

Outline of Romans¹

Theme: *The righteousness of God.*²

- I. Introduction: 1:1–17
- II. Righteousness Needed (*condemnation*): 1:18–3:20
- III. Righteousness Provided (*justification*): 3:21–5:21
- IV. Righteousness Enabled (*sanctification*): 6:1–8:39
- V. Righteousness Vindicated (*Israel*): 9:1–11:36
- VI. Righteousness Practiced (*Application*): 12:1–15:13
- VII. Conclusion: Romans 15:14–16:27

¹ Adapted from: Charles Ryrie. *The Ryrie Study Bible* (Chicago: Moody, 1995), 1786; Roy Gingrich. *The Book of Romans in Outline Form*. (Memphis: Riverside Outreach Printing, 1993), 24; G. Michael Cocoris/Revised & Expanded by Ronald B. Allen. *The Book of Romans: Introductory Notes* (course files, BE109, Dallas, TX, Spring 2012), 8

² The words for “righteous”, “just”, and “justify” are very similar in Greek, and are used at least 58 times in Paul’s Epistle to the Romans.

Romans Notes

BTC – Fellowship Bible Church – 2026/2027

I. The World of Paul's Letter to the Romans:

A. The City of Rome and the Roman Empire:

1. Rome was the largest city of the Roman Empire with a circumference of over 13 miles by A.D. 70.¹
2. Slaves comprised twenty percent of Rome's total population.
3. There was a major Jewish demographic (estimated between 20,000 and 60,000).²
4. The Roman empire was connected by a vast system of roadways, and the city of Rome boasted major architectural achievements.

B. Greco-Roman Religion:

1. The Roman Empire was polytheistic with many religions being licensed by Rome.
2. Jews and Christians were resented for their monotheism and exclusivist claims.

II. Introductory Matters:

A. Date: Romans was written during Paul's third missionary journey, approximately A.D. 57.

B. Place of Origin: Events and people mentioned in Acts, Romans, and Corinthians suggest that Romans was written from Corinth (Acts 20:3, 16 cf. Rom 15:25–26; Rom 16:23 cf. 1 Cor 1:14; and the mention of *Cenchrea* in Rom 16:1).

C. Authorship: Paul the Apostle (1:1).

¹ H. F. Vos, "Rome," in *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, Revised*, ed. Geoffrey W. Bromiley (Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1979–1988), 230.

² Vos, "Rome," 230.

D. Audience: Jewish and Gentile believers in Rome (1:7).

E. Occasion for the Book:

1. **Introduction.** Paul had never visited the church in Rome, but he planned to visit them and hoped that they would partner with him in future endeavors (1:13 cf. 15:24).
2. **Protection against the Judaizers.**
3. **Unification.** The church of Rome was comprised of Jewish and Gentile believers and Paul's letter provided the theological basis and practical instructions for the unity of the church.
 - a) The _____ is the answer for both Jew and Gentile (Rom 1:16).
 - b) Both Jew and Gentile are under _____ (Rom 2:9–10; 3:9).
 - c) Both Jew and Gentile are _____ by faith (3:29–30; 4:9–12).
 - d) God is rich in mercy to both Jew and Gentile (10:12).
 - e) Both Jewish and Gentile believers must learn to live together in _____ (14:1–15:13).

F. Message of the Book: In order to unify the church in Rome, Paul demonstrated that the Gospel is the power of God to salvation for all who believe—both Jew and Gentile!

III. Significance of Romans:

A. Uniqueness of Romans:

B. Historical Impact of Romans:

C. Potential Life Impact for FBC:

Romans 1:1–17

I. Introductory Greeting (1:1–7):

A. Paul's Authority (1:1–4):

B. Paul's Commission (1:5–7):

II. Statement of Intent to Visit Rome (1:8–15):

A. Prayer for the church (1:8–10):

B. Desire to establish the church (1:11–13):

C. Sense of obligation (1:14–15):

III. Paul's Thesis (1:16–17):