

Before we begin in the book of Romans we need to take a look at the penman, Paul. Paul was also known by Saul. Saul means asked and this was the name he was using when he was persecuting the Christians. The name Paul means little. His Jewish name was Saul and his Roman name was Paul. I personally believe that Saul stopped using that name when he was saved by Jesus Christ, and used the name Paul from then on. He was a native of Tarsus, a city of Celicia. Paul was Jewish (in fact a Pharisee). He was from the tribe of Benjamin. Philippians 3:5 "Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, [of] the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;" Paul was also a Roman citizen. His father was a Roman.

Paul was such a controversial figure that I feel our time will be well spent looking into his background. Paul was an educated man. He had studied in Jerusalem in a Jewish school under Gamaliel. We will see in Paul's teachings some leftovers from that early learning of the law. Remember Paul was a Roman citizen, from Tarsus, a Pharisee of the Hebrews. This may explain what he says in I Corinthians 9:19 "For though I be free from all [men], yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more." I Corinthians 9:20 "And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;" I Corinthians 9:21 "To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law." I Corinthians 9:22 "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all [men], that I might by all means save some."

This should make it easier for all of us to understand the seemingly discrepancies in Paul's writings. He does not say the same thing all the time, because he is speaking to people who have different customs. Paul tries to reach them at their level of understanding at the time. He establishes a church in Philippi with 2 women in high position and then writes the Corinthian church for women to be silent in church. In this same 1 Corinthians we read that women should have their head covered when they prophesy in the church. I Corinthians 11:5 "But every woman that prayeth or prophesieth with [her] head uncovered dishonoureth her head: for that is even all one as if she were shaven." I Corinthians 11:15 "But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for [her] hair is given her for a covering."

Paul fights for the new Christian doctrine of not having to keep the old Mosaic law and then observes it himself. The reason for this is not that he is doubleminded, but that as I said, he is keeping the customs of each person he ministers to. Paul was not really a hater of women as many thought, for he travelled with women ministers who worked with him. When God sent him to Macedonia, he ministered to the women on the Sabbath and Lydia and her family were saved. He moved into Lydia's house and established a church there. Acts 16:12 "And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, [and] a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days." Acts 16:13 "And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted [thither]. "Acts 16:14 "And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which

worshipped God, heard [us]: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul." Acts 16:15 "And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought [us], saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide [there]. And she constrained us." It really appears from this that Lydia was a leader of this church in her home.

Paul never married, but it was not because he hated women but because he was so busy working for God. All of chapter 7 of first Corinthians is about this very thing.

Many of the people of our day have deified Paul and that is very dangerous. It appears to me that this is very similar to what the Jews did about John the Baptist. John the Baptist was more acceptable to the Jews than Jesus was. If we Christians are not careful we will forget also that Jesus Christ the Son of God is the focal point of the entire Bible, John the Baptist was a messenger (a truly great servant of God), but Jesus was the Message. The messenger is not more important than the Message. Paul was a servant of Jesus as we read in his own words Romans 1:1 "Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called [to be] an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God," The One served is greater than the servant. Paul is not at fault in this, we Christians are. We must worship God alone. Paul's writings are really important (some of my favorites). We certainly do not want to down play them at all. Tremendous teachings of the basic Christian walk are taught in the books he penned. Gentiles owe much of their church beginnings to him and Peter.

Paul was a tentmaker by trade and even worked as a tentmaker while he ministered. He tried to make his own way so that he was not subject to any particular church. Philippians 4:12 "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need." Paul was satisfied with whatever he had. He did not complain.

Paul was a very special man. He went into the desert for 3 years after his encounter with Jesus and was taught of the Holy Spirit of God. Galatians 1:16 "To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:" Galatians 1:17 "Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus." Galatians 1:18 "Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days." Paul was also carried away into heaven at one point. II Corinthians 12:1 "It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord." II Corinthians 12:2 "I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven." II Corinthians 12:3 "And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)" II Corinthians 12:4 "How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter." II Corinthians 12:5 "Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities."

Paul had been an arrogant man before he met Jesus, but he became humble to the point of calling himself chief among sinners. I Timothy 1:15 "This [is] a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus

came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." Jesus had called Paul to a life of suffering. Acts 9:15 "But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:" Acts 9:16 "For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake." We see that Paul himself lists some of these sufferings in II Corinthians 11:23 "Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I [am] more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft." II Corinthians 11:24 "Of the Jews five times received I forty [stripes] save one." II Corinthians 11:25 "Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;" II Corinthians 11:26 "[In] journeyings often, [in] perils of waters, [in] perils of robbers, [in] perils by [mine own] countrymen, [in] perils by the heathen, [in] perils in the city, [in] perils in the wilderness, [in] perils in the sea, [in] perils among false brethren;" II Corinthians 11:27 "In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness." II Corinthians 11:28 "Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches." We also see in this verse above that his greatest suffering was for the churches he started. Some of these churches were the church at Corinth, the church at Ephesus, and the church at Philippi.

Paul helped establish the doctrine for the Christians when he fought so hard the Jews and even went to Jerusalem to get the last word from Peter stating that believers in Christ were not to circumcise males and were not to keep the Mosaic law. Chapter 15 of Acts tells of all they were to do in the way of a doctrine. Acts 15:20 "But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and [from] fornication, and [from] things strangled, and [from] blood."

Paul's part in the founding of Christianity must be admired. He went on 3 missionary journeys establishing churches. He spent more time at Ephesus than any other of these places. On one visit he stayed two and one half years there. Much of his writing was done from Rome where he was under house arrest for a lengthy time.

Paul was a full apostle of Christ. Apostle really means (one sent with a special message.) Paul certainly fell into that category. He not only preached, but healed the sick as well. Paul covered a great deal of the known world at that time also. He fulfilled the commission that Jesus gave in Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Paul carried a company with him every where he went to preach. Philippians 4:3 "And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and [with] other my fellowlabourers, whose names [are] in the book of life." We see also at Antioch, Paul and Barnabos were ordained for their missionary work together. This can be found in Acts in chapter 13 and 14. John Mark ministered for a short time with Paul and Barnabas. Luke (who wrote the books of Acts) went with Paul on these missionary journeys and even went to Rome with him. Many times in Acts, Luke (the beloved physician), when he speaks of Paul's journeys, says we.

Perhaps Paul was closer to Timothy than any of these others. He loved Timothy so much that he speaks of him as a son. II Timothy 1:2 "To Timothy,

[my] dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, [and] peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord." This was not Paul's son in the flesh, but in the spirit. Paul took Timothy as a youth and trained him for a minister of Jesus Christ. We would go on and on like Dorcas who many believe helped Paul financially. He was popular among the followers of Jesus.

Paul was sorry that he had consented to the stoning of Stephen. He and Peter had a few differences which were settled quickly. Paul worked diligently for the Lord Jesus Christ and His church after he received the Lord. At the end Paul was able to say in II Timothy 4:7 "I have fought a good fight, I have finished [my] course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day." We will finish the last of verse 8 out in saying O that I might be like Paul and receive this crown of righteousness. The end of verse 8 of 2nd Timothy chapter 4. II Timothy 4:8 "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." The part here that says unto all them also that love his appearing, I truly hope includes me.

Notes

Romans 1 Questions

1. What was Paul's name from the beginning?
2. What does Paul mean?
3. What does Saul mean?
4. Which of these names was his Roman name?
5. Where was Saul a native of?
6. What nationality was Paul?
7. What was his religious group called?
8. What tribe was Paul from?
9. How could Paul claim to be a Roman?
10. Where had Paul been educated and by whom?
11. What does 1 Corinthians chapter 9 verse 19 through 22 tell us about Paul?
12. Why does Paul not say the same thing all the time?
13. Name 2 controversial things Paul did.
14. What does Paul observe each place he ministers?
15. What woman's house did Paul live in in Philippi?
16. Which Scripture explains Paul's belief about not marrying?
17. Who did the Jews accept better than they did Jesus?
18. Who is the focal point of the entire Bible?
19. What was Paul's way of making a living?
20. Why did he not live off the church?
21. How many years did Paul study in the desert?
22. Where do we find the Scripture that tells of Paul being carried to heaven?
23. What showed Paul's humbleness?
24. Acts chapter 9 verses 15 and 16 tell that Paul was called to a life of _____.
25. In 2 Corinthians chapter 11 verses 23 through 28 what sufferings of Paul are listed?
26. Name 3 specific churches Paul started.
27. When did Paul help establish the doctrine of the Christians?
28. Acts chapter 15 verse 20 gives the doctrine, what is it?
29. How many missionary journeys did Paul go on?
30. What was the longest time he spent at any of these churches?
31. Where did he spend the most time?
32. Much of his writings were done from where?
33. What is an apostle?
34. Quote Mark chapter 16 verse 15.
35. Name some who travelled with Paul.
36. Who ordained Paul and Barnabus?
37. How do we know that Luke travelled with Paul?
38. Which of the friends of Paul was he the closest to?
39. What does Paul call him in 2 Timothy chapter 1 verse 2?
40. In what sense could this be?
41. What troubled Paul?
42. Who did Paul disagree with sometime?
43. What was Paul able to say at the end that can be found in 2 Timothy chapter 4 verses 7 and 8?
44. Not to me only, but unto whom?

