

Discover the New Testament – Romans Part 3

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AUTHORSHIP: The Apostle Paul wrote the book of Romans.

Romans 1:1 - Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God.

THEME: Righteousness by Grace through Faith in Jesus

Romans 1:17 - For in the gospel *a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last*, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

1. The Sanctification of Believing Sinners – (6:1-8:39)

A. Union With Christ (6:1-14)

Romans 6:1-4 – **1** What shall we say, then? *Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? 2 By no means!* We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? **3** Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? **4** We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may *live a new life*.

Grace isn't a license to sin.

Romans 6:12-14 – **12** Therefore do not let or permit sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. **13** Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness. **14** For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

The law empowers sin to reign and grace empowers righteousness to reign in our everyday lives.

B. Enslavement to Sin or to Righteousness (6:15-23)

Romans 6:20-23 – **20** When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. **21** What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! **22** But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, *the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life*. **23** For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

C. Freedom from the Law (7:1-25)

Romans 7:1-4 – **1** Do you not know, brother—for I am speaking to men who know the law—that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? **2** For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. **3** So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man. **4** So, my brothers, you also *died to the law* through the body of

Christ, that you might ***belong to another***, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might ***bear fruit to God***.

The analogy of marriage isn't a teaching about divorce, but rather an example detailing that when a person is married, they are not free to marry another.

The law has died and we aren't bound to it any longer as a source for obtaining righteousness and we have been freed to marry another and obtain our righteousness through Christ.

Romans 7:22-23 - **22** I love to do God's will so far as my new nature or my inward man is concerned; **23** but there is something else deep within me, in my lower nature, that is at war with my mind and wins the fight and makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. In my mind I want to be God's willing servant, but instead I find myself still enslaved to sin. So you see how it is: my new life tells me to do right, but the old nature that is still inside me loves to sin. Oh, what a terrible predicament I'm in! Who will free me from my slavery to this deadly lower nature? Thank God! It has been done by Jesus Christ our Lord. He has set me free.

D. Righteous Living Through the Holy Spirit (8:1-17)

Romans 8:1-17 – **1** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, **2** because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. **3** For what ***the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature***, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in sinful man, **4** in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:11-13 – **11** And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you. **12** Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. **13** For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live,

E. After Sufferings Come Glory – (8:18-39)

Romans 8:18 - I consider that our present sufferings (the fight against sin in the nature of the flesh) are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Romans 8:35-39 – **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? **36** As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." **37** No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. **38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2. The Place of Israel in the Plans of God – (9:1-11:36)

A. The Unbelief and Rejection of Israel (9:1-33)

God explains how He reached those He “appeared to reject” and how He “rejects those he appeared to accept.”

Romans 9:30-33 – **30** What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a righteousness that is by faith; **31** but Israel, who pursued a law of righteousness, has not attained it. **32** Why not? ***Because they pursued it not by faith but as if it were by works.*** They stumbled over the "stumbling stone." **33** As it is written: "See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame."

B. The Explanation of Israel's Rejection (10:1-21)

Romans 10:1-4 – **1** Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. **2** For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. **3** Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and ***sought to establish their own***, they did not ***submit to God's righteousness***. **4** ***Christ is the end of the law*** so that there may be ***righteousness for everyone who believes***.

Self Righteousness was the cause of Israel's lost condition

Romans 10:12-13 - **12** ***For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile***—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on Him, **13** for, "***Everyone*** who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Salvation is available to all under the same conditions. God is not a respecter of persons.

C. Israel's Rejection is not Complete or Final (11:1-36)

Romans 11:11-12 – **11** Again I ask: Did Israel stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious. **12** But if their transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring!

Romans 11:28-32 – **28** As far as the gospel is concerned, they (Israel) are enemies on your account; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, **29** for God's gifts and His call are irrevocable. **30** Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, **31** so they too have now become disobedient in order that ***they too may now receive mercy*** as a result of God's mercy to you.

Paul shows how the mercy of God never gives up on a people group or a person.

He explains in detail what appeared to be God's neglect of the Gentiles, in favor of the Jews, and how misleading it appeared.

Now that He has shown mercy to the Gentiles, don't think that the "natural branch" has been forgotten.