

4/18/10

An Overview of Romans

Having looked at the introduction to Romans, we have a lot of information that will help us to understand the letter of Paul.

But now I want to simply walk through the epistle to the Romans, to get a good panoramic look of the letter, before we study it a few chapters at a time.

I. Doctrinal: How the gospel alone saves the sinner. Rom. 1-8

A. The introductory salutation and greeting. Rom. 1:1-7

1. Salutation. Rom. 1:1-7c
 - a. The identity of Paul. Rom. 1:1
 - b. The prophecy of the gospel. Rom. 1:2
 - c. The identity of Jesus. Rom. 1:3-4
 - d. The authority of Jesus. Rom. 1:5-6
2. Greeting. Rom. 1:7d-c
 - a. To the Romans who are loved of God. Rom. 1:7a-b
 - b. To Romans who are saints. Rom. 1:7c

B. The personal concern for the Romans and Paul's plans of coming. Rom. 1:8-15

1. He thanks God for the Romans and tells them of his prayer for them and his coming. Rom. 1:8-10

2. He expresses his desire to see them and impart some spiritual benefit to them and he from them. Rom. 1:11-12
3. He declares his past intentions to come, but was hindered till now and was ready to come and preach the gospel at Rome. 1:13-15

C. The proclamation of the righteousness of God for salvation. Rom. 1:16-17

1. The power of God to salvation. Rom. 1:16
2. The righteousness of God revealed and received by faith. Rom. 1:17

D. The lost condition of mankind. Rom. 1:18-3:20

1. The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness. Rom. 1:18-32
 - a. Man who is depraved restrains and corrupts the truth of God, despite the evidence of God by creation, becoming more blind. vs. 18-21
 - b. Man exalts himself as wise and corrupt the worship of God by worshiping the creation, so God gave man up to uncleanness, to dishonor their bodies. vs. 22-25
 - c. God gave them over to vile passion of lesbian and homosexual relations,

- receiving the consequences of their error. vs. 26-27
- d. God gave man up to debased or reprobate mind because they still did not want to acknowledge God in their lives, moving into greater depravity. vs. 28-31
 - e. Man knowing God's judgment for sinful practices, still practices sin and approves others also. vs. 32
2. The judgment of God is according to truth. Rom. 2:1-10
 - a. Good moral people, who enjoy the sins of other will not escape God's judgment that is according to truth. vs. 1-3
 - b. Man tries the patience of God, piling up wrath against him, at God's righteous judgment, for punishment or reward for his deeds. vs. 4-10
 3. The Gentile and Jews are compared and contrasted to the law and conscience. Rom. 2:11-16
 - a. God can not be partial and will judge the Jew by the Law. vs. 11-13
 - b. God will judge the Gentile by the law written in their hearts. vs. 14-16
 4. The Jews greater responsibility was due to the law and their misunderstanding of circumcision. Rom. 2:17-3:8
 - a. The Jew is guilty as the Gentile. Rom. 2:17-24

- b. The rite of circumcision does not save. Rom. 2:25-29
 - c. The judgment of God defended. Rom. 3:1-8
 - d. The universal guilt of Jew and gentile before God. Rom. 3:9-20
- E. The solution for sins committed. Rom. 3:21-5:11
 1. Sin was judged in Christ. Rom. 3:21-4:25
 - a. Faith is the key. Rom. 3:21-26
 - b. Boasting is excluded. Rom. 3:27-31
 - c. Abraham is the witness of faith. Rom. 4:1-8
 - d. Abraham believed before circumcision. Rom. 4:9-12
 - e. Abraham's faith is to teach us to trust God not the law. Rom. 4:13-25
 2. Sin is forgiven and experienced. Rom. 5:1-11
 - a. Justification is in Christ by faith. Rom. 5:1-5
 - b. Jesus reconciled us to the Father. Rom. 5:6-11
 - F. The solution to sin nature. Rom. 5:12-8:39
 1. God dealt with sin judicially. Rom. 5:12-7:6
 - a. Judicial judgment of the first Adam. Rom. 5:12-21
 - b. Judicial reckoning of the Old Man. Rom. 6:1-7:6

2. God dealt with sin experientially. Rom. 7:7-8:39
 - a. The Law is holy. Rom. 7:8-12
 - b. The Old sin nature can not serve Christ. Rom. 7:13-25
3. God provided his Holy Spirit. Rom. 8:1-39
 - a. His Spirit dwells in us. Rom. 8:1-11
 - b. His Spirit makes us children of God. Rom. 8:12-17
 - c. His Spirit makes us courageous, longing for God, strengthening us in our assurance. Rom. 8:18-30
 - d. His Spirit imparts His love to keep us close to God. Rom. 8:31-39

