

## The Study of the Book of Romans

“The book to the Romans is rightly placed first among the Epistles because it is the most complete exposition in the New Testament of the central truths of Christianity” – Scofield Study bible

The main reason for Paul's gratitude to God is that the Roman believers' "faith is proclaimed in all the world" (v. 8). Given that *Rome was the largest and most influential city in the known world at the time*, we are not surprised that the presence of Christians there was known to the entire church. *Jesus was being proclaimed as Lord in the place where Caesar's lordship was most evident, and that people were hearing of the true King of kings in the seat of imperial power was indeed something in which Christians could rejoice.*







# PRE-TEST

(From memory only – NO Bibles)

- What do the following scriptures say?
  - Romans 3:10 –
  - Romans 3:23 –
  - Romans 5:8 –
  - Romans 6:1 –
  - Romans 6:23 –
  - Romans 7:15 –
  - Romans 7:24-25 –
  - Romans 8:1 –
  - Romans 10:9-10 –
  - Romans 10:13 –
  - Romans 12:1 –
  - Romans 12:2 –

# KEYS

- CHAPTER 1
  - PAUL ESTABLISHES HIS APOSTLESHIP
  - ADDRESSES THE DUAL NATURE OF JESUS
  - EXPRESSES HIS DESIRE TO VISIT ROME
  - EXPLAINS HIS OBLIGATION TO PREACH TO GREEKS AND NON-GREEKS
  - GODS WRATH AGAINST UNBELIEF

# Mankinds state of Depravity

- What is Depravity?
- **Total depravity** (also called radical corruption or pervasive depravity) is a Christian theological doctrine derived from the concept of original sin. It is the teaching that, as a consequence of the Fall of Man, every person born into the world is enslaved to the service of sin as a result of their fallen nature and, apart from the efficacious or prevenient grace of God, is utterly unable to choose to follow God, refrain from evil, or accept the gift of salvation as it is offered. It also does not mean that people are as evil as possible. Rather, it means that even the good which a person may intend is faulty in its premise, false in its motive, and weak in its implementation; and there is no mere refinement of natural capacities that can correct this condition.



# Mankinds state of Depravity

- **What is a Reprobate mind?**
- **That which is rejected on account of its own worthlessness. This word is also used with reference to persons cast away or rejected because they have failed to make use of opportunities offered them**
- **Does the modern day Church suffer from Homophobia?**
- **What do you think about the following statement: 'Will being gay send me to hell? I believe in Jesus as my Lord and Savior and I desperately want to please Him and do His will. At the same time, I know that I am homosexual. I believe I was born this way and that nothing will ever change it. Does this mean that I'm condemned for eternity?'**
- **In Romans, what does the bible teach about homosexuality?**

# Mankinds state of Depravity

- **There is Bad News and Good News**
- **The bad news is that we all deserve to go to hell: "There is none righteous, no, not one," writes the Psalmist (Psalm 14:1-3). "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," says the apostle Paul (Romans 3:23) – who, by the way, refers to himself as the "chief of sinners" in 1 Timothy 1:15. When it comes to our "works" and the way we've lived our lives, everybody stands condemned, whether gay or straight, black or white, liberal or conservative, old or young. The good news is that God loves us in spite of our sin and has sent His Son Jesus Christ to purchase our redemption. This is what the Christian message is all about: we are all sinners, but we can all be forgiven and born anew through faith in Christ. When we accept Christ as Savior, we also make a decision to live the way He wants us to live – righteously by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

# Mankinds state of Depravity

- **What the prior question really boils down to, then, is this: "Is it possible to believe in Jesus and be a homosexual at the same time?"**
- **The answer, as we see it, is both yes and no. Here at Focus on the Family, we take the view that there's an important difference between feeling gay and acting on those feelings. As with any form of sinful behavior, the transgression comes not in being tempted, but in willfully engaging in activity that is contrary to God's law. So yes – you can be a Christian and struggle with homosexual tendencies at the same time; but no – you can't be a faithful, obedient Christian while willingly involving yourself in homosexual acts. Anybody who seriously desires to follow Jesus Christ needs to make it his or her goal to abstain from sexual practices that the Bible clearly identifies as sinful (**take up your cross and follow Jesus**).**

# Mankinds state of Depravity

- **What 'practiced' Heterosexual Relationships are subject to the same outcome as 'practiced' homosexual relationships.**
- **Adultery**
- **Fornication**
- **Shacking with benefits**

