A People of the Book 8-Year Curriculum Year 3, Quarter 3

A Study of Selected Texts from

Paul's Epistle To The Romans

Jason T. Carter

Romans Overview

Introduction

Paul "wrote...this great treatise of truth with two negatives in mind and a powerful positive. The negatives are that salvation from sin comes neither by the Mosaic System nor by personal merit. Proud Jews needed the first of these negatives; arrogant Gentiles needed the second negative. Positively, salvation is by faith in Christ. ...Salvation is by grace (God's part) and faithful obedience (man's part). Both the divine and the human are at work in man's redemption." (Robert R. Taylor, Jr., *Studies in Romans*, p. 4)

Recommended Study Aids

David Lipscomb & J. W. Shepherd, A Commentary on the New Testament Epistles: Romans

James Burton Coffman, *Romans* (southernhills.searchgodsword.org/com/bcc/)

James William Boyd, System of Salvation: Comments on Romans

Robert R. Taylor, Jr., Studies in Romans

Tom Wacaster, Studies in Romans: A Commentary on Paul's Letter to the Church at Rome

The schedule for this class is listed below. Students are encouraged to read the texts prior to class and study the worksheets provided.

<u>Schedule</u>

- 1) July 5 Introduction and Purpose of the Letter (Romans 1:1-17)
- 2) <u>July 12</u> Human Depravity (Romans 1:18-3:23)
- 3) July 19 Justified (Romans 3:24-5:21)
- 4) July 26 The Need for Holiness (Romans 6:1-23)
- 5) August 2 Redemption Comes Not by the Law (Romans 7:1-25)
- 6) August 9 Redemption Comes by Christ (Romans 8:1-39)
- 7) August 16 Reactions to the Gospel (Romans 9:1-33)
- 8) August 23 Christ: The End of the Law to Believers (Romans 10:1-21)
- 9) August 30 The Remnant (Romans 11:1-36)
- 10) September 6 Christian Character (Romans 12:1-21)
- 11) September 13 The Christian and Law (Romans 13:1-14)
- 12) <u>September 20</u> Christian Liberty (Romans 14:1-23)
- 13) September 27 Conclusion (Romans 15:1-16:27)

Introduction and Purpose of the Letter

Read: Romans 1:1-17

Review of the Reading

1.	How does Paul describe himself in the opening verse of the book?
2.	Where was the Romans' faith spoken of?
3.	Why did Paul desire to see the Romans?
4.	"For I am not of the gospel of Christ, for it is the of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the of God is revealed from faith to faith, as it is written, "The shall live by faith."
Thou	ght Questions
1.	Paul identifies the Christians in Rome as "saints." How does this differ from the way some religious groups use the word "saints" today?
2.	Paul told the Romans that he wanted to "impart to you some spiritual gift" (1:11). Had the Romans already been visited by another apostle previously? Consider Romans 12:6-8.

Romans Lesson 1 3. In what sense was Paul "a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians"? 4. How important is it for us to always be "ready to preach the gospel"? 5. Discuss the importance of the gospel. Your Questions... What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

Human Depravity

Read: Romans 1:18-3:23

Review	of	the	Reading
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	or one reading
1.	Against what is the wrath of God revealed?
2.	"For there is no with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be by the law."
3.	Circumcision is profitable only if one does what?
4.	Who is under sin, according to Romans 3:9?
5.	Who witnessed the revelation of the righteousness of God apart from the law?
Thou	ght Questions
1.	How is God "clearly seen" and "understood by the things that are made"?
2.	What are some of the sins that are identified in these passages? How are these sins viewed by society in our day?

3.	What does Paul say about consistency in man's judgment of others? How does
	this compare to God's judgment of man?

4. Paul calls Isaiah 52:5 to the reader's mind in Romans 2:24. Explain the application of this prophecy to Paul's writing.

5. Why do we need the gospel? Consider Romans 3:21-23.

Your Questions...