We find in Romans one of Paul's finest letters. Paul touches on exactly what the cross of Christ did for every Christian. Paul wrote this letter to the Christians in Rome from Corinth about A.D.57. This is called the epistle to the Romans. Epistle means letter. The main theme of Romans is justification by faith; to the Jew first and then to the Gentile. This letter explains how God justifies the sinner. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God, but God provided a way of salvation to whosoever will. If we were to sum it up in one word, it would be justification (just as if I had never sinned).

We will begin in Romans 1:1 "Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called [to be] an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,"

In this very first verse Paul introduces himself to the Roman Christians. Notice that Paul calls himself a servant of Jesus Christ. Perhaps these Roman Christians have not heard that Paul was commissioned of Jesus Christ to bring the gospel (good news) of Jesus to the Gentiles.

Romans 1:2 "(Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)"

In the book of Isaiah, we see numerous prophecies. Of course all of the Old Testament prophets prophesied of Jesus, but Isaiah probably had the most to say. At any rate, I will give you a number of these prophecies from Isaiah. Isaiah chapter 11 verse 3 prophesied Jesus would be Judge, chapter 42 verse 4 shows Him as Law Giver, chapter 42 verse 7 shows Him as Liberator, chapter 53 verse 4 shows Him as Burden-Bearer, chapter 53 verse 6 shows Him as Sin-Bearer, chapter 53 verse 12 shows Him as Intercessor, chapter 53 verse 5 shows Jesus as our only Saviour. We see in chapter 7 verse 14, He is Immanuel (God with us), in chapter 9 verse 6, we see Him as mighty God. I could go on and on for there are 35 prophecies in Isaiah alone on Jesus. Of course Jeremiah, Psalms, Ezekiel and all the others prophesied of Jesus, too. I think this thoroughly covers verse 2 without showing more.

Romans 1:3 "Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;"

In Matthew, we see Jesus as descendent of David. Matthew 1:1 "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham." We can also see David in the genealogy of Jesus in Luke 3:31 "Which was [the son] of Melea, which was [the son] of Menan, which was [the son] of Mattatha, which was [the son] of Nathan, which was [the son] of David," This genealogy is of the flesh and not the Spirit.

Romans 1:4 "And declared [to be] the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:"

Jesus was definitely God the Son. The proof was on the 3rd. day he arose from the tomb. Jesus not only had resurrection power, but is in fact the Resurrection and the Life, as he told Lazarus' sister on the way to the tomb. John 11:25 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:" Jesus was the Son of God. God the Holy Spirit hovered over Mary and she conceived by

the Holy Spirit of God. Luke 1:35 "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." We should also read Colossians 1:19 "For it pleased [the Father] that in him should all fulness dwell;" We may read the very same thing in Colossians 2:9 "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."

We see that the power of Jesus was unlimited. Ephesians 1:19 "And what [is] the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power," Ephesians 1:20 "Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set [him] at his own right hand in the heavenly [places]," Ephesians 1:21 "Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:" Ephesians 1:22 "And hath put all [things] under his feet, and gave him [to be] the head over all [things] to the church," Ephesians 1:23 "Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." This leaves no doubt that Jesus is all powerful.

Romans 1:5 "By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:"

Faith is what saved Abraham. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." We also read that obedience is better than sacrifice. I Samuel 15:22 "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD [as great] delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams."

To become an apostle (one sent with a special message) we must have great faith and be obedient to God. We must make Jesus Christ not only our Saviour, but our Lord, as well. We were not saved by our great deeds, but were saved because we had faith in God. To work for God, we must submit our will to Him. We must be obedient to His Word and His will. We will not know what His will is unless we know His Word. Apostles or anyone who desires to minister have been given a commission to go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every nation. Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." We could say from this that truly all believers are ministers of His Word.

Romans 1:6 "Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:"

Matthew 20:16 "So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen." Salvation is offered to whosoever will. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." God has called everyone to salvation, but He will not override our will. We have to decide to follow Him.

Ephesians 4:10 "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)" Ephesians 4:11 "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;" Ephesians 4:12 "For the perfecting of the saints, for

the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:" Ephesians 4:13 "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:" There is a group of the called, who are called to the ministry. My own opinion of those who are called to work for God, is that the call was there even before birth. We see this in people like John the Baptist. God protects these people supernaturally until they accept their call. This is so even before they know there is a call.

Romans 1:7 "To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called [to be] saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

We see in verse 7 Paul speaking a blessing on these followers of Jesus in Rome. Paul loved the Romans, being a Roman himself. Those who are Christ's are beloved.

Romans 1:8 "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world."

It appears that long before Paul goes to Rome there are many Christians there. It seems they are so zealous for the Lord that it is common knowledge. This spreading of this information to the world just means that Rome is a trade center and people who come there to sell or buy have heard of the Christian movement in Rome. They then go home to their respective countries and tell the good news.

Romans 1:9 "For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;"

We see here that Paul prays intercessory prayers for these new Christians in Rome. Notice in the verse above that Paul does not serve the Lord in his flesh, but in his spirit. I believe that Paul is saying (only God and myself) know the hours that I have spent praying for you.

Romans 1:10 "Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you."

Paul will leave Corinth here and go to Jerusalem and be sought after by the authorities. It will be several years after this is written before Paul actually reaches Rome. One important statement above is (by the will of God). Paul has submitted his will to God.

Romans 1:11 "For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;"

Paul is speaking here of laying his hands on them that they might receive the power of the Holy Ghost. 1 Corinthians chapter 12 explains what these Spiritual gifts are. You should read the whole chapter, but I will quote a little here. I Corinthians 12:8 "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;" I Corinthians 12:9 "To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;" I Corinthians 12:10 "To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation

of tongues:" I Corinthians 12:11 "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." The statement (that ye may be established) just means that power to minister will come upon them. Many very shy people, become bold workers for the Lord when they receive the Holy Spirit.

Romans 2 Questions

1. Who penned Romans?
2. What does epistle mean?
3. What does Paul teach in Romans?
4. Where was Paul when he wrote this?
5. Approximately when was this written?
6. What is the main theme of Romans?
7. Who is salvation offered to?
8. What does justification mean?
9. Whose servant was Paul?
10. What was Paul separated unto in verse 1?
11. Who had prophesied of Jesus in the Old Testament?
12. Give several Scriptures in Isaiah prophesying Jesus?
13. According to the flesh, who was Jesus descended from?
14. What 2 books of the Bible show David in the genealogy of Jesus?
15. Verse 4 tells us Jesus was the Son of God with power; what was it according to?
16. Proof of Jesus' Godhood was what?
17. Who did Mary (mother of Jesus) conceive by?
18. What does Colossians chapter 1 verse 19 tell us?
19. What is Jesus' body?
20. In verse 5 Paul received 2 things because of his obedience and faith, what were they?
21. Without _____ it is impossible to please God.
22. To be an apostle of Jesus, we must make him not only Saviour but what?
23. Verse 6 says, among whom are ye the _____.
24. Many shall be called, but few _____.
25. In verse 7 they are called to be what?
26. What blessing did Paul speak on them in verse 7?
27. Where is their faith spoken of?
28. What is the type of prayer Paul is praying for these saints?
29. Paul does not serve the Lord in his _____ but in his _____.
30. Where was Paul when he wrote this letter to the Romans?
31. What did Paul want to impart to these Roman Christians?
32. Name some of the Spiritual gifts.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 1:12 "That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me."

In the last lesson, Paul had written to these Roman Christians that he would pray for them to receive spiritual gifts to enable them to minister also. Paul says above (we are in this together) we are fellow workers for Christ. This statement in verse 12 is an humble statement by Paul. He is trying to make them understand the equality of the believers in Christ.

Romans 1:13 "Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles." Paul had felt even when he was at Ephesus, and Corinth, that God wanted him to go to Rome. He had desired from the beginning of his missionary journeys to go to his father's people, the Romans and minister to them. Rome was a center of trade, and if the gospel of Jesus Christ could be established in Rome it could affect all of Europe. Paul explains, here, that he must continue to minister to the other Gentiles God has sent him to, until he gets to Rome. The fruit that Paul is speaking of is those he would lead to the Lord.

Romans 1:14 "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise."

This is just another way of saying that God is no respecter of persons. God wants the wise Greeks and also the unwise to know Him. The very educated Greeks really thought all others to be barbarians. They were extremely proud of their schools of learning. Worldly education, however, does not impress God. God's message is for those who believe themselves to be high and mighty and for the lowly. I have observed through the years that it is more difficult for those who think themselves wise to receive the good news of Jesus Christ than it is for the humble uneducated person. The wise person has to figure everything out with his or her mind. Christianity is of the heart.

Romans 1:15 "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also."

Paul is saying here that he will do everything he can to come to Rome and preach. In the book of Acts, we find that Paul did make it to Rome and preached in his home while he was under house arrest. All true ministers of God are the happiest when they can bring the true Word of God and see someone saved.

Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

Luke 9:26 "For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and [in his] Father's, and of the holy angels." This previous Scripture in Jesus' own Words tells us we must not be ashamed of God. We also read in the 9th chapter of Romans how important it is to tell this good news. Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt

believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." You can not be a silent or hidden Christian. Salvation was first offered to the Jews. Even Jesus spoke to the Jew first. We read how He came to the Gentile at last in John 11:54 "Jesus therefore walked no more openly among the Jews; but went thence unto a country near to the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there continued with his disciples." Even though Paul was called to minister salvation to the Gentiles, he still loved the Jews and wanted to minister to them. We have mentioned it before that by the foolishness of preaching God has chosen to save those who believe. The full and exact Scripture is I Corinthians 1:21 "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." Believeth just means to continually believe.