# KEYS

- CHAPTER 2

- PAUL ADDRESSES ISSUES THAT EXIST FOR BOTH THE GENTILE AND JEWISH BELIEVERS
- NOT BEING JUDGEMENTAL OF OTHERS BECAUSE WE ARE NO BETTER
- EVEN BELIEVERS MUST GUARD AGAINST 'HARD HEARTS' AND GOD'S WRATH
- HEARING IS NOT ENOUGH. WE MUST BE OBEDIENT
- JESUS WILL JUDGE THE HEARTS OF ALL MANKIND
- CONDEMNATION WILL EXIST FOR THOSE WHO KNOW WHAT GOD REQUIRES BUT FAILS TO ADHERE TO IT
- THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE 'ETHNIC' JEW & 'SPIRITUAL' JEW

# JUDGING AND JUDGEMENT

Matt 7:1-5 ; Prov 31:9 ; Rev 2:2

- WHAT IS THE BASIS OF SPIRITUAL JUDGEMENT?
- SHOULD WE JUDGE PEOPLE?
- SHOULD WE JUDGE SIN?
- GENERAL RULES FOR JUDGING:
  - GOD IS THE SUPREME JUDGE
  - JUDGE YOURSELF FIRST
  - DON'T BE HYPOCRITICAL
  - WE MUST JUDGE 'SCRIPTURALLY'
  - DON'T JUDGE WHEN GOD'S WORD IS SILENT
  - PRAY FOR JUDGEMENT ABILITY
  - DON'T RESPECT PERSONS
  - JUDGE IN TRUTH
  - JUDGE MERCIFULLY

# KEYS

- CHAPTER 3

- THE ADVANTAGE/ 'PRIORITY' (NOT PREFERENCE) OF THE NATURALIZED JEW
- HUMAN UNFAITHFULNESS DOES NOT NULLIFY THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD
- MANS UNRIGHTEOUSNESS BRINGS LIGHT & JUSTNESS TO THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD
- JEWS AND GENTILES ALIKE ARE ALL UNDER THE CURSE OF SIN UNLESS SET FREE
- JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS AND REDEMPTION THROUGH CHRIST
- OUR FAITH ACTUALLY HONORS 'THE LAW' IN THAT WE ADMIT OUR GUILT UPHOLDING ITS RIGHT USE

# KEY WORDS

- **JUSTIFIED:** The verb 'justified' (dikaioo) was a judicial term for a judge to declare a person innocent of the charges levied against them
  - **Modern Day Example: Innocent by reason of insanity**
- **REDEMPTION:** The act of setting one free by paying a ransom to the master
- **PROPITIATION:** A sacrifice made for the purpose of averting/ appeasing the wrath of a divine being. (OT- was Mercy Seat ; NT – was Christ)
- **RIGHTEOUSNESS:** Being 'put right/ made right' with God according to his terms



