

Romans Part One

Recommended Books:

Regarding “salvation” in Romans:

Rene Lopez, Romans Unlocked: Power to Deliver

Zane Hodges, Romans: Deliverance From Wrath

Regarding “justification” in Romans:

Douglas Moo, The Epistle to the Romans (NICNT)

Stephen Westerholm, Justification Reconsidered: A Pauline Theme

Background information about Romans:

Since Paul mentions Phoebe (the letter bearer) as coming from Cenchrea (an eastern port of Corinth; cf. Rom 16:1–2) and the Corinthian believer Gaius who hosted Paul (Rom 16:23; 1 Cor 1:14), it is most likely that Paul penned Romans at the end of his third missionary journey while staying in Corinth for three months (Acts 20:3). Furthermore, the two canonical Corinthian letters explain Paul’s plan to come to Corinth to receive a financial gift from them for the Jerusalem church (1 Cor 16:1–4; 2 Cor 8–9), while Rom 15:26–28 reveals that he has received it and is sending it to Jerusalem. From Corinth, Paul traveled to Philippi for the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread (Acts 20:6), and desired to be in Jerusalem by Pentecost (Acts 20:16). Therefore, the likely date of composition is in the later part of winter or early spring of AD 56–57.

The letter’s recipients are “saints” (Rom 1:7) whose “faith” is recognized throughout the region (1:8, 15). They are believers, and their ethnic backgrounds were Jewish and Gentile (chaps. 2–4; 9–11; 16:7–11).

López, R. A. (2010). The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Romans. In R. N. Wilkin (Ed.), *The Grace New Testament Commentary* (pp. 621–622). Grace Evangelical Society.

Rom. 1:15 So, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel [= good news] to you also who are in Rome.

Rom. 1:16 ¶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Rom. 1:17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith [= by faith for faith]; as it is written: “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *ONE* WILL LIVE BY FAITH.”

Rom. 1:18 ¶ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Rom. 1:19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

Rom. 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes, that is*, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, being understood by what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Rom. 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their reasonings, and their senseless hearts were darkened.

Rom. 1:22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

Rom. 1:23 and they exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible mankind, of birds, four-footed animals, and crawling creatures.

Rom. 1:24 ¶ Therefore God gave them up to vile impurity in the lusts of their hearts, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

Rom. 1:25 For they exchanged the truth of God for falsehood, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Rom. 1:26 ¶ For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged natural relations for that which is contrary to nature,

Rom. 1:27 and likewise the men, too, abandoned natural relations with women and burned in their desire toward one another, males with males committing shameful acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

Rom. 1:28 ¶ And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a depraved mind, to do those things that are not proper,

Rom. 1:29 *people* having been filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, *and* evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, *and* malice; *they are* gossips,

Rom. 1:30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

Rom. 1:31 without understanding, untrustworthy, unfeeling, *and* unmerciful;

Rom. 1:32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also approve of those who practice them.



Rom. 2:1 ¶ Therefore you have no excuse, you *foolish* person, everyone *of you* who passes judgment; for in that *matter in* which you judge someone else, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

Rom. 2:2 And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things.

Rom. 2:21 *you*, therefore, who teach someone else, do you not teach yourself? *You* who preach that one is not to steal, do you steal?

Rom. 2:22 *You* who say that one is not to commit adultery, do you commit adultery? *You* who loathe idols, do you rob temples?

Rom. 2:23 You who boast in the Law, through your breaking the Law, do you dishonor God?

“Salvation” in Romans means _____
towards sinful human beings in that God is handing sinful humans over to a deeper experience of sin.

Even the most moral persons (including Jews living under the Law) are _____
they condemn in others.

1. How can sinful human beings living under the present _____ of God be delivered?

2. How can a righteous God be _____ in delivering sinful, guilty people from His present wrath?

3. What is it like to experience God's _____ to deliver?

A preview to the answers:

Rom. 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom. 5:9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him.

Rom. 5:10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.