Romans 1:17 "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."

Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." We also know that Abraham's faith was what kept him in good standing with God. Abraham's faith was counted unto him for righteousness. Each person has a portion of faith, but some seem to have more than others. To make our faith stronger, we must use it. Each time we depend on our faith it becomes stronger. This (faith to faith) above just means that trials come and we must have faith to overcome each trial; as we do, our faith grows. The just means, as we have said before, just as if we had never sinned. Faith is believing in our hearts in things we cannot see with our physical eyes.

Romans 1:18 "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;"

Many teach that only good things come from God. God is not only a God of love, but of judgement as well. This above is not speaking of the devil, it is speaking of God. All throughout the Bible God's wrath has come down on those of unrighteousness. The children of Israel who turned their back on God in the wilderness felt this wrath. Thousands fell when God was angered at the party going on worshipping the golden calf. Israelites symbolize God's people then and now. God rained quail and killed thousands of the murmurers on this trip, as well. The wrath of God killed all the first born Egyptians, as well. The prophets of God, like Jeremiah, were sent to warn the people of the wrath of God. I can just hear everyone say, that is in the Old Testament. Look in the New Testament at Annanias and Saphira. Satan did not kill them, when they lied to the Holy Ghost, God killed them. II Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." You see the Lord wants us to be saved, but He has given us a free will. We must choose to believe and receive His salvation. If we do not receive the Truth (Jesus Christ) then we will feel the wrath of God. Satan does not sentence us to hell: if we refuse to receive Jesus, the Lord condemns us.

Romans 1:19 "Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed [it] unto them."

Manifest means make real. God has not hidden Himself. He has made Himself real to mankind throughout all ages in his creation. He has especially shown Himself to mankind in His Son (Jesus Christ).

Romans 1:20 "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:"

On a trip to Canada in 1980, my brother and I were standing in the middle of a number of snow capped beautiful mountains. The beauty and the magnificence were overwhelming. He said, Sis, only a fool could see this and say there is no God. I believe that is what the Scripture above is saying. Just take a look around you at all of God's creation. Only a fool could look at all of God's creation and say there is no God. Jesus was Creator God. John 1:3 "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." We see also in Colossians 2:9 "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." You see everyone is without excuse who deny God, because even nature itself reveals God to us.

Romans 1:21 "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified [him] not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."

Man's mind is at enmity with God. Romans 8:7 "Because the carnal mind [is] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Verse 21 above is speaking of a person walking in darkness in the flesh walk. Man can not understand the things of God while he is in the flesh. God is Spirit. The walk in God's Light is a walk in the Spirit. The Light of Jesus Christ does away with darkness. Until we receive Him as Saviour and Lord, we walk in darkness. He (Jesus) brings His Light into our life when we accept Him as our Saviour.

Notes

Romans 3 Questions

1. What is Paul trying to convey to these people of Rome when he speaks of their mutual faith?
2. In verse 13 what does Paul want them to not be ignorant of?
3. What did Paul want to have among them in verse 13?
4. When had Paul known God intended him to go to Rome?
5. Who were Paul's father's people?
6. If the gospel of Christ were preached at Rome, why would it help all of Europe?
7. What 2 did Paul say he was debtor to?
8. Who did the educated Greeks think all others were?
9. Who is it more difficult for to receive the message of salvation?
10. In verse 15 Paul said, he was ready to do what?
11. What unusual circumstance did Paul preach under in Rome?
12. What did Paul say he was not ashamed of?
13. Who is salvation for?
14. In what order was salvation offered?
15. What does Romans chapter 10 verse 9 say about salvation?
16. Who did Jesus bring the message to first?
17. When did this change?
18. Why did Paul keep trying to preach to the Jews, when God had called him to the Gentiles?
19. What does believeth mean?
20. Verse 17 says, the righteousness of God is revealed from _____ to _____.
21. The _____ shall live by faith.
22. What does Hebrews chapter 11 verse 6 say about faith?
23. What is the wrath of God revealed from heaven against-2 things?
24. Show 2 instances in the Old Testament where God sent His wrath.
25. Show one New Testament Scripture where God's wrath is shown to someone.
26. Why do some people think the Lord is slack in coming back to the earth?
27. What does manifest mean?
28. Why does verse 20 say everyone is without excuse?
29. What does Colossians chapter 2 verse 9 say about Jesus?
30. What reveals God to us, even if we have never heard a sermon?
31. Verse 21 says, they became vain in their _____.
32. What happened to their heart in verse 21?
33. What is at enmity against God?
34. The walk in God's Light is what kind of walk?

We will begin this lesson in Romans 1:22 "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools," Romans 1:23 "And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things."

The children of Israel, on the way to the promised land, tired waiting for Moses to come down from the mountain of God. They talked Aaron into making them a golden calf that they could worship. God is the Creator not the created. Those that worship things they can see with their physical eyes are worshipping idols. God is a Spirit. We can not see Him with our physical eye. Notice in the verse above that they professed that they were wise. They were not wise. Wisdom is a gift of God. God renounced all of the false gods with the ten plagues that came upon Egypt. Man has always picked out things to worship that he could see. This is in error. We must worship God only.

Romans 1:24 "Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:"

Our heart condition determines what we are. Luke 6:45 "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh." An evil heart desires evil. Our body (if we are Christians) is the temple of the Holy Spirit of God. If we involve our bodies in sin, we have involved the Holy Spirit's dwelling place. That is why I personally believe sex sin of every kind to be very evil. Homosexuality, lesbianism, and adultery are 3 of the worst type sins a person can commit, because they are all 3 sins that involve the body. The first 2 are even worse than adultery, because they are unnatural. We will read of all this in the next few verses.

Romans 1:25 "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."

There has been recently on television, a commercial that speaks of the worship of cats. Many different animals have been the object of worship throughout history. In India even today the cow is thought to be an object of worship. Which is greater, the thing created or the Intelligence who created it? You know the answer, The Creator. In our society things like cars and homes are worshipped, too. We must first realize who God is and then worship Him alone. Just the fact that He is eternal sets Him aside from all of His creation. Amen means (so be it).

Romans 1:26 "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:" Romans 1:27 "And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet."

God turned His back to these lesbians and homosexuals. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by God for this very sin. It is natural for Paul to

write of this particular sin to the Romans, because this very sin was rampant in their society. God calls this sin an abomination. It is also called against nature, which God created. Sex is for the procreation of life and these unnatural uses do not create life, they create death. Notice the last sentence of verse 27 (the recompense of their error which was meet). God's wrath will fall on this person for this type of sin if they do not repent. Fire and brimstone at Sodom and AIDS in our society today is actually the wrath of God on a sinful generation.

Romans 1:28 "And even as they did not like to retain God in [their] knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;"

Reprobate, in the sense it is used here, means (worthless, castaway, or rejected). You see, God has turned away from this person, because they have rejected God and all His teachings. I believe it is possible for a homosexual or lesbian to be saved, but only if they walk away from their old life. I do not believe a person practising homosexuality or lesbianism is saved. Remember reprobate means rejected. Things which are not convenient means against nature. Verse 28 is saying that the Holy Spirit stops pursuing them for salvation.

Romans 1:29 "Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers," Romans 1:30 "Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents," Romans 1:31 "Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:"

In verse 29 we see where the reprobate mind leads to all unrighteousness. Fornication has to do with sex sin (adultery is one example) and also spiritual adultery (idolatry). Covetousness includes greediness, wanting what others have, and fraud or extortion. Maliciousness means all sorts of evil and meanness. Malignity means bad character. We know that covenant breakers are those who do not honor agreements they have made. Implacable means a truce breaker. II Timothy 3:1 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." II Timothy 3:2 "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy," II Timothy 3:3 "Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good," II Timothy 3:4 "Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;" II Timothy 3:5 "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

Can't you see our day here? This describes our day perfectly. This in 2 Timothy and in the Scriptures in Romans that we have been reading describe a people who are out of fellowship with God. We must repent and change now before God has turned our whole nation over to a reprobate mind. It is time to repent and turn to God. Drug and alcohol problems will go away when we give our life to God. The answer for all of us is to heed the Scripture in II Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Romans 1:32 "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."

We know that God is displeased. Just look around you. The weather pattern is messed up. Inflation is great. Earthquakes have increased and in fact all storms have worsened. AIDS and a lot of other incurable diseases have many people frightened. The threat of nuclear war is ever present. The normal life we used to have is now out of control. It seems we cannot depend on anything. Luke 21:26 "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken."

WE HAVE NO CHOICE - WE MUST REPENT AND TURN TO GOD NOW.

Notes

Romans 4 Questions

1. Professing themselves to be wise they became _____.
2. They changed the glory of the uncorruptable God to what?
3. When the Israelites were waiting for Moses to come down from the mountain, what terrible thing did they do?
4. When you worship things you can see with your eyes, you are worshipping what?
5. In verse 24 God gave them up to what?
6. They dishonored their own _____ between themselves.
7. Luke chapter 6 verse 45 tells us what about the beast?
8. Why is sex sin so bad?
9. What are 3 terrible sins God calls abominations?
10. Verse 25 says, they changed the Truth of God into what?
11. They worshipped what?
12. Which is greater, the Creator or the thing He created?
13. What are some things falsely worshipped in our society today?
14. What does Amen mean?
15. In verse 26, why did God turn them over to vile affections?
16. What does (recompense of their error which was meet) mean?
17. What 2 Old Testament cities were destroyed, because their people were homosexuals?
18. What is sex really intended for?
19. What in our society today does the author believe is punishment for homosexuality?
20. What kind of mind did God turn them over to, because they did not retain God in their knowledge?
21. What is meant by not convenient?
22. Verse 29 says, that they who are away from God are filled with what?
23. What is fornication?
24. What is covetousness?
25. What does implacable mean?
26. What day is 2 Timothy speaking of?
27. What type of society is this speaking of?
28. In 2 Chronicles chapter 7 verse 14, what is the solution to our problems?
29. People who commit the sins mentioned are worthy of what?
30. They not only do the sin, but have pleasure in what?
31. In Luke chapter 21 verse 26, we see a society full of what?
32. What are they afraid of?

