

RBCPC
2011 Study Series



New Testament

Week #5
Study Guide

Romans

Posting date: May 4, 2011

www.rbcpc.org/mark-up-your-bible/

Overview

The apostle Paul's letter to the Romans is a systematic, compelling presentation of the gospel. It has been called Paul's *Magnum Opus* – his finest work. It was written to both Jewish and Gentile believers in Rome, approximately AD 57.

Scripture Study – Key Passages

The book of Romans is full of theological content. Lengthy discussions may be had from almost every verse. The few selected here are just a beginning – you are encouraged to go deeper in study of this book, and even come back to it at the end of the Mark Up Your Bible series.

Open your Bible and read the following scripture:

Romans 3:28-31

1. Why would this passage be a problem for Jewish believers?
2. Why would this passage be good news for Gentiles?
3. What does it mean to have faith in Jesus?
4. Why is salvation by faith “good” news?

Romans 6:19-23

1. What does it mean to be a “slave to righteousness?”
2. How does this kind of slavery set you free, rather than bind you?
3. Discuss the meaning of the word “wages” in our culture today. Are wages considered good or bad? Why?
4. How might you look for “gifts” instead of “wages” in your life today?

Romans 12:2

1. What does it mean to “renew your mind?”
2. How might this “renewal” be transforming?
3. What is God trying to change in you?

Romans 12:4-5

1. Compare your body with Christ's? What is the same? What is different?
2. What happens when one body part stops functioning?
3. How does functioning as one body serve God's purposes?
4. What is the value of biblical community as expressed in this scripture?

Key Themes:

1. Justification is achieved by faith alone.
2. Salvation is for everyone, Jews and Gentiles alike.

Reflection

In the first 11 chapters, Paul presents the transforming power of the gospel. Beginning in chapter 12, he gives clear instructions for righteous living. Ask God to make you an instrument of his perfect will to love others, with whatever gifts he has given you.

Prayer

Romans 8:26:

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

Set aside an intentional “quiet time” and allow the Holy Spirit to intercede for you. Let the Holy Spirit speak those words too difficult to say. Believe that God will work good out of the painful things you are experiencing.

Homework

Read **Romans 6:23**, in preparation for the sermon on May 14/15, “One Verse.” Mark words, or phrases that stand out to you.

Notes & Reflections: