

Romans In A Nutshell

Paul's purposes in writing Romans:

- To announce his plans to visit.
- To present a complete and detailed statement of the gospel message he proclaimed.
- To ease the tension between Jewish and Gentile believers in the church at Rome.

The Theme:

- Simply stated – The Gospel
- Specifically – The Righteousness of God
- Key verses – 1:16-17
- Romans is about the gospel's power to justify and to deliver the justified to experience life!
- Salvation* – In Romans this word means deliverance from God's present wrath brought about by sin. The focus is freeing the believer from sin's grip.
- The Gospel is the message of how a righteous God makes people righteous righteously.

Righteousness revealed in condemnation – 1:18-3:20

- Condemnation of the Gentile – 1:18-32
- Condemnation of the Moralist – 2:1-16
- Condemnation of the Jew – 2:17-3:8
- Condemnation of all men – 3:9-20

Righteousness revealed in justification – 3:21-5:21

- Redemption - The act of God in which He Himself pays as a ransom the price of human sin.
- Reconciliation - A change of relationship from hostility to peace between two parties.
- Propitiation - A satisfying sacrifice. The wrath of God is satisfied (propitiated) by the sacrifice of His Son.

Chapter 4 – Four irrefutable reasons why justification is by faith.

- 1 Justification is a gift, therefore it cannot be earned through works (1-8).
- 2 Abraham was justified before the covenant of circumcision, therefore circumcision has no relationship to justification (9-12).
- 3 Abraham was justified before the Law, therefore justification is not based on keeping the Law (13-17).
- 4 Abraham was justified because of his faith in God, not because of his works (18-25).

Righteousness revealed in sanctification – 6:1-8:39

Chapter 6 deals with the extreme of *license* – Since we are saved by grace we are free to live as we please. This chapter tells us how to stop doing bad things.

Chapter 7 deals with the extreme of *legalism* – We are saved by grace but we must live under Law to please God. This chapter tells us how not to do good things.

Chapter 8 teaches us how to truly live – By the power of the Holy Spirit.

Paul uses four key words to show our responsibility in relation to God's sanctifying work:

Know - Consider (reckon) - Present (yield) - Obey

-Living by *Law* brings misery.

-*Licentious* living squanders our riches in Christ.

-Living by the *Law of Liberty* brings life and peace.

-8:35-39 - *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?*

As a child of God you are completely secure in God's love for you!

Righteousness revealed in God's Choice – 9:1-11:

The question now arises, especially in the Jewish mind, "Has God turned away from Israel?"

Can we trust God's promises in Chapter 8, that nothing will ever separate us from His love, if Israel has been separated from His love?

Paul has two basic purposes:

- 1 – To vindicate God for temporarily excluding national Israel from His present plan.
- 2 – To keep the Gentiles from becoming arrogant since Israel will be again grafted into God's plan in the future.

Chapter 9 – Israel's past election

Chapter 10 – Israel's present rejection

Chapter 11 – Israel's future restoration

Righteousness revealed in transformed living – 12:1-16:27

12:1-2 The call to be a living sacrifice!

Chapter 13 - The Christian's Responsibility To Government: Respect - Submission - Support – Participation – Prayer

Chapter 14 – Do not judge one another because we are all fellow servants of the Lord.

Chapter 15 – Seek God's glory in all we do.

Chapter 16 – Personal messages.

Conclusion – *The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.* Knowing our Lord could return at any moment should be our greatest comfort and motivation to serve Him faithfully.