We will begin this lesson in Romans 2:1 "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things."

It is very easy for us to see sin in other's lives when many times we are unable to see the very same sin in our own life. Many ministers have the attitude that they are exempt, because they preach. The same law applies to us all. There are not 2 sets of rules; one for the congregation and one for the preacher. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Everyone needs Jesus as Saviour and Lord. When we receive Jesus as our Saviour, all our sins are washed away by the blood of the Lamb and we are made white as snow. We need to stay clean and not walk back into a life of sin. Condemning someone else for a sin in their life does not help us at all. In fact we had better be real sure we are not committing that same sin. We would be judged more harshly, if we condemn others of something we do ourselves.

Romans 2:2 "But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things."

God will not punish anyone on hear-say evidence. God judges in Truth. He knows what the Truth is even before we begin.

Romans 2:3 "And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?"

The judgement of God is sure. Just as we know it is allotted a man one time to die, we know also that the judgement will come to each person. Some will inherit eternal life and some will be sent to spend an eternity in hell, but all will be judged. No one will escape judgement.

Romans 2:4 "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"

God is so good to all of us. He gives everyone ample time to repent and come to Him. His mercy endureth forever. The Father's love for mankind was so great that He gave His Son to die on the cross for our sins. II Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." We can see in this Scripture the reason Jesus has not come back for His bride (Christians) is perhaps so a few more people will be saved first. When the time is the appointed time He will come. God's time and our time are 2 different times.

Romans 2:5 "But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;" Romans 2:6 "Who will render to every man according to his deeds:"

We are all storing up things in heaven now. Some who walk in the Light of Jesus are storing up good treasures in heaven. Matthew 6:19 "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:" Matthew 6:20 "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:" Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." If our deeds are evil, the wrath of God will be our just payment. If we are working for God, only a warm welcome awaits us, and the statement (well done thy good and faithful servant). In verse 7 we see the rewards awaiting the believer.

Romans 2:7 "To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:"

Notice that even though eternal life is a free gift; we must continue walking in the salvation Jesus has provided for us. We must continue walking in the Light. We must be doing the Word and not just hearing the Word. We see in verse 8 what awaits those who are not walking with Jesus in His Light.

Romans 2:8 "But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,"

God is not unaware. He will punish those who do not obey. From Genesis to Revelation we see blessings for those who live for God and curses to those who are the children of disobedience.

Romans 2:9 "Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;" Romans 2:10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:"

This is speaking of after the judgement of God. In this life all (good and bad) have tribulation. John 16:33 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." After the judgement, only those who are not living for God have tribulation. This is to the Jew first because Moses' law was given to the Jew. The Jew should be much more responsible, because they were learned in the law of God.

Romans 2:11 "For there is no respect of persons with God."

God is not impressed with our worldly wealth and importance. We are what we are, because God chose for it to be that way. If you are jealous of some one's wealth or place in society, blame God. The real reason might be that God could not trust you with the wealth or importance. It might even be for your own good. We do not even choose our own nationality, God does. We were born and raised in a particular family because God arranged it that way. Why should anyone be so proud of themselves, this being the case? The only wealth that really amounts to anything is what we have stored in heaven.

Romans 2:12 "For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;"

To those whom much is given much is required. Luke 12:48 "But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few [stripes]. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more." The Lord is a just God. He judges each according to their knowledge. If we know to do good and do it not, it is counted sin to us. III John 1:11 "Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God." We mentioned before that even nature tells you of God. Our conscience tells us when we are sinning. We all know right from wrong. The Jew had the law, so they will be judged by their law, if they do not receive Jesus. All will be judged guilty of sin, who have not accepted complete pardon through Jesus Christ our Lord. All deserve death. We receive our life in Jesus Christ who is Life.

Romans 2:13 "(For not the hearers of the law [are] just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified."

Just to hear the law and to do nothing about it would not help at all. Just hearing about Jesus will not save you either. We must act upon what we hear. The burden is laid on the person receiving salvation to accept it. We have a free will which God will not violate. Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." The Jews already know the law so they must do what their law says.

Romans 2:14 "For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:" Romans 2:15 "Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and [their] thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)"

The law was a schoolmaster until Jesus brought salvation by grace. Galatians 3:24 "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster [to bring us] unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith." In Hebrews 10:16 "This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;" Hebrews 10:17 "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." The Christian saved by the grace of Jesus Christ, and having the law written on the fleshly part of their heart, walk in newness of life having their conscience guiding them. If God's laws are engraven in our heart, we have a pure heart which guides us.

Romans 2:16 "In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel."

I John 3:21 "Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, [then] have we confidence toward God." God judges the heart. Your sins may be secret to man, but nothing is hidden from God. Jesus Christ is the Judge of all of us. We will stand or fall by Him. If He is our Saviour and Lord we will go to heaven, if we have not accepted Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord, we are lost.

Romans 5 Questions

1. Therefore thou art _____ O man, whosoever thou art that judgest another.
2. Why is this true?
3. Do ministers have some special agreement with God where they can sin and not be guilty?
4. How are our sins washed away?
5. What is God's judgement according to?
6. Who will be judged of God?
7. What does 2nd Peter chapter 3 verse 9 tell us about the second coming of Christ?
8. Those with hardness and impenitent hearts treasure up what unto themselves?
9. God will render to every man according to his _____.
10. What does Matthew chapter 6 verses 19 through 21 tell us about treasures?
11. What does every Christian want to hear from God?
12. Verse 7 says, to them who by patient continuance in well doing seek what?
13. What awaits the contentious who do not obey?
14. What opposites do we see from Genesis to Revelation about God's judgement?
15. To the _____ first and also to the _____.
16. What 3 things await every man that worketh good?
17. What is verse 11 really telling us about God's attitude toward mankind?
18. Those who had the law will be judged by what?
19. Where do you find (For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required)?
20. What does 3rd John verse 11 tell us about who is of God?
21. Who will be judged guilty of sin?
22. Not the hearers of the law are just before God, but who?
23. Where do we find what we must do to be saved?
24. Who had the law?
25. Where does Jesus write the law, if we are Christians?
26. What bears witness of guilt or innocence?
27. Galatians chapter 3 verse 24 tells us the law was what?
28. Hebrews chapter 10 verse 16 tells us Jesus will put his law 2 places, where are they?
29. Why are the secrets just to man?
30. Does God judge our deeds or our heart?

We will begin this lesson in chapter 2 verse 17 "Romans 2:17 Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God,"

The Jews knew they were God's chosen. They were proud, but they looked down on those who were not Jews thinking themselves better than others. Paul is telling them here that it is wrong to depend on the fact of their Jewish heritage to save them.

Romans 2:18 "And knowest [his] will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law;"

Paul tells these self-righteous people that they are without excuse. They had the law, but yet they did not understand. They were trying to instruct others and didn't even comprehend themselves. 1 Corinthians 1:31 "That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."

Romans 2:19 "And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness," Romans 2:20 "An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law."

Their form of religion was just that, a form. This was a technical keeping of the law without any understanding of what the law really stood for. This is like memorizing a bunch of words without any idea of what they meant. There is no purpose in memorizing, unless you know what the meaning of the Scripture is. God is not pleased with us technically keeping His laws. He wants our love and obedience. The Light of God is something you can not turn on and off. If you have the Light, it shines in your life not just one day a week. If you feel you have got to go to church, you probably don't have the Light. It should be a joy for a Christian to go to church. Church should not be an obligation that you fulfill. To go to church should be the desire of your heart.

Romans 2:21 "Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?"

Matthew 7:13 "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:" Matthew 7:4 "Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam [is] in thine own eye?" Matthew 7:5 "Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

Both of these Scriptures are saying [practise what you preach]. Most preachers will tell you, when they are preaching, the message is for them as well as the congregation.

Romans 2:22 "Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?"

Many ministers in our day need to review this verse 22 above. Ministers are not exempt from God's laws. We must not be just hearers but doers of God's law. James 1:23 "For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:" James 1:24 "For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was." James 1:25 "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth [therein], he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." The best sermon any man or woman can preach is the one we live every day of our life.

Romans 2:23 "Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?"

The law was given by God to help mankind. These Jewish leaders had twisted God's law to fit what they wanted. Many of the customs they required the people to do, they did not do themselves. They had no feelings about putting burdens on others, but were not willing to do them themselves. The high priest's office was founded to be a go between for God and his people. It was originated as an honorable holy office. By the time this was written, it had really decayed into something terrible. They were even buying the priesthood. These had become power lovers, rather than men of God.

Romans 2:24 "For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written."

These Jews had missed the whole point of being the chosen of God to have the law. Just their arrogant behavior made the non-Jews think that it was not good to be a believer. Instead of them living a better life for having known God, they oppressed others and ran them away from God.

