

# THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU'LL EVER STUDY

A SURVEY OF THE BIBLE

VOLUME 4:  
THE NEW TESTAMENT

starr meade

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*The Most Important Thing You'll Ever Study: A Survey of the Bible, vol. 4: The New Testament*

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To all parents who are diligent in giving their children  
a thorough knowledge of God's Word.

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# *Paul's Epistle to the Romans*

***Paul's epistle to the Romans is a masterpiece*** of Christian literature.

Martin Luther, the man credited with beginning the Protestant Reformation, was converted to Christ while he studied Romans. Debate and rhetoric classes sometimes study Romans because of the excellence of the arguments and style Paul used. Romans is a thorough, clear, concise presentation of the gospel. It can be very helpful to read Romans in one sitting, if possible, or at least to keep looking back to keep in mind Paul's whole argument, since each new point follows closely on what went before.

Paul wrote most of his letters to churches he had planted himself. Romans is an exception. Paul had not yet been to Rome, but he intended to go soon. There was already a Christian church there, though, and both Jews and Gentiles belonged to it. A main reason that Paul wrote this letter was to encourage good relations between Jews and Gentiles since, outside of Christ, these two groups didn't get along. Paul dearly loved Christ's bride, the church. He longed to see all her members living in love and unity. Paul's epistle to the Romans is a complete explanation of the gospel—why we need it, who it's for, how we receive it, what all its benefits are, how it should affect the way Christians live. As he wrote his explanation, Paul kept his emphasis on how this gospel relates to both Jews and Gentiles and how it should make a difference in their relationships with each other. In addition, because it was such a thorough explanation, Paul brought up a number of possible objections to what he wrote, and then answered them. In the next few pages, we'll work through his main points.

## I. INTRODUCTION TO THE GOSPEL, ROMANS 1:1-15



### ***Read Romans 1:1-6.***

Fill in the blanks as you go:

The gospel is of <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1);  
it is both from and about him. God promised the gospel beforehand, through  
<sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
<sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 2).  
It is concerning <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
was descended from <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
according to the <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
and who was declared to be <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
by his <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 3-4).  
The gospel is about this person (v. 4b): <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.  
The gospel is spreading among <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
and brings about the <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ of  
<sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere it goes (vv. 5-6).

## II. SUMMARY OF THE GOSPEL, ROMANS 1:16-17



### ***Read Romans 1:16-17.***

The gospel is the power of God for <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
to everyone who <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
both <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and  
<sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Right away, Paul begins to work toward his goal of Jews and Gentiles united by the  
gospel). In the gospel, the <sup>17</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
of God is <sup>18</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

from <sup>19</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

for <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul will show, later in the epistle, that man's most basic need is for righteousness. Man has none of his own and an almighty God requires it. Martin Luther understood this, and it nearly drove him mad. Try as he might to do as many acts of righteousness as he could, he always felt that it wasn't enough and that God was still angry at him—and he was right! While reading Romans 1:16–17, Luther suddenly realized that this was speaking of the righteousness that God gives; with *that* righteousness, God would be pleased. Martin Luther finally understood that we receive the righteousness of God by faith, not by all our attempts to be good.

### III. THE NEED FOR THE GOSPEL: MAN'S #1 PROBLEM IS HIS SIN, ROMANS 1:18–3:20

#### A. Gentiles are Sinners, Romans 1:18–32

#### **Read Romans 1:18–32.**



Many modern attempts to explain the gospel present Christ as a friend when you're lonely, or as fulfillment when life seems unsatisfactory, or as healing for sorrow and sadness. The Bible presents Jesus as a Savior from sin. For people to see their need for a Savior from sin, they must first see their sin as God sees it. So Paul began his explanation of the gospel with an explanation of God's anger at sin. What did Paul say is revealed from heaven (v. 18)? <sup>21</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

against <sup>22</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Which divine attributes have men clearly seen since the creation of the world (v. 20)?

God's <sup>23</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

What do men do with the truth (v. 18)? <sup>24</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

So (v. 20) they are without <sup>25</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

By suppressing the truth God created them to know, what have people become in their thinking (v. 21)? <sup>26</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

What has happened to their hearts? <sup>27</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thinking they are too wise for God, what have they become (v. 22)? <sup>28</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

For something to worship, what poor exchange have they made (v. 23)? They

<sup>29</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

of the <sup>30</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

for <sup>31</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

resembling creatures like themselves or worse. Part of God's judgment falls on man even in this life (v. 28). God gives people up who won't acknowledge him to a

<sup>32</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

to do <sup>33</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

*B. Jews are sinners, Romans 2:1–3:8*



### **Read Romans 2:1–3:8.**

At this point, Paul anticipated that someone who considered himself right with God—in Paul's day, that would have been a Jew—would agree that Paul's description of sinful man is true of some people, but not of him. So Paul pointed out that, just because some people know God's law doesn't mean they're doing what it says. Paul wrote, "For it is not <sup>34</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

who are <sup>35</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

before God, but the <sup>36</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ who will be

<sup>37</sup> \_\_\_\_\_"

(2:13). Paul went on to show the Jews among his readers the many ways in which they broke God's laws. For a person to be justified—declared righteous before God—because of his own obedience, he would have to obey the law perfectly, all the time.

*C. Both Jews and Gentiles are guilty before God, Romans 3:9–20*



### **Read Romans 3:9–20.**

When it comes to pleasing God by being righteous, Paul asked, are Jews any better off than Gentiles (v. 9)? What was his answer? <sup>38</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

because both Jews and Greeks are all 39 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Paul went on to prove this through a collection of Old Testament scriptures that strongly make the point that 40 \_\_\_\_\_  
is righteous, not even 41 \_\_\_\_\_.

No one 42 \_\_\_\_\_  
for God. 43 \_\_\_\_\_  
have turned aside. No one does 44 \_\_\_\_\_.

No one has anything to say in his or her defense (v. 19), but every 45 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

is stopped, and all the world is 46 \_\_\_\_\_  
to God. By the works of the law no 47 \_\_\_\_\_  
will be 48 \_\_\_\_\_  
in God's sight.

#### IV. THE GOSPEL: GOD'S SOLUTION, ROMANS 3:21-5:21

Christ's death pays the penalty for sin and his righteousness is counted to all whose faith is in him.

##### *A. Sinners are justified by faith because of Christ's cross, Romans 3:21-31*

The next paragraph may be the most important paragraph in all literature, because it explains God's solution to man's biggest problem. It's a somewhat complex paragraph, but it's worth working through because it's so essential to understand.

### ***Read Romans 3:21-31.***



Now that Christ has come, what has been manifested (revealed, or made known) (v. 21)? 49 \_\_\_\_\_

This means the righteousness that God gives to his people so they can be pleasing to him, instead of being offensive to him because of their sin. What is this righteousness apart from? 50 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What witnessed to it? <sup>51</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How does a person have this righteousness from God (v. 22)? Through <sup>52</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in <sup>53</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

This righteousness is for all who <sup>54</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
since God makes no <sup>55</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
and since all have <sup>56</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 23)

and all <sup>57</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
of God's glory. All who believe will be justified (counted righteous in God's eyes) by  
(v. 24) <sup>58</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
as a <sup>59</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
(not as something earned), through the <sup>60</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ that is in Christ Jesus. How can God do that?

How can he count people righteous and bless them, when, actually, they're very  
guilty and deserve his wrath? Paul answered this question in verses 25–26. God gave  
his Son to be a <sup>61</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

(something that removes God's wrath at our sin) by his <sup>62</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

shed on the cross. Jesus endured the wrath God's people deserved, in their place, so  
they could go free. This is how God can be (v. 26) <sup>63</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ always faithfully punishing all sin, and still the <sup>64</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of guilty sinners whose faith is in Jesus. The sin has been punished, but in someone  
else. As Paul ended this section (v. 28), he insisted that one is justified

<sup>65</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

apart from <sup>66</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
and this is true for both Jew and Gentile.