II. National or Prophetical: How the gospel applies to Israel. Rom. 9:1-11

- A. The gospel does not annul God's plan for Israel. Rom 9:1-33
 1. The love for Israel pledged by Paul. Rom. 9:1-5
 2. The purposes of God are for true Israel. Rom. 9:6-13
 3. The righteous sovereignty of God. Rom. 9:14-21
 4. The calling of the Gentiles in the prophets. Rom. 9:22-29
- B. The gospel is the fulfillment of promise to Israel. Rom. 9:30-10:21

1. Israel sought the law of righteousness rather than faith. Rom. 9:30-33
 2. Israel sought to establish their own righteousness. Rom. 10:1-3
 4. Israel's prophet Moses declared the righteousness of Christ by faith. Rom. 10:4-13
 5. Israel's rejection of the gospel. Rom. 10:14-21
 - a. The gospel through a preacher is the method of salvation. Rom. 10:14-15
 - b. The gospel disobeyed by Israel. Rom. 10:16-21
- C. The gospel does not reject Israel. Rom. 11:1-36
1. The past rejection of Israel by God is not total. Rom. 11:1-10
 2. The present rejection of the gospel by Israel is not permanent. Rom. 11:11-24
 3. The future rejection of the gospel by Israel will come at the end of the church age. Rom. 11:25-36

III. Practical: How the gospel is to be lived out. Rom. 12:1-15:13

- A. In the earthly body. Rom. 12:1-2
 1. The root is consecration. Rom. 12:1
 2. The process is transformation. Rom. 12:2
- B. In the grace of God. Rom. 12:3-21

1. Through humility. Rom. 12:3
2. Through different gifts. Rom. 12:4-8
3. Through agape love. Rom. 12:9-21

C. In obedience to civil authorities. Rom. 13:1-14

1. Through the order of God's appointment. Rom. 13:1-7
2. Through agape love. Rom. 13:8-10
3. Through recognizing the nearness of Christ. Rom. 13:11-14

D. In biblical liberty. Rom. 14:1-15:13

1. Through recognizing different personal convictions not scriptural ones. Rom. 14:1-13
2. Through the law of agape love. Rom. 14:14-23
3. Through the bearing up of the weak as Christ. Rom. 15:1-6
4. Through the same grace that Christ received us. Rom. 15:7-13

IV. Personal: How he is a minister of the gospel. Rom. 15:14-16:27

A. Paul's passion for the gospel. Rom. 15:14-21

1. As a minister of the Gentiles. Rom. 15:14-16
2. As a pioneer of the gospel. Rom. 15:17-21

B. Paul's plans in the gospel. Rom. 15:22-32

1. To go to Spain and see them on the way. Rom. 15:22-24
2. To first deliver the love gift of the Gentile to the Jerusalem Christians. Rom. 15:25-29
3. To request prayer regarding four things. Rom. 15:30-32
 - a. For protection from those who did not believe at Jerusalem. Rom. 15:30-31a
 - b. For the reception of the offering of the Gentiles by the Jews. Rom. 15:31b
 - c. For his coming in joy and the will of God. Rom. 15:32a
 - d. For his refreshing with them after his long trip to them. Rom. 15:32b

C. Paul's plead for Phoebe regarding the gospel. Rom. 16:1-2

1. She was a deaconess at Cenchrea. Rom. 16:1
2. She was a worthy saint in need of ministry assistance. Rom. 16:2a-b
3. She had been a servant to many including Paul. Rom. 16:2c

D. Paul's personal greetings in the gospel. Rom. 16:3-16

1. The list is long, 26 names. vs. 3-15
2. The list is by first hand knowledge. Rom. 16:3-14

3. The list is particular in details. Rom. 16:3-4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13
4. The list is affectionate. Rom. 16:5, 8, 12c-d, 16

E. Paul's proclamation about divisive people against the gospel. Rom. 16:17-20

1. They are to be marked. Rom. 16:17a-c
2. They are to be avoided. Rom. 16:17d
3. They do not serve the Lord but themselves. Rom. 16:18a-b
4. They deceive by words the hearts of the simple and acknowledges their obedience. Rom. 16:18c-20

F. Paul's pronounce the greetings of his co-laborers in the gospel. Rom. 16:21-24

1. Paul's fellow workers. Rom. 16:21
2. Paul's amanuensis, Tertius. Rom. 16:22
3. Paul's host, Gaius, the treasure of the city, Erastus, and Quartus a brother, probably a slave. Rom. 16:23
4. Paul's commendation, grace. Rom. 16:24

G. Paul's personal benediction in the gospel. Rom. 16:25-27

1. His confidence in the gospel that was once hidden. Rom. 16:25
2. His proclamation of the gospel to be obeyed. Rom. 16:26
3. His doxology of God and Jesus Christ. Rom. 16:27