

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

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**THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE
TO THE ROMANS****Lesson 1A – Righteousness of God**

return pages 5 & 6 only

There is no doubt that Paul is the writer of the Epistle to the Romans (chapter 1, verse 1). The date of writing, the sixth in chronological order of Paul's writings was about A. D. 60.

In the Epistle, Paul makes known his intention and his burning desire to soon visit Rome, and announces before his coming, the distinctive truths which God had revealed to him, and which God would make known to the Romans through him and not only to the Romans, but to all believers down through the Dispensation of Grace, the Church Age. He desired the Christians in Rome to have his own statement on the doctrines of God's Grace ... a doctrine so bitterly attacked in that day by the legalistic teachers. They fought the Grace of God in that day, as they are fighting it in our day.

Paul was a "Pure Grace" preacher. On many occasions he declared that his message, as having to do with redemption, was a singular message: The cross, and certainly the cross and Grace are inseparable.

Verse 1 in Romans clearly sets forth the theme of the Epistle, the Gospel of God. The Gospel of God is the very widest possible designation of the whole body of redeeming truth. The Christ whom Paul magnifies in this Epistle is "no respecter of persons" (Rom. 2:11). He is not the God (or the Christ) of the Jews only, but He is the God of the Gentiles also (Rom. 3:29). And because He is the God of all, Paul clearly sets forth that all the world is found guilty before God (Rom. 3:19) This redemption must be provided for all, on a basis that all can meet with, simple, child-like faith.

Not only does the Epistle to the Romans set forth in the fullest way the doctrines of the marvelous Grace of God in relation to our redemption from sin and in relation to our salvation, but three outstanding chapters (chapters 9, 10, and 11) give to us the great promises that God made to Israel, promises concerning the Gentiles and the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham to the fullest extent; and the Epistle to the Romans clearly shows us that the completion of God's promises to Father Abraham can never be a reality until the completion of the Church is a reality and the Church (the Bride) is caught up to meet Jesus, the Bridegroom, in the air. Then, and only then, can the Deliverer out of Zion appear (Rom. 11:25-27).

As we study the book of Romans, you will notice the key phrase in the Epistle is "the righteousness of God" (Rom. 1:17; Rom. 3:21,22). There is no true righteousness apart from the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. It matters not how good, how upright, nor how honest we may be, our

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righteousnesses are "as filthy rags" (Isa. 64:6). Paul sets forth this tremendous truth in Romans. The book of Romans is divided into seven parts, or divisions, as follows:

1. In the first division, we learn that the whole world is guilty before God, and there is not one person or nation that is less guilty than all others (Rom. 1 through 3:20).

2. In the second division, we clearly see that justification is through the righteousness of God by faith. We clearly see that God's righteousness as set forth in the Gospel is the only remedy for sin and man's guilt toward God (Rom. 3:21 through 5:11).

3. In the third division, we will learn as we study this Epistle, that we are crucified with Christ when we truly believe on Him and accept His righteousness on the terms of the Gospel. We are crucified with Christ, we are resurrected to new life in Christ, and we walk as the Spirit of God leads day by day because the Spirit leads every son of God. If any have not the Spirit, they do not belong to God (Rom. 5:12 through 8:13).

4. In the fourth division, we study chapter 8, verses 14-39, we will see the full result in the blessing of the Gospel, made possible through the sacrificial death, burial and resurrection of our Christ; that He died for us, and God commended His love toward us only because of God's grace.

5. In the fifth division of Romans is very, very important. Paul clearly teaches that the Church is not a continuation of Israel. The Church did not inherit the promises God made to Abraham and Israel, and the Gospel does not do away with the covenant promises that God gave to Israel (Rom. 9 through 11:36).

6. In the sixth division of the book, we are clearly taught Christian life as it should be lived daily, and Christian service as it should be practiced from a heart filled with gratitude and love for God's marvelous grace in Christ Jesus (Rom. 12 through 15:33).

7. In the seventh division, there are 27 verses, chapter 16:1-27. These verses teach that love automatically flows from a Christian heart. After all, the very essence of Christianity is love. Personally, I believe the Holy Spirit led the men who arranged the books of the New Testament, in placing Romans at the very beginning of the Epistles. There were five other Epistles written before Romans, but I believe this Epistle holds its rightful place in the arrangement of the books of the New Testament. The body of truth revealed to Paul and penned down in these sixteen chapters, had been kept "secret since the ages began but now is made manifest"

(Rom. 16:25-26; Eph. 3:5-7). Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, begins to reveal this age-old mystery to the believers at Rome. Paul tells us that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and all Scripture is profitable

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to us (II Tim. 3:16). These great truths were first revealed to the Roman believers, but they are yours and mine as we study this gold mine of the Epistles.

Many believers consider Romans a book hard to understand; but this Epistle is not a difficult Epistle to understand if we will "let God be true and every man a liar" (Rom. 3:4). Many believers must confess that their besetting sin, as having to do with Bible study, is the sin of unbelief. They read a clear statement in God's Holy Word and then they stop, they raise their eyebrows, scratch their forehead and say, "I wonder what that means!" Just let God be true and every man a liar.

The Word of God says what it means, and means what it says. There are parables in the Word of God, and there are symbols in the Word of God, but the Holy Spirit always makes it clear when parables are employed to illustrate a tremendous spiritual truth. So when you read a clear statement such as "For sin shall not have dominion over you" (Rom. 6:14), do not ask, "What does that mean?" It is clear.

When one receives Jesus as Saviour, Jesus is our victory over sin; and if He who is in us is defeated by him who is on the outside of us, then the latter is greater than the former. You will understand if you will read I John 4:4 "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world." John is telling us that Jesus Christ is greater and more powerful than the devil. Every believer has within him Jesus in the Person of the Holy Spirit; and Jesus within is greater than the devil without. Therefore, "We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us" (Rom. 8:37).

The book of Romans speaks with authority. The words in Romans were penned down by the accredited representative of the risen Christ, one who was called and ordained of God to bear this message; not only to the Romans, but to all the Gentiles. The words we read in Romans are words that are God-breathed (II Tim. 3:16).

So as we read and study these sacred lines, verse-by-verse, chapter-by-chapter, should we not feel as Moses felt when God said that he should remove his sandals from his feet because he was standing on holy ground?

As we study the Epistle to the Romans, we will notice the exceeding sinfulness of sin; how sin entered; the final wages of sin; and the only hope for the sinner. Then we will see clearly set forth, the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and our desperate need for His righteousness. We will clearly see that God honors only the righteousness that comes through faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son. As we come to the closing chapters of the book, we will see clearly set forth the walk of the believers. We will see what the Holy Spirit reveals through Paul concerning

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our conduct toward each other, and as believers we will learn what true Bible holiness is. We will learn much about the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our heart and life after we become a child of God. As we study carefully these last verses, we will begin to walk in the light as we have never walked in the light before: "Ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light" (Eph. 5:8). Certainly, as we study Romans, we will receive new light, increased light . . . and if we fail to walk IN that light, then we will be worse off after studying this marvelous Epistle, than we were before we began the study. If we see these things, and know these things, happy will we be if we DO them; but if we see them and refuse to accept them ... if the light is revealed and we refuse to walk in it ... then better had we never been exposed to the tremendous spiritual truths of Romans.

Notes

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1. How many divisions is the Book of Romans written in? explain in brief.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.

2. What is the besetting sin to a believer when doing this Bible Study?

3. *I Jn 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.*
(KJV)
What is this verse ultimately telling us as a believer?

4. Redemption is offered to all on what basis?

5. Romans clearly shows us the completion of God's promises can never be reality until when?

6. What does GOD think of our righteousness?

7. Explain this verse: *Rom 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.*
(KJV)

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8. What is the warning given in studying the Book of Romans?
9. The word of God says what it means and means what it says, Explain?
10. Does the Gospel do away with the covenant promises that God gave to Israel?
11. Explain Romans 6:3 through 6:6, in light of what you have learned from this lesson?
12. Explain the mystery that was kept secret?
13. What is the essence of Christianity?

true/false

- Believers need to be baptized before he is considered completely saved.
- The Church is a continuation of the nation of Israel.
- Peter was the preacher of "Pure grace"
- The Book of Romans was written for the Roman Church only in A.D.60.

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Scripture memorization Romans 2:1; Isa.64:4; Romans 3:4 (write out these verses on the back of this page) must be in KJV