*B. The Old Testament teaches justification by faith, Romans 4*

**Read Romans 4:1–8.**



What two great Old Testament heroes did Paul use in this section as examples of being justified by faith and not by works of the law? <sup>67</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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In verse 3, Paul deliberately quoted Old Testament Scripture to back up his point. Copy the verse he quoted. <sup>68</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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Paul went on to point out that, if Abraham had earned his own righteousness by works of the law, the wording wouldn't have been "counted to him—," like a gift he didn't deserve; it would have spoken of Abraham having earned rewards of righteousness, as his "wages" or as what was "due" to him. But righteousness was "counted to him," because he hadn't earned it himself. Paul also quoted David (vv. 7–8) who wrote of what a blessing it is when God doesn't <sup>69</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

a person's <sup>70</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
against him, but forgives it.

**Read Romans 4:23–25.**



For whose sake did Paul say the words "it was counted to him" were written (besides Abraham)? <sup>71</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Righteousness will also be counted to us who <sup>72</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

in him who <sup>73</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
who was delivered up for our <sup>74</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
and raised for our <sup>75</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

*C. All the rewards of righteousness belong to those who are justified by faith, Romans 5*



### **Read Romans 5:1–11.**

Salvation is much more than just knowing we won't be punished for our sin. In chapter 5, Paul explained some of the blessings Christians have, blessings Christ earned for them, which they have because they've been <sup>76</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1).

Fill in these blanks from this list in verses 1–5. They have <sup>77</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
with <sup>78</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

They have <sup>79</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
by faith into God's <sup>80</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

They can rejoice in <sup>81</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
of the <sup>82</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

of God, and can even rejoice in <sup>83</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,

knowing that the Holy Spirit (another of the benefits!) will cause trials to produce <sup>84</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,

<sup>85</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,

and <sup>86</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

in them. God's people know God will give them these things because of what he has already given. What did God give his people, and when did he give it (v. 8)?

<sup>87</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Since God gave his best for his people while they were still his <sup>88</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 10),  
now that they have been <sup>89</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
surely he will give them every benefit that is a part of salvation. Best of all (v. 11), we  
can <sup>90</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

in God himself.

**Read Romans 5:12–21.**



What two people did Paul compare in the second half of chapter 5?

<sup>91</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What came into the world through Adam, the head of the human race, and what spread to all men as a result (v. 12)? <sup>92</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

What comes to God's people through Jesus Christ, their head (v. 17)? They receive abundance of <sup>93</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
and the free gift of <sup>94</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
and they reign in <sup>95</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

Finish this sentence from verse 19. For as by one man's <sup>96</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
the many were made <sup>97</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
so by the one man's <sup>98</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
the many will be made <sup>99</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**V. OBJECTIONS TO THE GOSPEL WITH ANSWERS TO THOSE OBJECTIONS,  
ROMANS 6–11**

*A. Objection #1: If people believe that God saves by grace, won't they feel free to just keep on sinning?*

Answer: Christians' union with Christ gives them hearts that want to obey and power to do so, Romans 6

Romans  
6-8



**Read Romans 6.**

Fill in the blanks from the questions Paul imagined opponents to his argument might raise (vv. 1, 15). Are we to continue in ① \_\_\_\_\_ that ② \_\_\_\_\_ may abound? Are we to ③ \_\_\_\_\_ because we are not under ④ \_\_\_\_\_ but under ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_? Christians are ⑥ \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ (v. 5). For believers, the old self was ⑦ \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ (v. 6), and they must consider themselves ⑧ \_\_\_\_\_ to sin (v. 11). Being united to Christ, his people will also ⑨ \_\_\_\_\_ with him (v. 8). The life he lives, he lives ⑩ \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 10). So his people also must consider themselves ⑪ \_\_\_\_\_ to God in Christ Jesus (v. 11). Because these things are true, Paul gave the Roman Christians some instructions (vv. 12-13). "Let not sin ⑫ \_\_\_\_\_ in your mortal body, to make you ⑬ its passions. Do not present your members to sin as ⑭ \_\_\_\_\_, but present yourselves to ⑮ \_\_\_\_\_ as those who have been brought from ⑯ \_\_\_\_\_ to ⑰ \_\_\_\_\_, and your members to God as ⑱ \_\_\_\_\_."

