

Great Chapters in the Bible: Romans Chapter 1

- Author Paul
- Date 57 AD
- Written Corinth
- Recipients Saints in Church at Rome
- Central Theme Righteousness

Answers this major question: How can sinful man be made righteous before a Holy God?

Romans is the foundational epistle that answers that question.

Romans will show that we are declared righteous by faith and there is no condemnation.

Romans 8: 1-2 Therefore there is now no condemnation at all for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life ^[a]in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Matthew 5:6 – blessed are those that hunger and thirst after righteousness, they will be satisfied.

Romans 14:17 – kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit

Matthew 6:33 – seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness

Outline of Romans

- Chapters 1-8 - the scriptural and logical basis for the gospel:
 - Pagan Man is sinful
 - Moral Man is sinful
 - Spiritual/Religious Man is sinful
 - Romans 3L:23; All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
 - Chapter 4 Faith
 - Chapter 5 Justification
 - Chapter 6 Sanctification
 - Chapter 7 The law of sin and death
 - Chapter 8 Total victory and security in Christ
- Chapter 9-11 – dealing with Israel and divine election:
 - Chapters 12-15 – practical application of how to apply these teaching in our daily lives
 - Chapter 16 – personal greetings and benediction:

Romans 1:1-15 Organization of the Letter

- Paul Introduces Himself – who the letter is from
- Paul Introduces the Gospel – what the letter is about
- Paul Introduces the Recipients – who the letter is addressed to

Himself – vs 1, 5,9-15

- Bondservant – slave
- Called
- Apostle to gentiles
- Bring about obedient to the faith
- Vs 9-15 Paul's desire to visit and preach in Rome

The Romans

- Called
- Beloved of God
- Saints – holy ones
- Tender greeting: Grace and Peace from God the Father and Jesus
- Paul's thankfulness for the people
- Thankful for their faith and witness
- Impacting the Roman Empire – key cities were Paul's target

The primary tool of conversion was personal testimony, OT Scripture, and attested with signs and wonders.

Paul Introduces the Gospel v 2 - 15

- Promised by God beforehand in the scriptures – not about Paul – it's all God
- It's all about Jesus
- His divinity – Son of God
- His humanity – Son of David
- Resurrection of the dead – attests to his innocence before the law
- Romans 6
- Roman court – 3 trials, Pilate, Herod, Pilate – nothing worthy of death, crucified
- Jewish court – innocent – Annas, Caiaphas, Sanhedrin - blasphemy
- God's court – innocent – He was raised from the dead
- DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION – I Corinthians 15:1-4
- According to the scriptures – not according to Paul or the other witnesses mentioned
 - Mathew 12: 39-40; The Sign of Jonah
 - Psalm 16:9-10

VS 16-17 – The Power of the Gospel

- Not ashamed of the gospel
- Power of God for salvation (body, soul and spirit)
- You must believe – not intellectual ascent, but firm commitment to live into God's truth – Our behavior matters – John 14:15 “if you love me, you will keep my commandments”
- Jew first, then the gentile
- In the gospel righteousness is revealed – how can sinful man be made right with God?

- Righteousness is the central theme of Romans
- It is the gospel of Jesus Christ that tells us how to become acceptable and right with HIM

Vs 18 – 21- God’s Wrath

- Jesus endured God’s wrath by becoming:
 - Isaiah 53
 - Passover lamb in Exodus 12
 - I Corinthians 5:7
 - Galatians 3:13
- God placed all His wrath on Jesus instead of us.
- God will never condone your sin – He will forgive you and help you be free, but not accept or bless sin – God is Holy
- Why do people suppress the Truth? – because they prefer unrighteousness
- John 3:19: And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light; for their deeds were evil.
- There is no excuse – When you fail to honor God and give thanks to God two things follow:
 - You become futile in your speculations.
 - And your heart will be come darkened.
- Two evidences:
 - external (creation), Psalm 19:1
 - Psalm 8:3-4
 - Psalm 148:1-6
 - Acts 17:24-31
 - internal (capacity to see and appreciate/conscience)
- In creation God has revealed
 - His eternal power
 - His divine nature

Vs 22-32 – Downward “devolution” of the Human Race

- 1. Suppression of the Truth**
- 2. Ignoring God’s Revelation**
- 3. Perverting God’s Glory**

Professing to be wise they became fools: 1 Corinthians 1:20-27

Three times God “gives them up” – abandoned

Vs 22 – 23 Idolatry – always the first step away from God (Psalm 135: 15-18)

Vs 24 First, “God gave them up” – to sexual immorality

Vs 26-27 Second, “God gave them up” - Sexual Perversion – homosexuality in women and Men.

Note Leviticus Chapter 18, 19 and 20 on Sexual Immorality Sacrifice of Children, Idolatry

Vs 28 Third, “God gave them up” – Depraved mind

Vs 29 – 31 Paul lists 21 examples of a depraved mind in human sinful and unrighteous Behavior

1. Unrighteousness
2. Wickedness
3. Greed
4. Evil
5. Envy
6. Murder
7. Strife
8. Deceit
9. Malice
10. Gossip
11. Slanderers
12. Haters of God
13. Insolent
14. Arrogant
15. Boastful
16. Inventors of evil
17. Disobedient to parents
18. Without understanding
19. Untrustworthy
20. Unloving
21. Unmerciful

Vs 32 Approval of others knowing it deserves death (They know the behaviors are wrong)

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (Paul list 19 examples of sinful human behavior)

But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. ²For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, ^[a]haters of good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵holding to a form of ^[b]godliness although they have denied its power; avoid *such people as these*.

Gods Diagnosis – human race is corrupted and deserving of God’s wrath.

God’s Treatment – a new creation (2 Cor 5:17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *this person is a new* ^[g]creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.)