# JUSTIFICATION IS BY FAITH

**Verse 3:26 – God presented Jesus as a sacrifice of atonement**

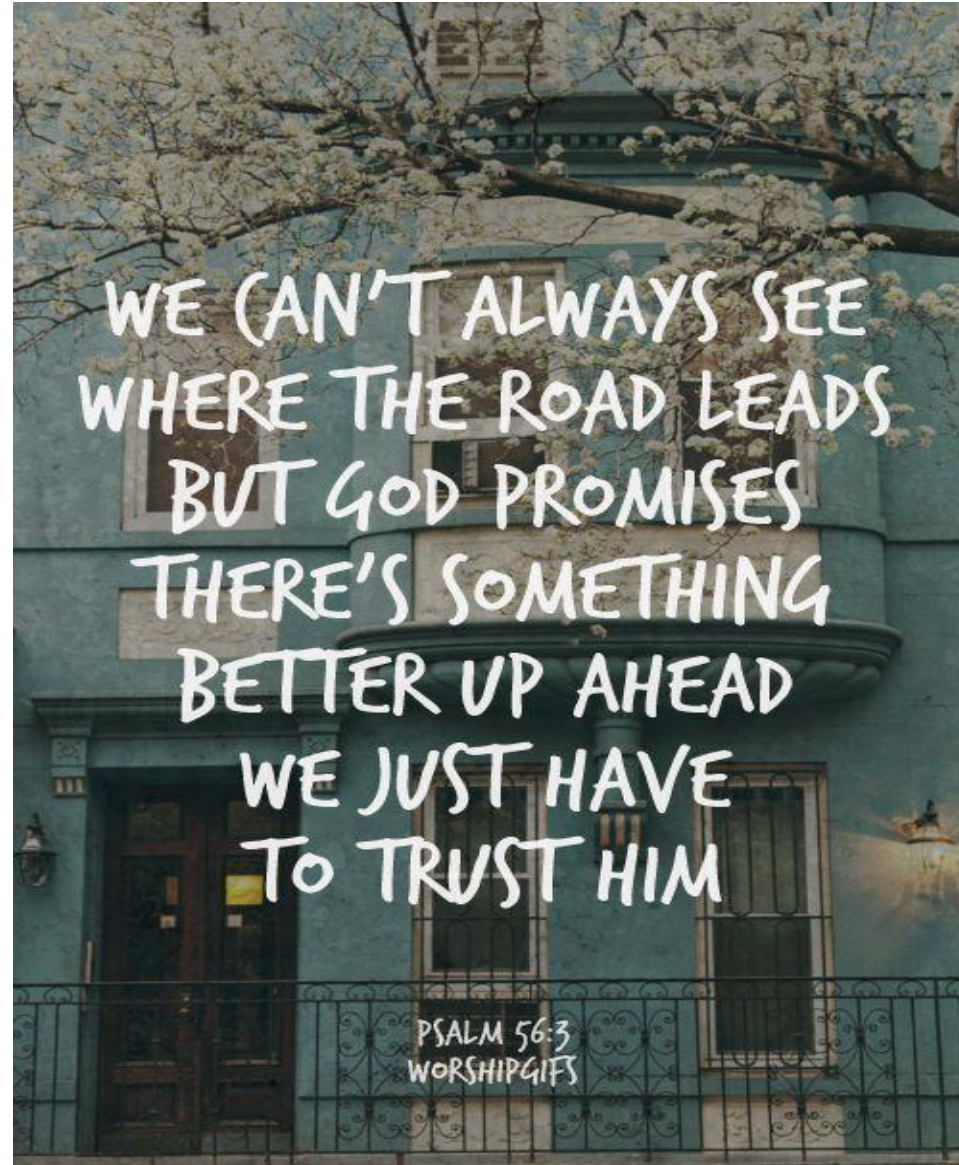
- God did it “to demonstrate **his JUSTICE**”
- “So as **to be JUST**”
- To be “the one who **JUSTIFIES**”

The death of Jesus is what allows God to be ‘JUST’ in his punishment of sin for unbelievers, and yet forgiving of sinners who have placed their faith in Jesus.

**“PEOPLE WILL BE JUDGED  
BY GOD BASED ON THE  
LIGHT IN WHICH THEY  
WERE GIVEN”**

(Reference ROMANS 2:12)

# THE ROMANS ROAD



**Have you ever driven down an unknown street only to find it led to a Dead End?**

SO WHAT EXACTLY IS THE ROMAN'S ROAD?





Whoever calls on name  
of Lord is saved

If we confess and  
believe we shall be  
saved

Christ died for us

Gift of God is  
Eternal Life

No One is Righteous

All have sinned

Wages of sin is death



## SO WHAT EXACTLY IS THE ROMAN'S ROAD?

It's the road that leads right to the Cross.

**Romans 3:10** - As it is written, there is none righteous, not even one. **Romans 3:23** - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. **Romans 6:23** - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 5:8** - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 10:9** - That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **Romans 10:13** - For whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved. Don't delay any longer! Today is the day of salvation! **(2Cor. 6:2)**



# KEYS

- CHAPTER 4
  - THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM
  - JUSTIFICATION
    - JUSTIFICATION APART FROM ORDINANCES (CIRCUMCISION)
    - JUSTIFICATION APART FROM THE LAW
  - BEING FULLY PURSUADED

# ABRAHAM – A man of Great Faith

- Abraham, originally Abram, is the common patriarch of the three Abrahamic religions. In **Judaism**, he is the founding father of the Covenant, the special relationship between the Jewish people and God; in **Christianity**, he is the prototype of all believers, Jewish or Gentile; and in **Islam** he is seen as a link in the chain of prophets that begins with Adam and culminates in Muhammad.
- Called by God to leave the house of his father Terah and settle in the land originally given to Canaan but which God now promises to Abraham and his progeny (future generations)
- Because of his faith, God entered into a covenant with him that he would become the father of many nations.
- Fathered several children: Ismael, Isaac, Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, Shuah