What were the Roman Christians once (v. 17)? ⑲ \_\_\_\_\_

What had happened to them since then (v. 18)? <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What had they become (v. 17)? <sup>21</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

from the <sup>22</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

to the teaching Paul had given. The Christian will remember what he has been saved from and what he has been saved for, and live accordingly. Otherwise, is his “faith” even saving faith at all?

*B. The Law couldn't make anyone righteous, anyway, Romans 7:1-6*

### **Read Romans 7:4-6.**



Before people are in Christ, while they're living in the flesh without God's Spirit, what does the law do? arouses their <sup>23</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,

which are at work to bear fruit for <sup>24</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

It's like a wet paint sign. What do you want to do when you see a wet paint sign? Touch it, of course! Whatever the law forbids is exactly what the natural man wants to do. This is one reason that the idea of earning God's favor by obeying his law just won't work!

*C. Objection #2: That means that God's law is sin or a cause of sin!*

Answer: No, it means sin is so evil that even the law stirs it up! Romans 7:7-25

### **Read Romans 7:7-21.**



Paul answered this objection of his imaginary opponent by replying, “Not at all!” (v. 12). God's law is holy, “and the commandment is <sup>25</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

and <sup>26</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and

<sup>27</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.”

The sinfulness of our sinful hearts is so evil that even something as good and holy as the law stirs it up. The law shows us how sinful sin is. In fact, sin is so strong and so evil that, even as a Christian, Paul said, he found himself doing (v. 15)

28 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

because of the (v. 17) 29 \_\_\_\_\_

that dwelt (remained) in him. Paul described (vv. 22–23) the struggle all Christians have until they go to heaven when he said that he delighted in 30 \_\_\_\_\_

but found a war waging within him, making him 31 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

to the law of sin that still remained in him.

*D. In spite of this fallen world, where even Christians sin, salvation gives God's people great hope and joy, Romans 8*



### **Read Romans 8.**

For the believer who desires to please God, the fact that he still sins can be very discouraging (7:24). In this chapter, Paul demonstrated to the Romans that, nonetheless, they can have encouragement in the present and hope for the future. First, in spite of Christians' continued sin, what is there none of for those who are in Christ Jesus (8:1)? 32 \_\_\_\_\_

And, now as they live in this fallen world, God has sent the Holy Spirit who does several important things for his people. The Holy Spirit makes God's people able to walk (8:4) not according to 33 \_\_\_\_\_

but according to 34 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Even though it's a struggle, by the power of the Spirit, God's people can (8:13)

35 \_\_\_\_\_

the deeds of the body (their old sinful desires). The Holy Spirit also bears witness with the spirits of God's people that they are 36 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

of <sup>37</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
and <sup>38</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ (8:16–17).

All these things help and encourage God’s people in this lifetime. Believers also have hope for the future. Paul reminded the Roman Christians (8:18) that the

<sup>39</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
of this present time are not worth comparing with the <sup>40</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ that will be revealed to them when Christ returns. Not only will Christians be set free from sin completely, but (8:21), but the <sup>41</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ itself will be set free from its bondage to death and decay. Another encouragement is that the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

God’s people in their <sup>43</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (8:26).

Even though Christians struggle and suffer now, they know that (8:28) all things (even difficult things) work together for <sup>44</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

They know that God will finally bring them to heaven to be with himself, and they don’t need to fear that they will turn away him in sin. For those whom God predestined (8:30), he also <sup>45</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,

and those whom he called he also <sup>46</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,

and those whom he justified he also <sup>47</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (made perfect in heaven. This is so certain to happen that Paul used the past tense to describe it, even though it has not yet occurred!) God’s enemies work hard to turn God’s people away from him. God’s people may even be <sup>48</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ by their enemies (8:36). What will be able to separate God’s people from the love of Christ or the love of God (8:35–39)? <sup>49</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ When God sets out to save people, he saves them completely. He does everything that needs to be done to turn them to himself and to keep them forever.

