



Week 1 of 3

2000 years ago, Christians in Rome would have commonly seen crucifixions on the way to market. Did not respond with anger outward; they looked inward at their own sinfulness.

The Book of Romans

Gospel (Romans 1:16-17) - fulfills God's promises + centers on Jesus. It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes -- WE are in peril! (1:18 - 3:20) - darkness.

We have no excuse to hide behind -- drop the fig leaf.

God's Wrath = God's opposition to all who would distort or destroy His creation.

ROMANS / RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD



Thesis 1:1-17
The gospel displays God's righteousness.



DENIED 1-3
All have sinned and stand under the wrath of God.



Gentiles & Jews 1:18-3:8
Gentiles have sinned, Jews have broken the law.



Under Sin 3:9-20
No one is righteous, all have followed the snake.



DECLARED 3-4
Christ's atoning death makes the unrighteous righteous.



HOPE 5-8
Those justified by Christ have hope in trials.



DEFENDED 9-11
God is righteous and faithful in his plan and choosing.



Abraham & Faith 4
Abraham believed God and was counted righteous.



Freedom 5:12-8:17
Jesus triumphed; freedom from sin and law results.



Remnant 11
Israel's rejection not complete, a remnant will return.



DISPLAYED 12-15
Righteousness means offering bodies as living sacrifices.



World 13
Submit to the government, love fulfills the law.



Church 14-15
The weak and strong are to love one another.



Conclusion 15:14-16:27
Paul's travel plans, commendation, and promise of hope.



Light of Creation - Romans 1:20

Our Identity comes from Who we are following.

Culture is like a dung ball rolling down a hill... (Luther)

Jesus: "Die to yourself."

Light of Conscience - Romans 2

God loves me at my very worst and chooses to give me His very best.

Romans 3:21: "But now..." Light of Christ
Grace unpacked from Romans 3:21 - 8:39

Bondage TO sin (Romans 1:18 - 3:20) and rescue FROM sin (Romans 3:21 - 8:39).

Romans 3:23 -- "All have fallen short..." -- Compare Liam Neeson clip with Kermit clip

No condemnation, only invitation

Doing good to people who have not been good to Him is what God calls the Gospel.

Doing good to people who have not been good to us is what frees us.

Sin always overpromises and under-delivers. Like sugar/salt/fat -- Twinkies?

Romans 5:1-11 - Justification

A new understanding of suffering: Romans 5:3-5

"We rejoice in our sufferings" 35 x's in Paul's writings.

Suffering produces endurance -- Pressure leads to staying power or an attitude of overcoming.

Endurance produces character -- approved metal whose impurities have been removed.

Character produces hope -- Final step in spiritual maturity -- not tuition we pay but the diploma we receive when we suffer the tests.

Romans 6 -- keep on sinning? No, that would be a perversion of grace! We are DEAD to sin.
Baptism -- your public confession -- united with Christ in his death, burial and resurrection.

Romans 6:6 -- corporate sense -- the body of Sin is opposite the Body of Christ
Every baptism means the body of Sin loses a member and the Body of Christ gains one.
This is why we celebrate!