

A Thinking Faith: The Letter to Romans Overview

October 23, 2022

Text: Romans

Introduction:

Big Idea: “If we have gained a true understanding of this Epistle [Romans], we have an open door to all the most profound _____ of Scripture.” - John Calvin (1509-1564)

1. Important Background Information on the Letter to the Romans

- The author of Romans was _____ (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- The human writer of Romans was the Apostle _____ (2 Peter 1:20-21)
- The timing was the winter _____ AD
- The purpose of the letter was to impart...some spiritual gift to strengthen the Roman believers (1:11)
- The theme is Romans 1:16–17 *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. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”*

2. Key words in the letter of Romans

- _____ : Our Need for the Gospel
- _____ : The Heart of the Gospel
- _____ : The Freedom of the Gospel
- _____ : Paul’s Defense of God’s character in the Gospel
- _____ : The Application of the Gospel

3. Outline of the letter to the Romans

- God’s work _____ us (Romans 1-5)
 - We are guilty and condemned (1-3)
 - We are justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ by imputed righteousness (4-5)
- God’s work _____ us (Romans 6-11)
 - We are regenerated, or born again, by the power of the Holy Spirit by imparted righteousness.
- God’s work _____ us (Romans 12-16)
 - We live the Christian life as members of the church doing ministry to serve the mission of God as the fruit of imputed and imparted righteousness.

Truth Into Action:

- **Ask God to help you** grow in your understanding & dependence upon the gospel as we journey through Romans.
- **Recognize** how obeying Jesus Christ (healthy discipleship) flows out of the gospel.

SERMON CONNECT CARD (Go on the FBC app and complete the digital card at the CONNECT tab or complete a paper card)

- **How do you desire your faith to grow through the sermon series in Romans?**
- How may we help & pray for you?



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up:

1. In the sermon it was stated that God is the author of letter to the Romans and the Apostle Paul was the human writer.
 - a. Write down what these passages teach about the Bible and share what you learned.
 - 2 Timothy 3:16
 - Proverbs 30:5
 - Isaiah 40:8
 - Isaiah 55:11
 - Jeremiah 23:29
 - John 17:17
 - Romans 10:17
 - Ephesians 6:17
 - Hebrews 4:12
 - Matthew 5:17-18 (In these verses, Jesus is reinforcing the accuracy of the Scriptures down to the smallest detail and the slightest punctuation mark, because it is the very Word of God.)
 - 2 Peter 1:21

Talk it through: *The doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture essentially teaches that God “superintended” the human authors of the Bible so that their individual styles were preserved but the end result was precisely what God wanted. When Matthew, for example, sat down to write an account of Jesus’ ministry, he relied on his memory (he was an eyewitness to the events he recorded) with help from the Holy Spirit (John 14:26).* [<https://www.gotquestions.org/who-wrote-the-Bible.html>]. Do you have any insight into the topic of inspiration that might help another to either understand it better or explain it to another person? .

Take it public: A low view of Scripture often flows out of this kind of thinking: *The bible is no different than any other book.* Based upon what you have learned above, how would you tell them that the Bible is different than any other book?

2. God knowing that persecution was headed toward Rome at the hand of Nero, guided Paul in writing the letter to believers in Rome. Why would it be important to have a firm grip on what you believe while walking through the fires of tribulation and hardship?

3. Read Romans 1:16-17 and discuss their significance as the theme verses in the book of Romans.

Closing Prayer: Father as we begin to walk through the book of Romans we ask for your help. Help us make worship services a weekly priority and we ask you to take us deep into your word so that we might discover treasures in your word. Amen!