Romans  
9–11

E. *Objection #3: Can we really trust God to completely save us, since it seems he has failed to save his Old Testament people?—with answers to the objection, Romans 9–11*

I. WITH ALL THE SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS JEWS HAD RECEIVED, MOST STILL DID NOT TRUST IN CHRIST, ROMANS 9:1–5



**Read Romans 9:1–5.**

2. ANSWER: “ABRAHAM’S OFFSPRING,” TO WHOM GOD GAVE HIS PROMISES, AREN’T NECESSARILY THOSE WHO ARE ABRAHAM’S PHYSICAL DESCENDANTS, ROMANS 9:6–9



**Read Romans 9:6–9.**

Paul wrote that it’s not the children of the ① \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
who are the children of God, but the children of the ② \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8).

3. ANSWER: GOD ELECTS, OR CHOOSES, THOSE WHO WILL BE THE CHILDREN OF PROMISE, THOSE WHO WILL HEAR HIS PROMISES AND BELIEVE THEM, ROMANS 9:10–13



**Read Romans 9:10–13.**

What Old Testament examples did Paul give of someone God loved—chose to inherit the blessing—and someone he hated—didn’t choose? ③ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

When did God tell Rebekah which son he had chosen? When they ④ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and had done ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

That was to make it clear that God’s choice is based only on his undeserved grace; it has nothing to do with anything about the person he chooses.

#### 4. OBJECTION: THAT’S NOT FAIR! ROMANS 9:14

### ***Read Romans 9:14–18.***



Here Paul imagined someone objecting, “Does that mean there’s

⑥ \_\_\_\_\_  
on God’s part?”

#### 5. ANSWER: THE ISSUE ISN’T ONE OF JUSTICE, IT’S ONE OF MERCY, ROMANS 9:15–18

If God gave us all strictly what’s *fair*, he would save none of us. If God showed us all justice, we would all be condemned and destroyed! But instead of that, God graciously shows mercy to some—and it’s entirely up to him which persons receive his mercy.

That way, it depends not on ⑦ \_\_\_\_\_

or ⑧ \_\_\_\_\_

but on ⑨ \_\_\_\_\_

who \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 16).

What Old Testament example did Paul use of someone on whom God not only didn’t show mercy, but whom God actually hardened (vv. 17–18)? ⑩ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### 6. OBJECTION: THEN HOW CAN GOD JUDGE SINNERS, IF SINNING IS COMPLETELY UNDER HIS CONTROL? ROMANS 9:19

### ***Read Romans 9:19–10:21.***



Next Paul imagined someone saying, “Why does God still ⑪ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

for who can ⑫ \_\_\_\_\_?”

7. ANSWER: GOD IS GOD, AND WE ARE NOT! GOD DOES WHAT HE WILLS, AND PEOPLE ARE STILL ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR SIN, ROMANS 9:20–10:21

Paul answered, “Who are you, O <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
to answer back to <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (9:20)?”

People are created beings; what right do they have to question the one who created them? To what did Paul compare God and his human creatures (9:20–23)?

<sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If Jews had not believed in Jesus and been justified, it was because of the sovereign will of God. At the same time they had not believed because of their own failure to pursue righteousness by <sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (9:31–32);

instead, they had pursued it as if it were based on works. They had not submitted to God’s <sup>17</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (10:3),

because they were seeking to establish <sup>18</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Difficult as it is for finite minds to work through, Scripture keeps upholding both of these truths together: God is sovereign over everything, so even man’s sin has been ordained by him; man chooses to disobey God and is responsible for his actions.

8. QUESTION—SO HAS GOD REALLY REJECTED HIS OLD TESTAMENT PEOPLE?—WITH ANSWERS, ROMANS II:1–36



**Read Romans II:1–8.**

No, Paul replied, for the present there is a <sup>19</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5),

a small number of Jews, who believe; these are chosen <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

The rest, for the moment, have been <sup>21</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (8:7).

**Read Romans 11:11, 17–24.**



The good thing about the Jews' sin in rejecting the gospel was that, through it,

22 \_\_\_\_\_

had come to the Gentiles (v. 11). Paul then compared the whole people of God, Jews and Gentiles, to an olive tree. (Remember that, in writing to the church in Rome, many to whom Paul was writing were Gentiles.) Who were the original branches, the ones that were broken off? 23 \_\_\_\_\_

Who were the branches from a wild olive tree, that were grafted in? 24 \_\_\_\_\_

So Gentiles must not become 25 \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 20).