Romans 2:25 "For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision."

You should read Ephesians chapter 2 v.11 through 22. It is great to be the chosen of God, as long as you continue to walk in sonship. If you do not the things of God, then you are not His Son. Only those who obey God and walk in His ways are His sons.

Romans 2:26 "Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?"

Colossians 3:11 "Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond [nor] free: but Christ [is] all, and in all." The circumcision that counts is of the heart and not of the flesh. God is not interested in our flesh. He is Spirit and He is interested in our spirit which is made in His image. Matthew 6:28 "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:" Matthew 6:29 "And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." Matthew 6:30 "Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, [shall he] not much more [clothe] you, O ye of little faith?" Matthew 6:31 "Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?" Matthew 6:32 "(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things." Matthew 6:33

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:34 "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day [is] the evil thereof." Jesus also came to heal our bodies. III John 1:2 "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

Romans 2:27 "And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?"

To whom much is given, much is required. These Gentiles were living better lives with less knowledge than the Jews. These Jews are not setting the good example for God that that they need to. Galatians 6:15 "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature."

Romans 2:28 "For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither [is that] circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:" Romans 2:29 "But he [is] a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision [is that] of the heart, in the spirit, [and] not in the letter; whose praise [is] not of men, but of God."

In the case above it would be possible for a Gentile to be a better Jew than the natural Jew, because the Gentiles' heart is right with God. God looks on the heart of man and judges the heart. Only you and God know the relation that you have with God. Men look at the outward man, but God sees the heart.

Notes

Romans 6 Questions

1. In v. 17 those who are called a Jew rest in _____ and boast of _____.
2. What is Paul telling these Jews in v. 17?
3. How were these Jews instructed?
4. 1 Corinthians ch. 1 v. 31 tells the only thing to glory in, what was it?
5. Who did these Jews think themselves to be a guide to?
6. Vs. 20 says they thought they were instructor to the _____ a teacher of _____.
7. They had the form of what?
8. What two things does God want from us rather than our formality?
9. Verse 21 says, they preach what and yet are guilty themselves?
10. Where in Matthew teaches the same lesson?
11. In just a few words, what are both Scriptures saying?
12. Verse 22 lets us know what about ministers?
13. We must be a _____ and not a _____ only of the law.
14. What is the best sermon any man or woman can preach?
15. What was the law given for?
16. What had happened to the priesthood that made it a less honorable position?
17. What was happening to the name of God among the Gentiles because of these natural Jews?
18. How does circumcision profit a Jew?
19. If those uncircumcised keep God's law, what is it counted unto them as?
20. In Galations ch.3 v.11, we find what about God's relation with all men?
21. God is not interested in our _____. He is interested in our _____.
22. Galations ch. 6 v.15 tells us only one thing counts with God, what is it?
23. What is the circumcision that is important to God?
24. What is a possibility in the spirit that is not a possibility in the flesh.
25. Who is the only one who knows your condition with God?.

We will begin this lesson in Romans 3:1 "What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit [is there] of circumcision?"

Paul asks this question as if another Jew is asking. It seems that the covenant that God made with Abraham (circumcision) is no advantage at all. Paul asks, what is the reason for circumcision, if it does not benefit the Jew?

Romans 3:2 "Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God."

The non-Jew up until the time of Jesus had no chance of learning of the true God. The law was revealed to the natural Jew only at that time. The promises made were for the physical house of Israel until Jesus tore the middle wall of partition down in the temple when He gave His body on the cross for all mankind. The promise of the Messiah was to the physical house of Israel. The physical house of Israel (Jew) was the one taught in the temple the laws of God. They were the privileged few.

Romans 3:3 "For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?"

The fact that some reject the Truth does not make it any less the Truth. Some have not the faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." We see in these Scriptures just what it takes to be saved.

Romans 3:4 "God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged."

Psalms 116:11 "I said in my haste, All men [are] liars." Hebrews 6:17 "Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed [it] by an oath:" Hebrews 6:18 "That by two immutable things, in which [it was] impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:" Immutable means unchangeable or always the same. We see above that men are liars, but it is impossible for God to lie, since He is the Truth. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Every man and woman (one at a time) shall stand before this absolute Truth and be judged. We will be justified by Jesus Christ when we Christians stand before Him. Those who rejected Jesus as their personal Saviour will be without excuse.

Romans 3:5 "But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? [Is] God unrighteous who taketh vengeance? (I speak as a man) "

We have no righteousness except that purchased for us by the Lord Jesus Christ. Because we are unrighteous, do we presume to judge God for taking vengeance on our unrighteousness? As I said before, those who do not accept

Jesus Christ as their Saviour and take on His righteousness are without excuse and deserve God's vengeance.

Romans 3:6 "God forbid: for then how shall God judge the world?"

One thing we can surely depend on is that God is just. God has made a way out for the unrighteous. They must accept Jesus as Saviour and Lord and then they will be judged righteous, because they have taken on Jesus' righteousness. There are only 2 types of people as far as God is concerned (those who accept Jesus and those who do not accept Jesus).

Romans 3:7 "For if the truth of God hath more abounded through my lie unto his glory; why yet am I also judged as a sinner?"

We might try to justify our sin before God, telling God that our lie makes His Truth even greater, but He will not go for that flimsy excuse.

Romans 3:8 "And not [rather], (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil, that good may come? whose damnation is just."

Paul is saying, here, that some liars are going around saying, that He says do evil so that God's good will be greater. Paul just simply says they are lying. They not only lie, but their condemnation is just.

Romans 3:9 "What then? are we better [than they]? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;" Romans 3:10 "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:"

In the 23rd verse of this chapter Paul makes it very clear that all have sinned. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Psalms 14:1 "{To the chief Musician, [A Psalm] of David.} The fool hath said in his heart, [There is] no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, [there is] none that doeth good." The Jews could not and did not keep the law and the heathen did not even have a law to keep. All have sinned, but praise God, He sent a Saviour named Jesus Christ. His righteousness is what we must have. Our righteousness is but filthy rags.

Romans 3:11 "There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God."

This describes our generation perfectly. It seems there is no one seeking after God; or at least very few. If we seek God we will find Him. Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:"

Romans 3:12 "They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

Even the Jews who had the law were not keeping it. The priests were twisting the law around and carrying their own customs out in the temple rather than carrying out God's law. Jesus came to save the lost world. Just as this Scripture says, no one truly deserves to be saved. God sent His Son because He loved us, not because we deserved that love.

Romans 3:13 "Their throat [is] an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps [is] under their lips:"

There is a similar Scripture in Psalms. Psalms 140:3 "They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders' poison [is] under their lips. Selah." We see from this that the tongue can be a very evil and hurtful instrument when it speaks from an evil heart. I believe that is what is meant by the throat being an open sepulchre. Look with me in the book of James to see some of this. James 3:6 " And the tongue [is] a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell." James 3:7 "For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:" James 3:8 "But the tongue can no man tame; [it is] an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." When we receive Jesus as our Saviour, the very first member of our body that we should turn over to Jesus is our tongue. The natural tongue is very evil, if not controlled by the Spirit.

Romans 3:14 "Whose mouth [is] full of cursing and bitterness:"

What generation in all of history has been more guilty of cursing than the present? Every movie, or at least the vast majority of them, contain terrible cursing. Bitterness and strife are on every hand. Bitterness against parents is perhaps #1 on the list. Study these Scriptures in Ephesians to learn more. Ephesians 4:30 "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Ephesians 4:31 "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:" Ephesians 4:32 "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Notes

Romans 7 Questions

1. The question in verse 1 is what?
2. What way was the physical Jew advantaged?
3. When did the Gentile first have an opportunity to know God?
4. Who was the promise of Messiah made to?
5. Does the fact that some did not believe affect the Truth?
6. Let God be _____ but every man a _____.
7. Where, in Psalms, does it say all men are liars?
8. How had God verified His promise?
9. What does immutable mean?
10. Jesus is the _____, the _____, and the _____.
11. Is God _____ who taketh vengeance?
12. How was Paul speaking in verse 5?
13. Who shall judge the world?
14. What 2 types of people are there as far as God is concerned?
15. What had been slanderously reported that Paul said?
16. Who are under sin?
17. There is _____ righteous no _____.
18. Quote chapter 3 of Romans verse 23.
19. In the 14th chapter of Psalms verse 1, who says there is no God?
20. We have all sinned, but what can we praise God for in this?
21. In verse 11, who seeketh after God?
22. Verse 12 says, who does good?
23. Their _____ is an open sepulchre.
24. What is said to be under the lips in verse 13?
25. What is meant by an open sepulchre?
26. What is impossible to tame other than with God's help?
27. Which generation in all of history has been more guilty of cursing than any other?
28. Ephesians chapter 4 verses 30 through 32 tell us what?

We will begin this lesson in Romans 3:15 "Their feet [are] swift to shed blood:"

This is speaking of evil men, of course we know that some of the Jewish leaders of the church wanted all the Christians killed. They even thought they were doing God a favor to kill the Christians.

Romans 3:16 "Destruction and misery [are] in their ways: " Romans 3:17 "And the way of peace have they not known:" Romans 3:18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

This is describing people without understanding. They are without the love of God within them. Their desire is to destroy and make others miserable. This really is like so many gangs in our country today. They have no desire to build, just to tear down and destroy what someone else has built. They like to make others miserable thinking with their perverted mind that seeing someone more miserable than themselves will bring them happiness. They are not peace makers. How could they fear what they do not know? They do not know God.