# KEYS

- CHAPTER 5
  - THE RESULTS OF JUSTIFICATION
  - BENEFITS OF SUFFERING
  - THE DEATH OF JESUS DEMONSTRATED GOD'S LOVE FOR US
  - SIN IS ONLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHERE THERE IS A LAW AGAINST IT
  - JUSTIFICATION VERSUS CONDEMNATION
  - THE INCREASE OF SIN AND GRACE

# ROMANS MEMORY VERSES

- Romans 1:16 “I am not...”
- Romans 3:10 “there is .....”
- Romans 3:23-24 “for all.....”
- Romans 5:8 “for God.....”

# WHAT IS SIN?

- Billy Graham – *“a sin is any thought or action that falls short of God’s will. God is perfect and anything we do that falls short of his perfection is sin”*.
- 1John 3:4 – *“sin is transgression or disobedience to God’s laws”*
- Sin is what separates Human Beings from the presence of God
- Can we rely solely on our conscience to know good & evil, right & wrong?
  - NO – because the conscience can be influenced by worldly views and personal desires
  - We must rely on the Holy Spirit that dwells within believers

# WHAT IS SIN?

- Does sin occur when you are tempted?
- Sin does occur just when you are tempted, but when your mind agrees with temptation. This is why Jesus could be tempted but not sin and also why sin can be a thought or an action.
- Are there levels or degrees of Sin?
- There is one “unpardonable/ unforgivable sin” (Mark 3:28-30)
- Sin is ‘missing the mark’ set by the Word of God (Illust’n- Archer)
  - If the Archer misses the target by a few inches, a few feet, or few yards, the result is the same. So it is with all other sins.

# WHAT ABOUT DEATH?

- “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely **die**.” (Gen 2:17)
  - Hebrew Literal Translation is “dying, you shall die”
- SIN entered the world through Adam (and Eve).
- DEATH entered the world as a result of (through) SIN
- There is:
  - **Physical Death** (natural) which the bible also refers to as ‘SLEEP’. Applies to all because we all have a ‘sin nature (“all have sinned”).
  - **Spiritual Death**- *separation from God* (Second Death – Rev 2:11, 20:6). Applies only to the ‘unsaved’ and is eternal separation from God in the ‘Lake of Fire’.
- The physical deaths of Adam and Eve were not immediate but were eventual. They began ‘dying’ after eating the forbidden fruit & eventually ‘died’
- Will Adam & Eve be in Heaven?

- SIN RESULTS IN \_\_\_\_\_  
DEATH
- WHAT FOLLOWS DEATH?  
JUDGEMENT (associated with Resurrection)
- THE PURPOSE OF JUDGEMENT IS TO DETERMINE WHAT?
  - YOUR FINAL DESTINATION
- BECAUSE ALL HAVE SINNED AND BECAUSE THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH, ADAM AND ALL WHO CAME AFTER HIM HAVE DIED
- THOSE WHO DIED BEFORE OR WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF A LAW, HOWEVER, DO NOT HAVE THEIR SIN 'CHARGED TO THEIR ACCOUNT (IMPUTED) WHEN IT COMES TO THE PENDING JUDGEMENT OF GOD.

# KEYS

- CHAPTER 6

- THE INTERWORKINGS OF GRACE AND SIN

- IS IT OK TO KEEP SINNING BECAUSE OF OUR ACCESS TO GRACE?

- BAPTISM SYMBOLISM

- GOING DOWN IS SYMBOLIC OF OUR DYING TO OUR FLESH AS JESUS DIED

- COMING BACK UP IS SYMBOLIC OF OUR BEING RESURRECTED TO A 'NEWNESS OF LIFE'

- A BENEFIT OF DEATH IS 'FREEDOM FROM SIN'

- WE ARE NOT UNDER LAW BUT UNDER GRACE

- WE HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY AND POWER TO YIELD OURSELVES AND BECOME SERVANTS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

- DEATH IS SOMETHING WE EARN ("WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH"). ETERNAL LIFE IS SOMETHING WE ARE GIVEN ('ETERNAL LIFE IS THE GIFT OF GOD')- ROM 6:23





## POST-TEST

(From memory only – NO Bibles)

- What do the following scriptures say?