The Jews were broken off only because of their 26 \_\_\_\_\_,

and the Gentiles stood fast only by their 27 \_\_\_\_\_

If the Jews didn't 28 \_\_\_\_\_,

they would be grafted back in (v. 23). Paul went on to add that the hardening that had come upon the Jews was only partial (some, like Paul himself, did believe), and that it was temporary, until many Gentiles had believed. Eventually, all God's chosen people, whether Jews or Gentiles, will be saved.

God hasn't finished yet. He has a great, complex plan for salvation and is at work bringing it to pass. Considering this, Paul ended the section with a doxology—a song of praise to God.

**Read Romans 11:33–36.**



When we consider how God works, both in the big picture and in individual hearts, to accomplish salvation, we realize how great he is, and how far past our ability to figure out, and that stirs us to praise. Fill in these blanks from Paul's cry of praise at the end of this section. "Oh, the depth of the riches and 29 \_\_\_\_\_

and 30 \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

How 31 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans  
12-16



are his judgments and <sup>32</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
(impossible to completely analyze) his ways! For who has known <sup>33</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ or who has been his <sup>34</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?”

VI. APPLICATION OF THE GOSPEL \_\_\_\_\_, ROMANS 12-16

A. *The appropriate response to God’s salvation by grace alone is for a person to give himself or herself completely to God, Romans 12:1-2*

**Read Romans 12:1-2.**

In the rest of Paul’s letter, he told the Romans how they should live if they’ve been saved by God’s free grace. He began with a statement of the Christian’s overall duty to God: <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

their bodies to God as a <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

They should not be <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
—made like—this world, but they are to be <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
by the renewal of their <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

Renewing your mind involves coming to think like God thinks, rather than like our natural sinful mind thinks. One of the most important steps in mind renewal is coming to know God’s Word well, since that is where he has showed us his thoughts.

A. *The gospel calls God’s people to live in a \_\_\_\_\_ right relationship with the church, and with unbelievers, Romans 12:3-21*

After his introductory statement on how Christians should live, Paul went straight to something that is of tremendous importance to God: the church. It has become very common for people to say they love and worship God, but they do that better when they are *not* at church—so they don’t go. Or, people say they’re Christians, but they’re extremely casual about how often they attend worship or how much they’re involved with the people of God. In the New Testament, there is no such thing as people who are rightly related to God and who are unconcerned about and uninvolved with the church. When God saves us, he puts us into his church. The emphasis all through

Scripture is not on thousands of separate individuals, but on *a people* that God has redeemed and is saving for himself. So as soon as Paul turned to the subject of how Christians should live, he began to talk about their relationships to each other in the church.

### ***Read Romans 12:3–8.***



Christians should not think of themselves too ⑥ \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 3).

They should appreciate the gifts God has given others and be content with the gifts God has given them, remembering that they are all ⑦ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of each other, in ⑧ \_\_\_\_\_

body, and they don't all have the same ⑨ \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 4–5).

While Christians' gifts ⑩ \_\_\_\_\_,

all Christians are required to ⑪ \_\_\_\_\_ the gifts they have (v. 6).

### ***Read Romans 12:9–21.***



Paul went on to describe what Christians' relationships in the church should be.

Their love is to be ⑫ \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 9),

practically demonstrated through showing ⑬ \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 10)

to each other, ⑭ \_\_\_\_\_

to the needs of the saints and seeking to show ⑮ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13),

⑯ \_\_\_\_\_

with each other's joys and ⑰ \_\_\_\_\_

for each others' sorrows (v. 15), living in ⑱ \_\_\_\_\_

with each other (v. 16), not being ⑲ \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_ but associating with the ⑳ \_\_\_\_\_.

Christians are to practically demonstrate their love for God with zeal and service, rejoicing in <sup>21</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, being patient in <sup>22</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, and being constant in <sup>23</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 11–12).