What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

Justified

Read: Romans 3:24-5:21

1.	Who will be justified by God?
2.	How are the wages counted to him who works?
3.	What does the law bring?
4.	When did Christ die for the ungodly?
5.	"And not only that, but we also glory in, knowing that; and; and;
Thou	ght Questions
1.	What does it mean that Christ was "set forth as a propitiation by His blood"?
2.	Compare Paul's reference to Abraham (Romans 4) with James' reference to Abraham (James 2:20-26). How do these passages complement each other?

3.	There are many passages that speak of tribulations or suffering (Matthew 5:11;
	Acts 5:41; Romans 5:3; II Corinthians 12:10; I Peter 4:12-13). How should the
	Christian react to such circumstances, and why?

- 4. Discuss the significance of Romans 5:6-11.
- 5. The system of Calvinism teaches that man inherits the guilt of the sin of Adam, often citing Romans 5:12 as support. In what way is this a perversion of the text? What is the truth concerning the guilt of sin, as opposed to the consequence brought upon all mankind by Adam's sin?

Your Questions...

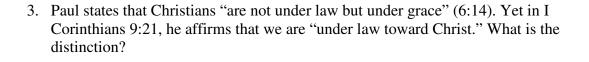
What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

The Need For Holiness

Read: Romans 6:1-23

Review of the Reading

1.	Those who are baptized into Christ Jesus are also baptized into what?		
2.	What should we do when we are raised from the waters of baptism?		
3.	What is our relationship to sin after we are crucified with Christ?		
4.	4. Of what do we become slaves when we are set free from sin?		
5.	"For the wages of sin is, but the gift of God is in Christ Jesus our Lord."		
Thou	ght Questions		
1.	In what way does baptism parallel Christ's death?		
2.	Discuss the concept of dying with Christ, and as a result living with Him.		



4. Does God's grace give us license to sin?

5. How would you refute the false doctrine of "grace only"?

Your Questions...

What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

Redemption Comes Not By The Law

Read: Romans 7:1-25

Review of the Reading

1.	When is the woman released from the law of her husband?			
2.	How does one know sin?			
3.	"Therefore the law is, and the commandment, and"			
4.	The law is spiritual, but man under the Mosaic system was what?			
5.	5. Paul said he delights in the law of God according to what?			
Thou	ght Questions			
1.	Does Paul, in Romans 7:2-3, contradict Jesus (Matthew 5:32; 19:9)?			
2.	What is the spiritual application Paul makes in Romans 7:1-6?			

3.	Does verse 6 mean that we don't have to adhere to God's Word, as long as we have the proper attitude about service? Consider I John 2:3-5 in your answer.
4.	Explain Romans 7:11. See also James 1:14-15.
5.	Paul says in verse 14 that "the law is spiritual." What do you think this means? What are some other possibilities for its meaning that does not contradict revelation?
	Questions questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to
	r each based on class discussions.

Redemption Comes by Christ

Read: Romans 8:1-39

Review of	of	the	Reading
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Kevie	ew of the Reading
1.	For whom is there no condemnation?
2.	Who cannot please God?
3.	Who are "sons of God"?
4.	To whom do all things work together for good?
5.	What is able to separate us from the love of God?
Thou	ght Questions
1.	What is "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus"? What is "the law of sin and death"?
2.	Explain Romans 8:13.

3. How is a person "led by the Spirit of God" (Romans 7:14)?
4. How is intercession (Romans 8:26,34) different from mediation? Who is able to mediate on the behalf of the Christian? Based on what Scripture?
5. Paul makes reference to Psalm 44:22 in this chapter. What is the application he makes with that reference?
Your Questions
What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space t answer each based on class discussions.

Reactions to the Gospel

Read: Romans 9:1-33

	Revi	iew	of	the	Re	adi	ing
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1.	For whom did Paul suffer "great sorrow and continual grief"?
2.	What were some of Israel's advantages, as suggested in this chapter?
3.	Why was Pharaoh raised up?
4.	Why did Israel not attain to the law of righteousness?
5.	"What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not righteousness, have to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; but Israel, the law of righteousness, has not to the law of righteousness."
Thou	ght Questions
1.	What does Romans 9:3 say about Paul's character and compassion for others?
2.	Is the Calivinistic doctrine of predestination taught in this chapter? Explain your answer.

