God has granted to you?

Spiritual Advantages to the Jews:

- The Jews – of all people were chosen by God to demonstrate who He is to the rest of the world.
- They have the example and faith of Abraham – circumcision and father of faith.
- Moses and the Law and the Prophets – the laws love and knowledge of the one true God.
- The privilege of being the people chosen to be the line through which the Messiah and Savior (Jesus) would come.

1. What were some of the spiritual advantages in being a Jew? What are some of the religious advantages God has granted to you?

Spiritual Advantages To The Us/Me:

- We live in a country/culture where we have freedom to express faith in Christ.
- My Grandma took us (drag us) to church when we were kids.
- The Bible is available to us in every format imaginable.
- There is a church literally on every corner – no excuse not to be in worship.
- Christian Radio/TV/Internet – available everywhere.

Despite the “religious” advantages we’ve received (us and the Jews) everyone still needs to be saved by hearing the Gospel and responding with faith in Jesus Christ.



## 2. Why might some Jews have accused God of unfaithfulness and injustice (vv. 3-8)? How does Paul respond to these accusations?

### People's Accusation #1 (vs.3)

The people were stiff – necked, disobedient and unfaithful to the Word of God – since we are His people (He's like us – so he should kinda “forget” our sinfulness)

### Paul's Response #1 (vs. 4)

Everyone else may lie and be unfaithful – but God and His word is true (Gal 6:6 – 7) God's word will win out in end

### People's Accusation #2 (vs. 5)

Since our sinfulness serves a good purpose – people can see the righteous God better. It's not fair for Him to punish us.

### Paul's Response #2 (vs. 6)

That's a human thought (stinkin' thinkin'). God has to be fair, righteous and just in order to fairly Judge the World (Judge Judy, Wapner, etc.)

## 2. Why might some Jews have accused God of unfaithfulness and injustice (vv. 3-8)? How does Paul respond to these accusations?

### People's Accusation #3 (vv. 7 – 8a)

How can God judge me if my sin – cause people to see His Grace and give Him glory? The more we sin the more God's grace abounds (cf. Romans 5:20 - 21).

### Paul's Response #3 (vs. 8b)

If you think this way (if you that stooped) you deserve to be condemned.

*God will be faithful to His character and to His Word – which means He will judge sin and sinners. When we say/recognize that God is good – we need to realize that He is too good to let us get away with sin.*

3. In the role of prosecutor, Paul has charged that Jews and Gentiles alike are under sin (v. 9). How does Scripture support his charge (vv. 10-18)?

**The Charges** - All are under sin – religious Jews or Gentile

**The Penalty** - Death physical & Spiritual death (Eternal Separation from God)

### **The Evidence**

- No one is righteous — not even one.
- No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God.
- All have turned away; all have become useless.
- No one does good, not a single one.”
- Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave. Their tongues are filled with lies.”

3. In the role of prosecutor, Paul has charged that Jews and Gentiles alike are under sin (v. 9). How does Scripture support his charge (vv. 10-18)?

### **The Evidence**

- “Snake venom drips from their lips.” “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”
- “They rush to commit murder. Destruction and misery always follow them
- They don’t know where to find peace.” “They have no fear of God at all.”

*The evidence of our sin against God is clear and Irrefutable - and we have no excuse when we compare our “righteousness” compared to the righteousness and obedience to the Law that God demands*



#### 4. How does the figurative language of verses 13-18 graphically illustrate our condition as fallen people?

Figurative Language	Description
<b>Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave</b>	The evil things that we say – people say are like an a deadly odor in the nostrils of a Holy God (Blaspheming, Evil Speech).
<b>Snake venom drips from their lips</b>	Poisonous talk – killing relationships, reputation. Like snake natural have poison and use it by reflex – so do we use our speech against each other.
<b>Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness</b>	People curse and complain all the time. Even cursing while they are complaining
<b>They rush to commit murder</b>	The unsaved rush to kill others (You Tube, Sandy Hook, etc.)
<b>Destruction and misery always follow them</b>	Everywhere people go they cause a wreck – like mayhem in the AllState Commercial. Sinners not only make a mess of their lives but others as well.
<b>They don't know where to find peace." "They have no fear of God at all</b>	No peace – jumping from relationship to relationship, job to job - even church to church. Doing whatever they feel – with no regard for God's judgment.

#### 5. From what you have learned in Romans 1:18—3:20, summarize the charges against us, the supporting evidence and the verdict

<b>The Charges</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Willful/Sinful ignorance of God and His Law</li> <li>• Active engagement in evil thoughts and deed</li> <li>• Breaking of all the Laws (10 Commandments)</li> <li>• Encouraging others to do the same</li> <li>• Evil speaking against God and others</li> </ul>
<b>The Evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not seeking God or wanting to do what is right</li> <li>• Lying, stealing, blasphemy, sexual immorality, etc.</li> <li>• Not worshipping obeying God</li> <li>• Making excuses for our sin and disobedience</li> <li>• Creating our own idols to worship</li> <li>• Bad language, speaking and listening</li> </ul>
<b>The Verdict</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guilty of all charges – even from childhood</li> <li>• Sentenced to death – eternal separation for God (Hell)</li> </ul>

**6. According to verse 20, God's law does not make us righteous but rather exposes our sin. How has the law had that impact on your life?**

- The Law of God gave a name for my sin that was different than what I called it
- The Law of God showed me that no matter how much I tried I could never be good enough to be right with God.
- The Law of God showed/shows me my need for a Savior – someone who kept the Law

*We will not be able to plead our case with God the righteous Judge. Our only hope is to accept the Person and Work of Jesus - Our Saviour*

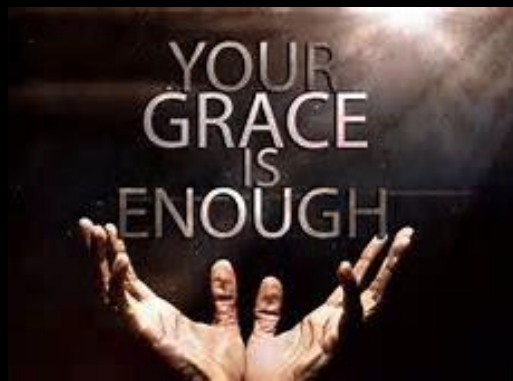
**7. Paul does not discuss the grace of God (3:21—5:21) until he has discussed the judgment of God (1:18—3:20). Why?**

**In order for us to appreciate our need for the Grace of God for the forgiveness of sins, We need to really understand the sinfulness of our sins and the wrath/Judgment that we deserve.**



God's  
Riches  
At  
Christ's  
Expense

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8. How should Paul's example affect our evangelism? (Be as specific as possible.)

- We need to be loving – but also telling the truth understanding the compassion God has for sinners.
- We need to tell the truth about sin, our guilt and the punishment we will deserve and receive if we do not repent and trust Jesus.
- Once the guilt and penalty of sin is made clear – then we can let people know that Jesus has died for them and has risen from the dead that we can be forgiven and saved.

## KEYS FOR LIVING

- *No matter how religious and moral we are or try to be, we can never be good enough to make ourselves right with God apart from faith in Jesus Christ.*
- *The Law of God, while not able to save, is good, for it presents God's righteous standards and makes us aware of our own sin.*
- *God's righteousness has not and will not change. We must change by confessing our sins and accepting Jesus as Savior.*

