

Introduction to Romans

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’” -Romans 1: 16-17

“The more it is studied, the easier it is; the more it is chewed, the pleasanter it is.” -W. Tyndale

- Why study Romans?
- Background to the epistle of Romans (Authorship, date, audience)

Outline of Romans

- I. Introduction / thesis statement: *The Gospel of Righteousness by Faith* (1:1-17)
- II. Paul’s case for justification by faith alone
 - A. All are sinful (1:18-3:20)
 1. Immoral Gentiles are sinful (1:18-32)
 2. Religious Jews are sinful (2:1-3:8)
 3. All are sinful and guilty before God (3:9-20)
 - B. The only hope is God’s righteousness provided in Christ (3:21-5)
 1. Abraham as example of justification by faith (Ch 4)
 2. Benefits of justification (5:1-11)
 3. Covenant theology: Death in Adam, Life in Christ (5:12-21)
- III. Answering objections to justification by faith alone (6:1-11:36)
 - A. Shall we sin so that grace may increase? (Ch 6)
-No! Definitive sanctification flows from union with Christ
 - B. What is the relation of the believer to God’s Law? (Ch 7)
-Indwelling sin vs. Spirit: the battle rages
 - C. Is this salvation certain? Can I lose it? (Ch 8)
-In Christ Jesus: No condemnation; no separation
 - D. What about the nation of Israel? (Ch 9-11)
-The nature of true, Spiritual Israel
- IV. Implications of the gospel: exhortation and application (12:1-15:13)
 - A. Living sacrifices: Orthodoxy must lead to orthopraxy in the church (Ch 12)
 - B. Submission to authorities and love to neighbor (Ch 13)
 - C. Judging one another: how to live well together as a mixed body (14:1-15:13)
- V. Personal matters, final greetings, doxology (15:14-Ch 16)