3.	Discuss the application of the potter and the clay as used here and in Jeremiah 18.
4	Why does Doul guete from Hoses and Jones in this masses as 2
4.	Why does Paul quote from Hosea and Israel in this passage?
5.	Does Romans 9:30-33 teach that obedience is not necessary? What is the point Paul is making?
Your	Questions
	questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to each based on class discussions.

Christ: The End of the Law to Believers

Read: Romans 10:1-21

Review	of	the	Rea	ding
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1.	What did Israel do in the place of submitting to the righteousness of God?
2.	What must one confess and believe to be saved?
3.	"For with the heart one unto righteousness, and with the mouth is made unto salvation."
4.	How does faith come?
5.	How does hearing come?
Thou	ght Questions
1.	What was wrong with Israel's zeal? Do we face the same danger today? What must we do to avoid the same mistakes?
2.	"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." What does this mean?

3.	Is confession and belief all that is necessary for salvation? Why isn't repentance or baptism mentioned in these verses?
4.	Can false doctrine produce true Christian faith? Explain.
5.	How important are preachers of the gospel? Are preachers given the respect they deserve?
Your	Questions
	questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to each based on class discussions.

The Remnant

Read: Romans 11:1-36

1.	Of which tribe was Paul?
2.	Who obtained what they sought? What happened to the rest?
3.	Salvation came to the Gentiles to provoke Israel to what?
4.	"Therefore consider the and of God: on those who fell,; but toward you,, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be off."
5.	Paul marvels at the depth and riches of what?
	ght Questions. Discuss the word "foreknew" (Romans 11:2). In what sense did God foreknow
1.	His people?
2.	What lessons can we learn from Elijah?

	3.	Explain	"the election	of grace"	(Romans	11:5).
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4. Paul warns his Gentile readers, "Do not be haughty, but fear" (Romans 11:20). Why is pride such a dangerous trait?

5. Explain Romans 11:26-27.

Your Questions...

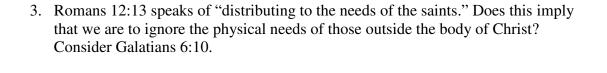
What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

Christian Character

Read: Romans 12:1-21

Review of the Reading

1.	"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living,,
	bodies a living,,
2.	To what should Christians not conform?
3.	In what should one rejoice? In what should one be patient? In what continue?
4.	How should we strive to live with others?
5.	To whom does vengeance belong?
Thou	ght Questions
1.	Discuss the significance of the word "reasonable" in Romans 12:1.
2.	What are some ways one might practice patience in the face of trials and tribulations?



4. Paul tells the Romans to, "as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men" (12:18). Does this mean we should not stand up for the truth when it is under attack? Refer to Jude 1:3.

5. Discuss the dangers of human vengeance.

Your Questions...

What questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to answer each based on class discussions.

The Christian and Law

Read: Romans 13:1-14

Review	of	the	Reading	Ţ
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1.	What is the source of all authority?			
2.	. How can one be "unafraid of the authority"?			
3.	What does the authority execute upon evildoers?			
4.	What are all of the commandments based upon?			
5.	"But on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no for the, to fulfill its"			
Thou	ght Questions			
1.	In the history of the world, we have seen some atrocious governments, such as Nazi Germany led by Hitler. Reconcile the appalling acts of such governments with Paul's affirmation in Romans 13:1 that "the authorities that exist are appointed by God."			
2.	Capital punishment – can it be supported by the New Testament Scriptures? Explain your answer.			