Romans 3:19 "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God."

Just the fact the Jews had the law did not make them not guilty of sin. In fact, if anything, it made them more guilty, because they had the law and did not keep it. All have sinned. All are guilty of sin.

Romans 3:20 "Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin."

The law just made it even more apparent that all have sinned and needed a Saviour. We will read in chapter 5 of Romans that Jesus died for the ungodly. We cannot be good enough to be saved. Jesus Christ is the only person that ever lived without sin.

Romans 3:21 "But now. the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;"

The righteousness that was manifested was the righteousness of Christ. The law spoke of the promised Messiah. He was promised as early as the third chapter of Genesis. Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." The prophets spoke of the coming Saviour of the world, as well. The entire Bible is actually focused on this Righteous One {Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord}

Romans 3:22 "Even the righteousness of God [which is] by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:"

Our righteousness is but filthy rags in ourselves. Our righteousness that is acceptable to God is the righteousness of Jesus Christ that we put on when we accept Jesus as our savior and Lord.

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

This is not just the heathen, but the Jew, as well. No one can live completely free of sin. Our justification in Jesus is (just as if we had never sinned). We have sinned, but we are not guilty, because we have been washed in the blood of the Lamb (Jesus Christ). I John 2:2 "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of] the whole world." We also read in Revelation 7:9 "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; " You see, these people are those followers of Jesus who have been washed in His blood and made white as snow. Revelation 7:13 "And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?" Revelation 7:14 "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." We see the question of who these are in white robes answered and it leaves no doubt who they are.

Romans 3:24 "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:"

We see a further explanation in Acts 13:39 "And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." You see the only thing that makes us in right standing with God is receiving the free gift (grace) of Christ Jesus which redeems us.

Romans 3:25 "Whom God hath set forth [to be] a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;"

II Corinthians 5:21 "For he hath made him [to be] sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." The word propitiation means atoning victim or also the lid of the Ark. Jesus was our atoning victim. He took our sin on His body on the cross and our sin died on that cross. Hebrews 9:22 "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission." You see, Jesus shed His blood to remit our sin.

Romans 3:26 "To declare, [I say], at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."

The work was all done by Jesus. We cannot justify ourselves. We are justified, because we have taken on justification through His blood.

Romans 3:27 "Where [is] boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith."

Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God:" Ephesians 2:9 "Not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:10 "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

Romans 3:28 "Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."

Keeping the ordinances of the law will not do away with sin and will not save anyone. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." To find out what faith can do for you and did do for many, read all of Hebrews chapter 11.

Romans 3:29 "[Is he] the God of the Jews only? [is he] not also of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also:"

God was the Creator of all mankind. Mankind both Jew and Gentile was made in the image of God. We are His workmanship. All He created was for the benefit of mankind. He prepared the world for man. God is God of all. We are all part of God's family. There is one God and Father of us all. Ephesians 4:6 "One God and Father of all, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all."

Romans 3:30 "Seeing [it is] one God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith."

You see, it is faith (belief in Him) which saves us, nothing more and nothing less. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Romans 3:31 "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law."

The law is not done away with by Jesus, but fulfilled in Him. The law is good. The law declares the need to be righteous. Jesus makes it possible to be righteous in Him. The law showed us our great need for Jesus as our Saviour.

Romans 8 Questions

1. In V.15, their feet are quick to do what?
2. In V.16, what 2 things are in their way?
3. In V.18, there is no _____ of _____ before their eyes?
4. The law speaks to whom?
5. Who became guilty before God?
6. Who can be justified by the deeds of the law?
7. By what is the knowledge of sin?
8. V.21 says, 2 witnessed the righteousness of God, what were they?
9. The righteousness of God is by what?
10. Who have sinned and come short of the glory of God?
11. What makes Christians justified?
12. Who are the people around the throne in white robes in Revelation chapter 7?
13. We are justified freely by what?
14. Acts chapter 13-v39, who are the justified
15. What is grace?
16. What does propitiation mean?
17. We must have faith in what?
18. Almost all things are purged by what?
19. What is Jesus called in verse 26?
20. What question is asked in verse 27?
21. Ephesians chapter 2 verse 8 says, by _____ are ye saved
22. Ephesians chapter 2 verse 9 says, "Not of _____ lest any man should _____."
23. In verse 10 of Ephesians 2, we Christians are called what?
24. A man is justified by _____ without the _____ of the law.
25. Verse 29 says, God is who`s God?
26. The circumcision is justified by what?
27. Quote John 3:16.
28. What effect does faith have on the law?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 4:1 "What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found?"

Paul, here is using a question to drive a point home. He is saying in essence, if anyone could boast of making himself acceptable to God in the flesh it would have been Abraham. Not even Abraham was justified by the outward show of his faith in God by circumcising the males. It was not the circumcising of the males that made him acceptable to God, but his great faith.

Romans 4:2 "For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath [whereof] to glory; but not before God."

As we said before, Abraham did show the world of his great faith by his outward circumcision. Christians make an outward show of their decision to follow Jesus by being baptized. The truth is justification takes place in the heart. Faith takes place in the inner man. Faith pleases God. When we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus, we are justified by the washing of His blood. Jesus' shed blood washes us and makes us every whit whole.

Romans 4:3 "For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness."

Abraham believed God and left Ur of the Chaldees. He was looking for a city whose maker was God. He gave up his big home and wandered where God had sent him. He dwelled in tents waiting for the city of God. This faith Abraham had in God pleased God and Abraham was greatly blessed by God for it. Abraham's seed that was promised, that would inherit the kingdom are all the believers in Christ. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:6 "Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Romans 4:4 "Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt."

If work could get you into heaven, then there would be no place for faith. In the flesh we all die, but the life of importance is in the spirit which takes faith to inherit.

Romans 4:5 "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."

No one can work themselves into heaven. That is not the key that opens the door. The key is faith without works. The secret is, after you have had faith and it has opened the door for you, then you desire to work for Him. Galatians 2:16 "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." Faith plus nothing makes us righteous.

Romans 4:6 "Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,"

The word imputeth means counteth, Psalms 32:1 "{ [A Psalm] of David, Maschil.) Blessed [is he whose] transgression [is] forgiven, [whose] sin [is] covered." Psalms 32:2 "Blessed [is] the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit [there is] no guile."

In the Old Testament the sin was covered by the blood of the lamb. After Jesus the sin was completely done away with by the blood of the perfect Lamb (Jesus Christ).

Romans 4:7 "[Saying], Blessed [are] they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered."

Romans 4:8 "Blessed [is] the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."

Of course, the reason for all this is when we stand before Jesus. He will recognize His own. He has paid the price in full for all of our sin, Our sin died on the cross. We are forgiven. We are blessed, because we do not have to pay, Jesus paid for our sins in full on the cross.

Romans 4:9 "[Cometh] this blessedness then upon the circumcision [only], or upon the uncircumcision also?" for we say that faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness.

We are looking here for justification without keeping the ceremonial law. Abraham was counted righteous before the keeping of the law. He was made righteous in God's sight before he became a physical Jew. Acts 13:39 "And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses."

Romans 4:10 "How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision."

All Paul is saying is that Abraham's faith before he was circumcised was counted as righteousness to him. Also, in I John 5:1 "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him." Also, in I John 5:12 "He that hath the Son hath life; [and] he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." We find in both these Scriptures that it is not whether you are Jew or Gentile, but where you have put your faith (in the Son of God).

Romans 4:11 "And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which [he had yet] being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:"

Genesis 15:6 "And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness." You see Abraham believed, and that alone brought righteousness. The circumcision came later for an outward show to the world that he believed God.

Romans 4:12 "And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which [he had] being [yet] uncircumcised."

This just reminds us, again, that Abraham is father to all who believe. For by faith are you saved.

Romans 4:13 "For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, [was] not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith."

Galatians 3:18 "For if the inheritance [be] of the law, [it is] no more of promise: but God gave [it] to Abraham by promise." We read who are saved in Galatians 3:7 "Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham." Galatians 3:8 "And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, [saying], In thee shall all nations be blessed." Galatians 3:9 "So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." In all of this we must see the mighty hand of God working salvation for all who have the faith to receive it. Salvation is a free gift. You must reach out and take it for it to be yours.

Notes

Romans 9 Questions

1. Who did Paul call Abraham in verse 1?
2. Why is Paul saying this in question form?
3. If anyone could boast of being worthy in the flesh (besides Jesus) who would it be?
4. Was he worthy in the flesh?
5. In verse 2, who would Abraham not be able to glory before?
6. What was the circumcision of Abraham really?
7. Where does faith take place?
8. What did Abraham do that was counted unto him for righteousness?
9. When Abraham left Ur of the Chaldees, what was he looking for?
10. In Galatians chapter 3 verse 29, who are Abraham's seed and heirs to the promise?
11. Verse 4 says, to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of _____.
12. In the flesh we all _____.
13. In verse 5, his faith is counted for _____.
14. By the works of the law who is saved?
15. Who in the Old Testament described the blessedness of righteousness being counted to us without works?
16. What does the word imputeth mean?
17. Where in the Old Testament is this stated by David?
18. In verse 7, who are the blessed?
19. In verse 8, who are the blessed?
20. In Acts chapter 13 verse 39, who are justified?
21. In first John chapter 5 verse 1, we see that all who believeth that Jesus is the Christ are what?
22. In first John chapter 5 verse 12, he that hath the Son hath what?
23. What is circumcision called in verse 11?
24. In Genesis chapter 15, what was counted unto Abraham for righteousness?
25. Who was the father of circumcision?
26. Who was the father of faith?
27. Verse 13 tells of the promise to Abraham, what was it?
28. In Galatians chapter 3 verse 7, who are the children of Abraham?
29. In Galatians chapter 3 verse 8, who would be blessed because of Abraham?
30. Salvation is a free gift, but what is our part in it?

