

The Book of Romans

Study Syllabus

Time of Writing: 56-60 A.D.

Author: Apostle Paul

Written to: Church in Rome

Considered by many, the premier document of Christian theology

Dominant theme: Righteousness

Simple definition of righteousness: Right standing with God.

Righteousness:

Dikaiosune ^{^1343^} is "**the character or quality of being right or just**". (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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According to E.W. Kenyon, righteousness is the ability to stand in God's presence without the sense of guilt, shame, inferiority, or fear.

2 Corinthians 5:21 - For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. (KJV)

Three Major Divisions:

Part 1: The Revelation of the Righteousness of God ,
(Romans 1:1 - 8:39)

Part 2: The Vindication of the Righteousness of God,
(Romans 9:1 - 11:36)

Part 3: The Application of the Righteousness of God,
(Romans 12:1 - 16:27)

I. Introduction - Romans 1:1-17

A. Verse 1: **Gospel - a good message - to announce good news (evangelize)...** (Strong's Concordance)

Isaiah 52:7 - How lovely on the mountains are the feet of Him who brings good news, who announces peace and brings good news of happiness, who announces salvation, (and) says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" (NAS)

The word Gospel is mentioned four (4) times in Chapter One.

The Gospel is God's answer to man's problems.

B. Verses 2, 3: **Scarlet thread of redemption**

Genesis 3: 14, 15:

3:14 - And the Lord God said unto the serpent, because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.

3:15 - And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. (KJV)

C. Verses 4 - 7: **Power**

1411 dunamis (doo'-nam-is): from 1410, force (literally or figuratively); specifically, **miraculous power (usually by implication, a miracle itself): ...** (Strong's Concordance)

D. **Grace:** ...**The divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude...** (Strong's Concordance)

1. charis ^5485^ has various uses, (a) objective, **that which bestows or occasions pleasure, delight, or causes favorable regard;** ... (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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Grace is God's willingness to exercise His power on our behalf even though we do not deserve it.

Grace is the enabling power of God.

Verses 16, 17 - **Sums up the introduction**

Salvation: denotes - "deliverance, preservation, salvation."

Spiritual and eternal deliverance granted immediately by God to those who accept His conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus.

The present experience of God's power to deliver from the bondage of sin. (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)

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Salvation includes soundness in spirit, soul, body, finances.

The Hebrew and Greek words for salvation imply the idea of deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and soundness. Salvation is the great inclusive word of the Gospel, gathering into itself all the redemptive acts and processes: as justification, redemption, grace, propitiation, imputation, forgiveness, sanctification, and glorification.

(C.I. Scofield Reference Bible, page 1192)

E. "But the righteous (man) shall live by faith."

What is Faith?

1. Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (KJV)
2. Faith is thanking God for something before you ever see it. (See or understand with the natural mind)
3. Faith is confidence in the integrity of God.
4. Faith is trusting God in spite of evidence to the contrary.
5. Faith is the expectation of success.
6. Faith is confidence in God and His Word.

II. Condemnation: The Need for God's Righteousness

Romans 1:18-3:20

KJV - Condemnation - an adverse sentence (Strong's Concordance)

A. Guilt of the Gentile - Verses 1:18-32

v. 18 - The wrath of God is God's judgment being poured out on unrighteous.

v. 19-21 - There is no excuse for denying God.

Psalm 14:1 - *The fool has said in his heart, there is no God.*

v. 21-32 - The downward spiral of sin.

v. 27 - Men with men is unseemly or indecent.

v. 28 - a reprobate mind, - ...a mind void of all sense and judgment to discern things that differ, so that they could not distinguish their right hand from their left in spiritual things. ...this reprobate mind was a blind, scared, conscience, past feeling. (Matthew Henry's Commentary)

B. Guilt of the Law - Verses 2:1-3:8

v. 1-3 - Jews are judged according to the truth.

v. 4 - **GOD'S GOODNESS LEADS A MAN TO REPENTANCE - FOR THIS REASON THE GOSPEL IS VITALLY NECESSARY.**

v. 6-10 - Jews are judged by their works.

v. 11-16 - Jews are judged without partiality.

v. 17-29 - The Jews do not obey the law.

v. 28 - A true Jew is one inwardly.

C. Conclusion: All Are Guilty before God - Verses 3:9-20

The law condemns all as unrighteous before God, but God makes us righteous through Jesus Christ.

Jesus did not have a sin nature, so He was able to live a sinless life!

II. Justification: God's Righteousness

Romans 3:21-5:21

What is justification? - being declared righteous, or guiltless

Opposite of condemnation

Eradication of sin

Justification - Just as if I'd never sinned

Ills: A man coming into court and taking the blame for a crime (i.e. murder, that you know you are guilty of)

A. Description of Righteousness - Verses 3:21-31

v. 21-24 - Righteousness is a pure gift to us from God on the basis of our faith in Christ Jesus.

v. 25 - **Propitiation** - God satisfying the claims of justice for us through the blood of Christ Jesus. Christ payment for our sin.

v. 27-31 - We receive God's righteousness, and His payment for our sins by faith in Christ Jesus, apart from works of the law.

B. Illustration of Righteousness - Verses 4:1-25

v. 1-5 - Abraham trusted God instead of trying to get right on his own. We must trust God also, and not our own good works.

We become righteous, or we are made righteous by faith when we accept Jesus as Lord. We are made new (righteous creatures) in Christ Jesus.

(2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 4:25)

v. 8-12 - Abraham was circumcised as an outward sign of his right relationship with God (righteousness). We are baptized in water as an outward sign of our right standing with God.

God wants us to embrace what He has done for us with our whole life.

v. 14-15 - God's promise is not based on our obeying the rules and regulations of the law, but on our personal trust in Him.

v. 16-17 - Faith speaks what it believes, not what it sees with the natural eye.

v. 18-20 - Abraham considered only the promise of God, not His circumstances. Look past the problem to the promise. Hope - a happy anticipation of good.

v. 21-22 - Abraham became fully persuaded or convinced that what God had promised, He was able to perform.

v. 23-25 - It all goes back to the cross. Christ died and paid the price for our sin, was raised up for our justification.

C. Benefits of Righteousness - Verses 5:1-11

1. - Justification by Faith
2. - Peace with God
3. - Grace
4. - Steadfast Hope
5. - Steadfast Praise
6. - Steadfast Joy, even in the midst of tribulation
7. - Perseverance or patience
8. - Proven Character
9. - Salvation from the wrath of God
- 10.- Reconciliation

(1) Peace With God

(2) Grace - God's willingness to exercise His power on our behalf even though we don't deserve it.

G-R-A-C-E - God's Riches at Christ's Expense