

# Covenant Presbyterian Church

## 2015-2016 Area Bible Studies

### The Book of Romans (Chapters 1-8)

**Theme: ‘The Gospel: The Righteous Are Justified by Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ’**

<sup>16</sup>For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup>For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.” ... <sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—<sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.... <sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.... <sup>28</sup>And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified... <sup>38</sup>For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 1:16-18; 3:21-24; 8:1-2, 28-30, 38-39; ESV).

Lesson	Lesson Title	Romans	W Houston	NW Houston	Sugar Land
1	<a href="#">Rome Wasn't Built in a Day</a>	1:1-7	Sep. 1	Sep. 2	Sep. 3
2	<a href="#">The Righteous by Faith Shall Live</a>	1:8-17	Sep. 15	Sep. 16	Sep. 17
3	<a href="#">The Wrath of God</a>	1:18-32	Sep. 29	Sep. 30	Oct. 1
4	<a href="#">Here Comes the Judge!</a>	2:1-16	Oct. 13	Oct. 14	Oct. 15
5	<a href="#">Religious Presumption</a>	2:17-29	Oct. 27	Oct. 28	Oct. 29
6	<a href="#">None Is Righteous</a>	3:1-20	Nov. 10	Nov. 11	Nov. 12
7	<a href="#">Just and Justifier</a>	3:21-31	Dec. 1	Dec. 2	Dec. 3
8	<a href="#">Sola Fide</a>	4:1-12	Dec. 15	Dec. 16	Dec. 17
9	<a href="#">The Faith of Abraham</a>	4:13-25	Jan. 19	Jan. 20	Jan. 21
10	<a href="#">The Benefits of Justification</a>	5:1-11	Feb. 2	Feb. 3	Feb. 4
11	<a href="#">The Two Adams</a>	5:12-21	Feb. 16	Feb. 17	Feb. 18
12	<a href="#">Dead to Sin, Alive to God</a>	6:1-14	March 1	March 2	March 3
13	<a href="#">Slaves of Righteousness</a>	6:15-23	March 15	March 16	March 17
14	<a href="#">The Christian and the Law</a>	7:1-12	March 29	March 30	March 31
15	<a href="#">The Struggle with Indwelling Sin</a>	7:13-25	April 12	April 13	April 14
16	<a href="#">Life in the Spirit</a>	8:1-13	April 26	April 27	April 28
17	<a href="#">Hope through the Spirit</a>	8:14-27	May 10	May 11	May 12
18	<a href="#">Inseparable from Christ</a>	8:28-39	May 24	May 25	May 26

## Romans (Chapters 1-8)

### Outline of Romans (Adapted from Douglas Moo)

- I. The Letter Opening (1:1-17)
  - A. Prescript (1:1-7)
  - B. Thanksgiving and Occasion (1:8-15)
  - C. The Theme of the Letter (1:16-17)
- II. The Heart of the Gospel: Justification by Faith (1:18-4:25)
  - A. The Universal Reign of Sin (1:18-3:20)
    - 1. All Persons Are Accountable to God for Sin (1:18-32)
    - 2. Jews Are Accountable to God for Sin (2:1-3:8)
    - 3. The Guilt of All Humanity (3:9-20)
  - B. Justification by Faith (3:21-4:25)
    - 1. Justification and the Righteousness of God (3:21-26)
    - 2. 'By Faith Alone' (3:27-4:25)
- III. The Assurance Provided by the Gospel: The Hope of Salvation (5:1-8:39)
  - A. The Hope of Glory (5:1-21)
    - 1. From Justification to Salvation (5:1-11)
    - 2. The Reign of Grace and Life (5:12-21)
  - B. Freedom from Bondage to Sin (6:1-23)
    - 1. 'Dead to Sin' through Union with Christ (6:1-14)
    - 2. Freed from Sin's Power to Serve Righteousness (6:15-23)
  - C. Freedom from Bondage to the Law (7:1-25)
    - 1. Released from the Law, Joined to Christ (7:1-6)
    - 2. The History and Experience of Jews under the Law (7:7-25)
  - D. Assurance of Eternal Life in the Spirit (8:1-30)
    - 1. The Spirit of Life (8:1-13)
    - 2. The Spirit of Adoption (8:14-17)
    - 3. The Spirit of Glory (8:18-30)
  - E. The Believer's Security Celebrated (8:31-39)
- IV. The Defense of the Gospel: The Problem of Israel (9:1-11:36)
  - A. Introduction: The Tension between God's Promises and Israel's Plight (9:1-5)
  - B. Defining the Promise (1): God's Sovereign Election (9:6-29)
    - 1. The Israel within Israel (9:6-13)
    - 2. Objections Answered: The Freedom and Purpose of God (9:14-23)
    - 3. God's Calling of a New People: Israel and the Gentiles (9:24-29)
  - C. Understanding Israel's Plight: Christ as the Climax of Salvation History (9:30-10:21)
    - 1. Israel, the Gentiles, and the Righteousness of God (9:30-10:13)
    - 2. Israel's Accountability (10:14-21)
  - D. Summary: Israel, the 'Elect,' and the 'Hardened' (11:1-10)
  - E. Defining the Promise (2): The Future of Israel (11:11-32)
    - 1. God's Purpose in Israel's Rejection (11:11-15)
    - 2. The Interrelationship of Jews and Gentiles: A Warning (11:16-24)
    - 3. The Salvation of 'All Israel' (11:25-32)
  - F. Conclusion: Praise to God in Light of His Awesome Plan (11:33-36)
- V. The Transforming Power of the Gospel: Christian Conduct (12:1-15:13)
  - A. The Heart of the Matter: Total Transformation (12:1-2)

## Romans (Chapters 1-8)

- B. Humility and Mutual Service (12:3-8)
- C. Love and Its Manifestations (12:9-21)
- D. The Christian and Secular Rulers (13:1-7)
- E. Love and the Law (13:8-10)
- F. Living in the Light of the Day (13:11-14)
- G. A Plea for Unity (14:1-15:13)
  - 1. Do Not Condemn One Another! (14:1-12)
  - 2. Do Not Cause Your Brother to Stumble (14:13-23)
  - 3. Put Other People First! (15:1-6)
  - 4. Receive One Another (15:7-13)
- VI. The Letter Closing (15:14-16:23)
  - A. Paul's Ministry and Travel Plans (15:14-33)
    - 1. Looking Back: Paul's Ministry in the East (15:14-21)
    - 2. Looking Ahead: Jerusalem, Rome, and Spain (15:22-29)
    - 3. A Request for Prayer (15:30-33)
  - B. Greetings (16:1-23)
    - 1. Commendations of Phoebe (16:1-2)
    - 2. Greetings to Roman Christians (16:3-16)
    - 3. A Warning, a Promise, and a Prayer for Grace (16:17-20)
    - 4. Greetings from Paul's Companions (16:21-23)
  - C. Concluding Doxology (16:25-27)

## Bibliography

- Barnett, Paul. *Romans: The Revelation of God's Righteousness*. Focus on the Bible Commentary Series. Christian Focus Publications, Fearn, Ross-shire, Great Britain. 2003.
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- Sproul, R. C. *Romans: The Righteous Shall Live by Faith*. St. Andrew's Expository Commentary. Crossway, Wheaton, IL. 2009.

The following notes are excerpted from the above sources. They have been organized and edited together into a composite narrative, but they do not represent original material, phraseology, or ideas. I am indebted to the above authors for their careful exegesis and explanation of the original and English texts of Romans. DSB