We will begin this lesson in Romans 4:14 "For if they which are of the law [be] heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:"

We see the law is totally different from the justification by faith that came from Abraham. Abraham was not promised to bless all nations through the law which was given to just one nation, Israel) but the promise came through faith. His seed that we have mentioned so many times before in these lessons, is all believers in Christ. Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

You can easily see, if you can see heirship by work, it would not be by promise. Law is exacting and must be obeyed to the letter, but the grace of Jesus Christ leaves opportunity for repentance and new life. Abraham did not earn the right, he believed God and that was enough. God wants us to trust Him. Actually Abraham's promise from God was two fold. He was promised in the physical the promised land (Israel). In the spirit these promises went much further. The promise of the spirit was not of this earth, but for the promised land (heaven) for all who believe.

Romans 4:15 "Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, [there is] no transgression."

How can you break a law, if there is no law? If you break the law (that you are living under), you will be punished (wrath). If there is no law, you are not punished. (There are no laws written down on paper for Christians. God's laws are written in our heart. We are pardoned by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Romans 4:16 "Therefore [it is] of faith, that [it might be] by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,"

The following Scripture speaks of this grace I Corinthians 1:4 "I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;"

Grace (unmerited favor) was offered to each of us (not because we were worthy) but because God loved us each one.

II Timothy 1:9 "Who hath saved us, and called [us] with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began," Just the love of God provided Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord for each of us. Our obligation is to reach out and receive this gift of grace in Jesus Christ.

Romans 4:17 "(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, [even] God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were."

This Scripture has been greatly misunderstood by many. Some believe that this is saying that you can have anything you want by just claiming it for yourself. I personally believe this is speaking of the Gentiles when it is saying those who were not. Many nations could not be just Israel. Israel is just one nation. This Scripture is speaking of the Jew and Gentile. The Gentiles were not, because they were heathen people. Through Jesus they are the family of God, which they had not been previously. This is, also, speaking of the resurrection of the dead. I Thessalonians 4:13 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." I Thessalonians 4:14 "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." I Thessalonians 4:15 "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive [and] remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep." I Thessalonians 4:16 "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:" I Thessalonians 4:17 "Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." I Thessalonians 4:18 "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." You should, also, read 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verses 35 through 58.

Romans 4:18 "Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be."

When the promise was given to Abraham that he would become the father of many nations, it seemed impossible. Here he and his wife Sarah were very old people and have never had any children. For a person who thought with a carnal mind this would be an impossibility. Sarah had passed the age of women have children. Abraham did not listen to the carnal mind, but believed all things were possible with God. His faith in God and nothing else completed his righteousness to God. God honored his great faith and gave him a son by Sarah (Isaac). Isaac was the beginning of the promise that Abraham was to become father of many nations.

Romans 4:19 "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:"

You see Abraham did not think with his carnal mind. He knew all things were possible with God. God had created him in the beginning and he knew God could restore his and Sarah's youth enough that they could bring forth a child. (All men have their measure of faith.) Abraham had great faith beyond the measure each man requires. He believed so strongly, he became known as the father of the faithful.

Romans 4:20 "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;"

Jesus' own words Matthew 19:26 "But Jesus beheld [them], and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." Abraham knew in his heart that nothing was impossible to God. His faith was not of this world, but in God.

Romans 4:21 "And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform."

Abraham knew whatever God said he would do, He was perfectly capable of doing.

Romans 4:22 "And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness."

The number one meaning for impute above was compute. Righteousness is not earned but received by faith. We are made righteous in God's sight when we are washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Romans 4:23 "Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;"

This just means that not only is faith full payment for Abraham's righteousness, but any one who has faith in Jesus Christ is counted righteous, as well. Our faith makes us in right standing with God.

Romans 4:24 "But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;"

Look at Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." This leaves absolutely no doubt what it takes to be saved.

Romans 4:25 "Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification."

Jesus was without sin. He was innocent of all sin. He took our sins on his body and paid our penalty in full. I should have been crucified. My sins help put Jesus on the cross. I Corinthians 15:3 "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;" Jesus bought us and paid for us with his own precious blood. Our salvation lies in him.

Romans 10 Questions

1. In verse 14, faith is made void and the promise of none effect if who be heirs?
2. Who was the law given to?
3. How many nations does it consist of?
4. Who are Abraham's seed?
5. Where do you find the Scripture that tells who Abraham`s seed are?
6. What is the physical promised land?
7. What is the spiritual promised land?
8. We find in verse 15, that the law worketh what?
9. If there is no law, there is no _____.
10. Where are God's laws written for the Christians?
11. In verse 16, it is of faith that it might be of_____.
12. Who is the father of all who believe?
13. How was the grace of God givenyus?
14. What is grace?
15. Why did God offer us this grace?
16. When was this grace provided for us?
17. Who quickeneth?
18. What two Scriptures speak of the resurrection?
19. In verse 18, was it the written or spoken Word which brought this about?.
20. Why did it seem impossible for Abraham to be father of many?
21. Who was the beginning of the promise fulfilled in?
22. About how old was Abraham when Isaac was born?
23. Who did Abraham give glory to?
24. In Matthew ch. 19 verse 26, what does Jesus teach us about God?
25. What was imputed to Abraham for righteousness?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 5:1 "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:"

Look at this carefully. Justified means just as if I had never sinned. Notice, again, what makes us justified. It is when we make Jesus our Lord and Saviour. Aside from Jesus no man is justified. Galatians 2:16 "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." Peace comes when we are assured of our salvation.

Romans 5:2 "By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

We have access to the Father, because Jesus tore down the middle wall of partition and gave us access when He died on the cross. We see how Jesus furnished us access to the Father.....Mark 15:38 "And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom." This curtain was not torn down by man, but by God.

Romans 5:3 "And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;"

Jesus taught that in this life you will have tribulation. The only peace is in Him. John 16:33 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." II Corinthians 1:4 "Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God." You see, the problems come to all. Christians have Jesus to lean upon in their troubles. In Revelation chapter 7 verse 14, we see all the Christians around the throne who have been taken out of great tribulations on this earth. He promises He will be with us and provide a way out for us. Matthew 5:45 "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

One of the greatest examples of people who are perfect and upright in the sight of God, and yet have great tribulation, is Job in the book of Job. He is tested by tribulation and yet his patience never tires. When we are going through tribulation (undeserved), we must remember that it is to make us stronger in God. Jesus was tried for 40 days and nights, but never faltered. We can make it, too, if we keep in the back of our mind that it is for our own good and not harm.

Romans 5:4 "And patience, experience; and experience, hope:"

We Christians have hope of the resurrection. In Lamentations 3:26 "[It is] good that [a man] should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD." I have discovered that God allows these little trials to come along to see if we still believe in Him under pressure. If we fold in the trial, then we have to go through another similar trial until we learn to

lean on him in our trials. I Thessalonians 4:13 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope."

Romans 5:5 "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

This Holy Ghost spoken of here comes and dwells within us. It is the Holy Ghost in us that loves others unselfishly. We are not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ unto salvation. If we are ashamed of Jesus or the Holy Ghost here, He will be ashamed of us in heaven. We must not be ashamed but boldly tell of our Lord and Saviour and His blessed Holy Spirit.

Romans 5:6 "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

The mystery of it all is how He loved us enough to die for us while we were evil in every way. Jesus died for those who deserved to go to hell, because they had sinned. (There is no one righteous in his own right) everyone needs a Saviour. God loves a sinner and has made way for him or her: the way is Jesus Christ our Lord. He gave each of us a free will so we must be willing to be saved, Jesus does the rest.

Romans 5:7 "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die."

This is just saying that it would have been a little more understandable that Jesus would die on the cross for us, if we had been good people. There are no good people (Jesus said even He was not good). A death of this cruel nature would be hard to endure, even for righteous people, but for wicked people it is almost not understandable. The reason we do not understand is because God's love is so much greater than any thing we know about.

Romans 5:8 "But God commandeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

In verse eight above, it is as if God forced His love to be shown by His mighty hand. The word commandeth means more than just give. The greatest love ever known was when God the Father gave His only begotten son to die on the cross for you and me that we might be saved. The mystery of it all is He does not wait until we are good enough to be saved.

Romans 5:9 "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

One of the best Scriptures on this, I believe, is in Revelation. Revelation 7:9 "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;" Revelation 7:10 "And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." Revelation 7:11 "And all the angels stood round about the throne, and [about] the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God," Revelation 7:12 "Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, [be]

unto our God for ever and ever. Amen." Revelation 7:13 "And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?" Revelation 7:14 "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

This beautiful scene in heaven of Christians (innumerable) standing around the throne of God takes place while the wrath of God is poured out upon the earth. Those saved by the blood of Jesus never taste God's wrath. Notice, it is a voluntary act upon our part, because we are the ones who washed our robe, Jesus provided the blood to wash them with.

Romans 5:10 "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."

