

IN &
OUT

Romans

PART 2

ROMANS
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Romans, The Constitution of Your Faith!

There are no chapters in all the Word of God that are more enlightening or more liberating than Romans 6, 7, and 8—chapters which explain what it means to be in Christ.

However, we simply cannot dive into Romans 6, 7, and 8 without first examining the waters and getting our bearings on the book as a whole.

You can never read a book of the Bible enough, for it is a living Word . . . imparting life afresh and anew with every reading.

Some of you are newcomers to the study of Romans while others have already studied the first five chapters; therefore, the lesson is divided accordingly. Do only the portion of the lesson that pertains to you. The “Old-Timers’ Homework” begins on page 7.

NEWCOMERS’ HOMEWORK

TAKING IT IN

Because your assignment this week is to read the book of Romans, your daily assignments are spread out over a week’s time.

In the light of this you need to analyze your week and set aside a specific time for your homework. Set a goal and give it priority. Realize that it is time which has eternal value because it is time spent with your God in His Word. As you consecrate these next nine weeks to your Lord and the study of His Word, keep in mind the absolute reality of Deuteronomy 8:3: ““And He humbled you and let you be hungry, and fed you with manna which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you understand that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD.””

Beloved student, you have been prayed for!

DAY
ONE

1. Read Romans 1 and look for answers to the following questions. Then record your insights.
 - a. Who wrote Romans?
 - b. To whom was it written?
 - c. Do you have any insights from chapter 1 regarding the author's purpose in writing? If so, record them.

2. Read Romans 15:18-28 for clues as to when in Paul's life this letter was written. Note where he has been, where he desires to go, and why.

3. The following are some insights on the historical setting of Romans. Putting clues together from our study of Romans, we can discern the following facts:
 - a. Paul has never, as yet, visited Rome (Romans 15:23 [Romans 1:13]).
 - b. Paul plans to do so, however, after he visits Jerusalem where he will deliver a contribution to the saints (Romans 15:24-26).
 - c. Paul will visit Rome on his way to Spain (Romans 15:24, 28).

- d. Paul has finished preaching the gospel in this area and is looking for new territory (Romans 15:19, 20, 23). This would give us a clue as to time — at the end or near the end of his third missionary journey.
- e. Paul has previously worked with Prisca (Priscilla) and Aquila (Romans 16:3-5 [compare with Acts 18:2]). He also mentions other helpers, but most of us are familiar with Priscilla and Aquila from the book of Acts.
- f. Paul is staying with Gaius. He also mentions others who are with him (Romans 16:21-23).
- g. If you were a student of Acts, you would be able to discern even better the time and place of the writing of Romans (Acts 19:21 is one good clue); however, we will not go into that now. Scholars basically agree that Romans was written from Corinth (compare Gaius and 1 Corinthians 1:14) somewhere between A.D. 56 and A.D. 58. When Paul went to visit Greece on his third missionary journey, he stayed three months at Corinth (Acts 20:3).
- h. At this time in church history, there were two factions that were perverting the gospel. These factions were referred to as the Antinomians and the Judaizers. An awareness of their heresies helps in understanding Paul's treatment of the various questions and doctrines. He was presenting, defending, and explaining the pure gospel because a knowledge of the real and genuine exposes the false.

Antinomians were those who were against (anti) the Law (nomos). They taught that since a man was saved by grace, not by the Law, he could live any way he wanted. The more he sinned, the more it demonstrated the grace of God in forgiving that sin!

Judaizers thought that a man was saved by grace but was "kept" by the Law. They added circumcision and the works of the Law to faith in Christ.

In observing the historical and cultural setting of Romans, you would also want to note those ethnic groups to which Paul refers; this will help you understand why he says certain things and makes various references. Remember, the church at Rome was composed of Jews and Gentiles. You will find it helpful to know the following cultural divisions:

- 1) The Greeks divided all mankind into two groups: Greeks and barbarians.
- 2) The Romans divided all mankind into two groups: citizens and strangers.
- 3) The Jews divided all mankind into two groups: Jews and Gentiles.

DAY
TWO

Today we will begin reading through Romans chapter by chapter to discern the purpose, theme, and structure of the book.

1. The following are your instructions for each day:
 - a. Read the assigned chapters in Romans using the copy that is in the Appendix of this workbook. Please do not use commentaries unless you are directed to do so.
 - b. As you read, mark the following key words throughout the book:
 - 1) righteous (righteousness)
 - 2) faith
 - 3) justification (justify, justified, just)
 - 4) Law (law)
 - c. After you read each chapter, record the main subject or theme of that chapter on the “Romans at a Glance” chart, located on page 6. Sometimes the chapter will cover two main topics. If so, record them both on the same line.
2. Today read Romans 1–5 following the instructions given above.

DAY
THREE

Read Romans 6–11 following the instructions given under DAY TWO, number 1.

DAY
FOUR

1. Read Romans 12–16 following the instructions given under DAY TWO, number 1.
2. Review the work you did over the last three days and determine the main theme of the book. Record this on the “Romans at a Glance” chart.

LIVING
IT OUT

DAY
FIVE

1. Considering what you learned about Antinomians and Judaizers, can you see any parallels in Christianity today? Describe them.

2. How would you describe a true Christian?

ROMANS AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

Author:

Chapter Themes

When written:

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16

OLD-TIMERS' HOMEWORK**TAKING
IT IN**

Those of you who have already done Romans 1 need to see what you can remember about Romans before you do any review. So be a good sport—no cheating. Answer the following the best you can without opening your Bible:

1. Who wrote Romans?

2. To what two groups of people was Romans written?

3. What is the main theme of Romans?

4. What is the main theme of the following segment divisions in Romans:
 - a. Romans 1–3:20

 - b. Romans 3:21–5

 - c. Romans 6–8

 - d. Romans 9–11

 - e. Romans 12–16

5. Now see if you can remember the theme of each of the first five chapters of Romans.

Romans 1 _____

Romans 2 _____

Romans 3 _____

Romans 4 _____

Romans 5 _____

6. Read through the book of Romans.

a. Look for the answers to any of the above questions you could not remember.

b. Record the theme of each of the remaining chapters on the chart below.

Romans 6 _____

Romans 7 _____

Romans 8 _____

Romans 9 _____

Romans 10 _____

Romans 11 _____

Romans 12 _____

Romans 13 _____

Romans 14 _____

Romans 15 _____

Romans 16 _____

LIVING
IT OUT

How have you been able to apply what you learned in Romans 1 to your life?

Well, you are on your way. In these first weeks the warfare will be intense, for Satan, the father of lies, wants to keep you blind to a clear understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ. After all, it is the gospel that delivers us completely from Satan's power and dominion.

Beware of Satan's tactics! Watch and pray; remember, Beloved, the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. Give no place to the devil or the flesh. Rather, study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that does not need to be ashamed when you see your Lord Jesus Christ face-to-face.

Persevere . . . understanding the conflict, but also confident in the sweetness of persevering until we cross the finish line.

May we press on together so we can say 2 Timothy 4:7.

