

The Gospel of God

*Studies in the Epistle of Paul
to the Romans*

The Righteousness of God in the Gospel Lesson 1

**Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
January 3, 2010**

The Epistle to the Romans

“. . . the most complete statement of the doctrine of salvation that you can find anyplace in the Word of God.”

– Pastor L.D. Custis, 2/7/1982

The Epistle to the Romans

“All the Reformers saw Romans as the God-given key to understanding all Scripture, since here Paul brings together all the Bible’s greatest themes – sin, law, judgment, human destiny, faith, works, grace, justification, sanctification, election, the plan of salvation, the work of Christ and of the Spirit, the Christian hope, the nature and life of the church, the place of Jew and non-Jew in the purposes of God, the philosophy of church and world history, the meaning and message of the Old Testament, the duties of Christian citizenship, and the principles of personal godliness and morality.” (The Reformation Study Bible)

The Epistle to the Romans

“ . . . the Book of Romans—a magnificent presentation of the gospel, the good news that God has provided a righteousness based not on what we can do for ourselves but on what God has already done for us in sending his Son as a sacrifice for sin. Paul’s purpose was to set forth in a systematic fashion the doctrine of justification by faith and its implications for Christian living.” (Robert Mounce, 2001)

Outline of Romans

1. Doctrine of Salvation (1-8)
2. Correlation (9-11)
3. Evidence of Salvation (12-16)

The Gospel in Romans

- ▶ The universal knowledge of God
- ▶ The universal denial of God – the wrath of God
- ▶ The righteousness of God by grace through faith
- ▶ Peace with God through Jesus Christ
- ▶ Does righteousness by faith promote sin?
- ▶ Life in the Spirit – slaves to righteousness
- ▶ The certainty of future glory
- ▶ What about the nation Israel?
- ▶ Practical Christianity – transformed by the Gospel

The Gospel in Romans

- ▶ The primacy of God's glory
- ▶ Romans 11:36 – conclusion of doctrinal section
- ▶ Romans 16:27 – conclusion of practical section

The Righteousness of God in the Gospel

Romans 1:1-17

- ▶ The fundamentals of the Gospel
- ▶ The outline of the text:
 1. Paul's testimony (1:1)
 2. The Gospel of God (1:2-6)
 3. The testimony of the Roman saints (1:7-15)
 4. The Gospel of God (1:16-17)

Paul's testimony of his own salvation

Romans 1:1

- ▶ Servant of Christ Jesus
- ▶ Called to be an apostle
- ▶ Set apart for the Gospel of God

The Gospel of God-- Romans 1:2-6

- ▶ Promised through His prophets in Holy Scripture (1:2)
- ▶ Concerning the Son of God – Jesus Christ our Lord (1:3-4)
- ▶ Humanity – Son of David
- ▶ Deity – declared by resurrection

An essential fact of the Gospel

Matt 3:17 – God announced: “This is My Beloved Son.”

Matt 4:3, 6 – Satan’s challenge: “If you are the Son of God!”

Matt 16:16 – Peter’s confession

Matt 22:41-46 – “Whose Son is the Christ?”

John 3:16, 18 – failure to believe leads to condemnation

John 20:30-31 – purpose of John’s Gospel

Acts 9:20 – Paul’s message from the beginning

Romans 8:32 – Love of God = he spared not His Son

1 John 3:23 – His commandment is to believe His Son

1 John 5:5 – means of overcoming

Salvation is through Jesus Christ

Romans 1:5-6

- ▶ We receive grace
- ▶ We receive apostleship
- ▶ We receive the obedience of faith
- ▶ He calls us to belong to Him

The testimony of the Roman saints

Romans 1:7-15

- ▶ Thankfulness to God
- ▶ Loved by God and called to be saints
- ▶ Visible faith
- ▶ In Christ
- ▶ Obedience

Petition for their further blessing

- ▶ Desire to impart further gift – strengthen
- ▶ Mutual blessing – reap harvest
- ▶ Divine obligation
- ▶ Comes by preaching the Gospel

The Gospel of God

Romans 1:16-17

- ▶ Power of God for salvation
- ▶ Righteousness of God is revealed
- ▶ The just shall live by faith
 - Habakkuk 2:4
 - Galatians 3:11-14 – from faith
 - Hebrews 10:36-39 – to faith

Q9: What is the message of the Gospel?

- ▶ Jesus Christ is the Son of God
- ▶ The righteousness of God – in place of my sin
- ▶ The just shall live by faith