

Outline of the Book of Romans

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Author: Paul **Written to:** Believers in Rome **Date:** around AD 58

Place: Corinth **Type:** letter to the Church in Rome giving teaching and encouragement.

Purpose: To provide a systematic explanation of the gospel of grace under the New Covenant. The Old Covenant foreshadowed the New Covenant; the shedding of Jesus' blood brought it in (see Hebrews 9:1-10:18); and now Paul explains it.

Key verses: *For in the Gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written "The righteous shall live by faith".* 1:17
This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. 3:22

Chapter 1	Paul greets the Romans and states his desire to visit them. He then introduces his major theme: <i>In the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last.</i> v17. This gospel is for all who believe in Christ <i>first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.</i> God's wrath comes on all who sin. If people reject God's truth it leads to wrong thinking, deception, sin and depravity.
Chapter 2	God does not show favouritism. His righteous judgment comes on all who sin – whether Jews (under the law) or Gentiles. God is kind and wants us to repent but we all deserve His judgment (death) because all sin.
Chapter 3	No-one is righteous: all are under sin regardless of whether we are Jews or Gentiles. <i>But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known.</i> This righteousness comes from God, and is received by faith in Jesus Christ. All have sinned but now all can be justified (declared righteous in God's sight), not by observing the law, but by faith in Christ.
Chapter 4	Abraham is an example of justification by faith. He believed God and was declared righteous.
Chapter 5	Being declared righteous (justified) by faith means <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ we have peace with God▪ we pass from death to life▪ we have access to God▪ we are reconciled to God▪ we have eternal life in Christ.
Chapter 6	At the cross we died, were buried and rose with Christ. Believe this - know it, count it to your credit and yield yourself to God. If you do this sin will not reign over you. You'll walk in righteousness, and reign in life because you are no longer under law, but under grace. The end result is eternal life: <i>the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.</i>
Chapter 7	You are dead to the law. You have been released from what once kept you in bondage so you can serve God in a new way of the Spirit. If you try to be righteous by keeping the law you'll have a great struggle, and you won't win!
Chapter 8	In Christ you have been set free from the law of sin and death so live like it. The Spirit of God in you gives life. As you are led by the Holy Spirit you will not walk according to your old sinful nature. No, you will live in the righteousness you have in Christ! You may have to go through suffering as this is worked out but you will always know that God loves you and is working out His purposes in your life.
Chapter 9	Israel had every chance to obtain righteousness by faith. They missed out because they tried to obtain righteousness by following the law. This doesn't mean God's word failed. God is sovereign and can do what He likes with His people.
Chapter 10	Christ is the end of the law. Now everyone can be saved (including Israel) if, on hearing the gospel of grace, they believe and confess Jesus as Lord. <i>Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.</i>
Chapter 11	God has not rejected Israel. A remnant has been saved by grace and the Gentiles have been grafted into the root stock begun with Israel. One day all Israel will be saved.
Chapter 12 - 15:13	Therefore, submit yourself to God and live how He wants you to live. Don't conform to the world but be transformed in your thinking so you can fulfil God's will for your life. Living God's way includes humility, ministry, love, good works, submission, clean living and being an encourager. It means glorifying God in all you do.
Chapter 15:13 - 16:27	Paul's commission is to share this gospel with the Gentiles. He sends his greetings to the Roman Christians and finishes with a benediction: glorifying God for all He has done.