As for their relationships with unbelievers, Paul wrote that Christians must never <sup>24</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ someone <sup>25</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ for <sup>26</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 17a), but rather overcome <sup>27</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ with <sup>28</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 21).

They should try to do what is <sup>29</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of all (v. 17b), and, as much as it's possible, live <sup>30</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ with <sup>31</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 18).

*B. The gospel calls God's people to live in a right relationship with the government, Romans 13:1–7*



**Read Romans 13:1–2.**

Christians are to be <sup>32</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to governing authorities, since all authorities are from God and have been <sup>33</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ by him. This means both that human authority in general was God's idea, and that each specific authority has been put in place by God. So to resist authority (12:2) is to resist what <sup>34</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

C. *The gospel calls God's people to live in love, Romans 13:8–10*

**Read Romans 13:8–10.**



In what one command are all other commandments summed up? <sup>35</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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What will love not do (v. 10)? <sup>36</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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That's why, if you love, you will end up fulfilling <sup>37</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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or keeping all the commandments.

D. *The gospel calls God's people to be ready for Christ's return, Romans 13:11–14*

**Read Romans 13:11–14.**



Paul reminded the Roman Christians that the Lord's return was near, and they should be alert and ready. They should walk (vv. 13–14) <sup>38</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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having put on the <sup>39</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

and making no provision for <sup>40</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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E. *The gospel calls God's people to live in love and humility with those who hold different opinions, Romans 14:1–15:7*

**Read Romans 14:1–15:7.**



In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul had addressed the issue of Christians who disagree on what is right behavior and what is wrong behavior for God's people. Here in this portion of Romans, Paul wrote about the same thing for the believers in Rome.

What kinds of behaviors did Paul use as examples (14:2, 5)? Some believers thought they could <sup>41</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ anything, while others disagreed, and some Christians thought they should observe special <sup>42</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, while others didn't. Paul gave several principles about what to do when your idea of right behavior conflicts with another Christian's idea.

#1: Each person should be <sup>43</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (14:5b), not just going along with what others tell him.

#2: Christians should not <sup>44</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ on other believers for their opinions (14:4). Instead, they should assume that their brothers and sisters do what they do in <sup>45</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (14:6).

#3: Christians must be sure that their own behavior does not put a <sup>46</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ or <sup>47</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in the way of another Christian (14:13). If someone honestly believes that a certain behavior is wrong, but he sees me doing it and does it too, I have helped him do what he believes to be wrong. I have encouraged him to do what he understands to be sin.

#4: A Christian must be guided by the example of <sup>48</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (15:3), and do what is good for his neighbor, to <sup>49</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (15:2), and not just please <sup>50</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (15:1).

#5: Christians must live in <sup>51</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ with each other in the church, glorifying God with <sup>52</sup> \_\_\_\_\_;

they must welcome each other as Christ welcomes each of them, for the <sup>53</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (15:5-7).

Christians must value unity in the church, as God values it.

*F. The gospel unites Jew and Gentile for the glory of God, and so did Paul in his ministry, Romans 15:8-33*

Christ became a <sup>54</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
to the circumcised (or the Jews) to show God's faithfulness to his promises, and in order that <sup>55</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
might glorify God for his mercy (15:8-9).

VII. PAUL LOVINGLY GREETED MANY INDIVIDUAL BELIEVERS AT ROME, ROMANS 16:1-23

VIII. SUMMARY OVERVIEW OF THE GOSPEL, ROMANS 16:25-27

Paul had reached the end of his explanation of the gospel. He ended his epistle with praise for the God who had given the gospel. The gospel provides the revelation of the mystery that had been kept secret for long ages, but has now been made known to <sup>56</sup> \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Jews and Gentiles!). The gospel brings about the <sup>57</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
of <sup>58</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

In the gospel, we see that God is the only <sup>59</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
and he receives <sup>60</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ forevermore.