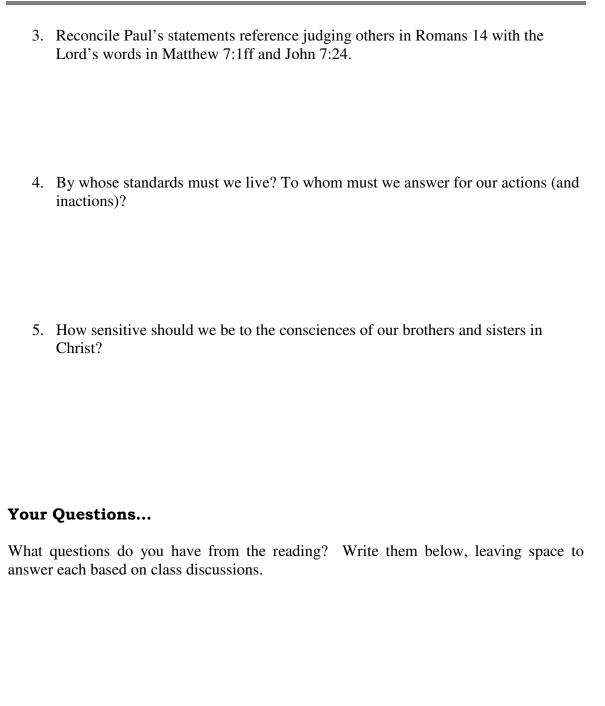
3. Explain how the commandment	ts are summed up in love.
4. How important is lave?	
4. How important is love?	
5. Contrast the sins of Romans 13 13:14.	3:13 with the act of putting on Christ in Romans
Your Questions	
What questions do you have from the answer each based on class discussions	ne reading? Write them below, leaving space to s.

Christian Liberty

Read: Romans 14:1-23

Review of the Reading

1.	Over what things should we not dispute?
2.	To whom does one stand or fall?
3.	What shall all stand before?
4.	"For the kingdom of God is not and, but and and in the Holy Spirit."
5.	What is unclean?
	ght Questions What are some of the "doubtful things" which were disputed in Paul's day? What are some of the "doubtful things" disputed today?
2.	What is the difference between "doubtful things" and matters of doctrine?



Conclusion

Read: Romans 15:1-16:27

Review of the Reading

1.	"For whatever things were written before were written for our,				
	that we through theandof the Scriptures might have"				
2.	In what manner should Christians receive one another?				
3.	When did Paul intend to visit Rome?				
4.	Who did Paul identify as "fellow prisoners" and "of note among the apostles"?				
5.	What were the Romans urged to do about those who caused divisions and				
	offenses?				
Thou	ght Questions				
1.	How important is the study of the Old Testament Scriptures? What dangers do w face if we ignore that portion of the Bible?				
2.	Paul encourages them to be "like-minded" and to glorify God "with one mind ar one mouth." Can this be done with other religious groups with whom we have				
	very fundamental differences? Consider Ephesians 4:1-6.				

3.	There are some who contend that Phoebe was a "deaconess" of the church in Cenchrea. How do we know that such a contention is incorrect? Refer to the qualifications set forth for deacons by Paul in I Timothy 3:8-13.
4.	Are the churches of Christ a denomination? Defend your answer.
5.	Why should we note and avoid those who teach false doctrine?
What	Questions questions do you have from the reading? Write them below, leaving space to reach based on class discussions.

A People of the Book 8-Year Curriculum

	January - March	April - June	July - September	October - December
2007	Matthew	Genesis	Galatians & Ephesians	Isaiah
2008	Exodus I & II Timothy, Titus		Hebrews	Minor Prophets I (Hosea-Obadiah)
2009	Mark	Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy	Romans	Jeremiah & Lamentations
2010	I & II Thessalonians	Joshua, Judges, Ruth	James, I & II Peter	Minor Prophets II (Jonah-Habakkuk)
2011	Luke	Samuel, Kings, Chronicles	I, II, III John & Jude	Daniel
2012	Acts	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther	I Corinthians	Minor Prophets III (Zephaniah-Malachi)
2013	John	Job	II Corinthians	Psalms
2014	Philippians, Colossians & Philemon	Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon	Revelation	Ezekiel

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