# *The Epistle to the Hebrews*

**We don't know who wrote the letter** to the Hebrews, but it's clear that it was written to Jewish Christians. Remember how Peter and Paul made many references to Old Testament Scriptures when they preached to Jews? This book is loaded with just such references to the Old Testament, references that would have made no sense to anyone but Jews. The Jewish Christians for whom Hebrews was written were discouraged. They had endured persecution before, and they were facing it again. Much of the persecution came from other Jews. They were pressuring these Jewish Christians to abandon their faith in Christ, and to return to keeping the law and offering sacrifices instead. It seems that the weary Hebrew Christians to whom the book was written were seriously considering giving in to this pressure. So the author wrote this letter to show them from the Old Testament Scriptures that Jesus is better than anything the old covenant had to offer. The author did this through a series of four comparisons and a series of five warnings. In this letter, the author demonstrated that Jesus is superior to angels, to Moses, the great leader under the old covenant, to the priests of the old covenant, and to the sacrifices of the old covenant. The author hoped to convince his readers with these arguments, but, because this was a matter of life or death for eternity, he also warned them sternly to hold fast to Christ and to keep from turning back to Judaism.

## **Read Hebrews 1:1–3.**

How did God speak to his people long ago? At ① \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Hebrews  
1:1–4:13

and in ② \_\_\_\_\_

by ③ \_\_\_\_\_.

How has he spoken in these last days? ④ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In the Lord Jesus Christ, we have God's final word. All we need to know about God and about salvation has been said by Christ or by the apostles he appointed to explain his life and ministry. This is why later so-called prophets—Mohammed, for example, or Joseph Smith—, who claim to have later additions to the New Testament, are not acceptable. Once God's promised Messiah had come and his appointed apostles had written about him, God's revelation was complete. Of course, God still speaks to people today, but it is by his Spirit through his Word, the Old and New Testaments.

List the other great big claims for God's Son that the author made in these first three verses. He is:

**1:2b**

God's appointed ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_

**1:2c**

The one through whom also God ⑥ \_\_\_\_\_

**1:3a**

The ⑦ \_\_\_\_\_

of the ⑧ \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

**1:3b**

The ⑨ \_\_\_\_\_

imprint of God's ⑩ \_\_\_\_\_.

**1:3c**

The one who ⑪ \_\_\_\_\_

the universe by the ⑫ \_\_\_\_\_.

**1:3d**

The one who made ⑬ \_\_\_\_\_ for sins.

**1:3e**

The one who sits <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

Then the author went on to his argument about the superiority of Christ.

### **Read Hebrews 1:4–14.**



I. JESUS CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO ANGELS FOR THESE REASONS:

**1:5**

Jesus Christ is more than just an angel; he is <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**1: 6**

God commanded angels to <sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ his Son.

**1:7–8**

Angels are ministers; they serve. God made Christ <sup>17</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

**1:13**

God told Jesus to sit <sup>18</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Read Hebrews 2:1–4.**



Here the author inserted his first warning to these Christians who were toying with the idea of turning away from Christianity.

*Warning #1: How shall we* <sup>19</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

*if we* <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

*so great* <sup>21</sup> \_\_\_\_\_?

The Old Covenant came, in part, through angels. Under it, what always received a just retribution (or punishment)? Every <sup>22</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

or <sup>23</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

God punished severely any who disobeyed the old covenant. Since Christ is so much greater than angels, won't God punish even more severely those who disobey God's command to trust in Christ and be saved?



### **Read Hebrews 2:14-18.**

Then the author returned to his argument about the superiority of our Savior to angels. Angels are spirits without bodies. What did Jesus partake of so he could be like his children? <sup>24</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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Jesus did this so he could die. What did he accomplish through his death (2:14-15)? <sup>25</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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What was Jesus able to make because he became like his people in every way (2:17)? <sup>26</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

for <sup>27</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

of his people This means that, by dying in their place as a real human being and suffering their punishment for them, Jesus removed the wrath of God that had been directed at his sinful people.



### **Read Hebrews 3:1-6.**

**2. JESUS CHRIST IS SUPERIOR TO MOSES, THE OLD COVENANT'S GREAT LEADER, FOR THESE REASONS:**

**3:3**

Moses is just a part of the house (meaning the people of God), while Jesus is the <sup>28</sup> of the house.

**3:5-6a**

Moses was faithful as a <sup>29</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

in the house; Christ is faithful in God's house as a <sup>30</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

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