In John 11:25 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:" John 11:26 "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" Because He (Jesus) lives, We shall live also. Jesus is life: In John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Jesus is life. If we have Jesus, we have life.

Romans 5:11 "And not only [so], but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement."

Atonement, here, means restoration to divine favor. Notice, this atonement is by Jesus Christ. Even our joy is in Him.

Notes

Romans 11 Questions

1. In verse one we are justified by what?
2. Who do we have peace with God through?
3. In Galations ch. 2 v. 16, we find that no man is justified by what?
4. When does peace come to the believer?
5. How do we have access to the Father?
6. How was the veil of the temple rent?
7. We glory in tribulations knowing that tribulations worketh what?
8. In John ch. 16 vr.33, we find that in Jesus we might have _____.
9. In this world we will have _____.
10. In Revelation ch.7 v.14, who do we see around the throne?
11. Who does God make the sun to shine on?
12. What is possibly the best illustration of tribulation undeserved?
13. What do we need to remember when we are being tried?
14. Patience and experience brings what?
15. In I Thessalonians ch.4 vr.13, what hope does the Christian have?
16. What O.T. book gives promise of the same hope?
17. Hope maketh not ashamed, why?
18. What within us loves others unselfishly?
19. Verse 6 said, Christ died for whom?
20. What is our only way out?
21. Verse 7, maybe for _____ some would even dare to die?
22. God _____ His _____ toward us?
23. What condition were we in when Jesus died for us?
24. What is the greatest love ever known?
25. In verse 9, we find that we are justified by what?
26. We will be saved from the _____ to come?
27. How were the Christians dressed in Rev. ch. 7?
28. Where had they come from?
29. In verse 10, when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by what?
30. In John ch. 11 vrs. 25, Jesus said He was two things, what were they?
31. In John ch.14 Verse 6, Jesus calls Himself 3 things, name them.
32. The word atonement in verse 11 means what?

Notes

We begin this lesson in Romans 5:12 "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:"

Adam and Eve were created to live (not die). In the Garden of Eden was the tree of life which would make them live forever, if they ate of it. The tree of life is Jesus Christ. Adam and Eve sinned in the garden, and God drove them out of the garden so that they would not eat of the tree of life and live forever in their sinful nature. Adam and Eve brought sin into the world: thus by one man sin entered. The sin nature of man has to do with the flesh man. The flesh man is controlled by the desires of the flesh. Man is a spirit who lives in a body of flesh. Man has a free will to do with his life on earth as he wishes. When the will is controlled by the flesh (as in Adam), then the man is a man of flesh. If the spirit overrules the flesh and the will of man follows the spirit, you have a spiritual man. All who practise sin are of the flesh. 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 4 tells of these 2, spirit and flesh in a man.

Romans 5:13 "(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law."

Man chose to follow the flesh instead of God beginning with Adam. It is impossible to break the law, however, if there is no law. If there is no speed limit, you could drive a hundred miles an hour and not be arrested. If the speed limit is 55 and you go even 65 you are probably going to get a fine to pay. You would be breaking the law. Until Moses, there was no law written down.

Romans 5:14 "Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come."

Instead of each person possessing life, they are facing death. Adam brought death into the picture. And God could not allow them to live forever in sickness, pain, and deterioration of body and mind. God provides a way out of this terrible mess that man has gotten himself into, by sending the second Adam (Jesus Christ). All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. God sent us a Saviour.

Romans 5:15 "But not as the offence, so also [is] the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, [which is] by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many."

Death reigned from Adam until Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ defeated death when He rose from the grave. We see this statement above how much greater Jesus' act of mercy than Adam's act of sin. By one man's transgression sin entered. Jesus Christ actually took the sin of the whole world upon His body and sin for the Christians died on the cross. II Corinthians 5:21 "For he hath made him [to be] sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." In I Peter 2:24 "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." The real story is

that Jesus paid our debt for us. We are bought and paid for with the shed blood of Jesus Christ. He provides our righteousness. Jesus made us righteous. We do not make ourselves righteous in God's sight. Jesus made us righteous in God's sight.

Romans 5:16 "And not as [it was] by one that sinned, [so is] the gift: for the judgment [was] by one to condemnation, but the free gift [is] of many offences unto justification."

God tells Adam in Genesis chapter 3 verse 19 that he is dust and to dust he will return. This is the fate of all flesh. Flesh and blood do not inherit heaven. I Corinthians 15:50 "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." The death that Adam brought was of the flesh. Jesus did not just pick out some sins and die for that, but in fact died for all sin.

Romans 5:17 "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)"

This is just repeating, again, that through Adam sin ruled in the flesh of man and brought death until Jesus Christ who defeated sin and death, and brought life when He paid for all sin on the cross.

Romans 5:18 "Therefore as by the offence of one [judgment came] upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one [the free gift came] upon all men unto justification of life."

We read in I Peter 3:19 "By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;" You see the Lord was victorious when He went to hell and he preached to the prisoners there and brought them out with Him. Ephesians 4:8 "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men." Ephesians 4:9 "(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?" Ephesians 4:10 "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)" We see from this that Jesus' purpose in going to hell was not to suffer, but to deliver those in the devil's captivity.

Romans 5:19 "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."

These many who were made sinners, just means that through the ancestry of Adam and Eve they knew sin. The natural thing for anyone to do is to listen to the lust of the flesh. The opportunity and the desire to sin was available to all. Each person did their own sinning. We were not guilty because Adam sinned, but because we sinned. Righteousness is made available to all mankind through Jesus Christ. Again, we must accept His righteousness into our lives. He (Jesus) has made it available for all of us, but we must act upon this availability before it will bring life and righteousness into our lives. I Peter 3:18 "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:" We, too, must put our flesh to death that we might live in His Spirit. Galatians 5:24 "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts."

Romans 5:20 "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:"

When God gave the law to man, it showed man how far short he had fallen in God's ways. There was absolutely no way that fleshly man could keep God's law. Man realized he needed a Saviour. Through the grace of God, Jesus Christ became our Saviour.

Romans 5:21 "That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

Sin reigned until Jesus Christ destroyed sin on the cross. God's grace (unmerited favor) to us provides eternal life to all who will accept Jesus as their Saviour and Lord. We did not earn it, it is a free gift. We can have life eternal, if we will only believe and receive the Lord Jesus Christ into our life.

Notes

Romans 12 Questions

1. Sin entered into the world, how?
2. What was a byproduct of sin?
3. What percentage of mankind has sinned?
4. Who is the Tree of Life?
5. What does the sin nature of man stem from?
6. What do we find in 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 44?
7. When is sin not imputed?
8. When is it impossible to break the law?
9. What reigned from Adam to Moses?
10. If all face death by one, how do we attain life?
11. What did Jesus defeat when He rose from the grave?
12. In 2 Corinthians 5-21, Jesus was made what?
13. Where does our righteousness come from?
14. Where do we find the Scripture that says (Who his ownself bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed.)?
15. The judgement was to what?
16. The free gift is of many offenses unto _____.
17. In Genesis chapter 3 verse 19, God tells Adam he will return to what?
18. What is this speaking of?
19. In 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 50, we read that something cannot inherit the kingdom of God, what is it?
20. How shall we reign in life?
21. What do we read in 1 Peter ch.3 v.19?
22. Righteousness is made available to all in Jesus, what must we do to receive it?
23. Jesus was put to death in the _____, but was quickened in the _____.
24. What was the purpose of the law?
25. By whom does eternal life for each of us come?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 6:1 "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?"

This still is an on going discussion in the church today. Many believe that it is not necessary to live above sin. They feel that it is a natural thing to sin, and God will overlook sin. He surely knows their weakness. The flesh will sin, but we found in the previous lesson that our flesh must be dead so that our spirit can live. There are two forces in our body today, our flesh nature and our spirit nature.

Romans 6:2 "God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"

Galatians 2:19 "For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God." Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." You see, if Christ truly lives in us, we have no desire to sin any more. We no longer serve the lust of the flesh, but we follow the Spirit of God.

Romans 6:3 " Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?"

When we go into the water for baptism, it is symbolic of being buried with Jesus, and rising to new life in Him. We partake of His burial and His resurrection.

Romans 6:4 "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

We are buried a natural man and we are raised a spiritual man. We are a new creature in Christ. Old things have passed away, behold all things are made new. We are born again and not of corruptible flesh but of the Spirit of God. We walk no longer in the lust of the flesh, but with the guidance of the Spirit of God within us.

Romans 6:5 "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also [in the likeness] of [his] resurrection:"

Colossians 3:1 "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Colossians 3:2 "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Colossians 3:3 "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Colossians 3:4 "When Christ, [who is] our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." We Christians live or die in Jesus. We are believers in and followers of Him. In fact, He has taken up His abode in us, as we read above, Christ in us.

Romans 6:6 "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with [him], that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin."

We see a parallel Scripture to this in Colossians 3:5 "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:" Mortify means to deaden. We are to do away with all sin in the flesh and live to the Spirit of God.

Romans 6:7 "For he that is dead is freed from sin."

When our body dies, it no longer longs for things of the flesh. We are truly dead with Christ in water baptism, Sin is dead in us. We have subdued the flesh man and become spirit.

Romans 6:8 "Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:"

Our new life is in Christ, not in the flesh.

Romans 6:9 "Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him."

II Timothy 1:10 "But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:" Jesus has won the victory over sin and death and for those who will follow him, He offers life everlasting. I Corinthians 15:26 "The last enemy [that] shall be destroyed [is] death." I Corinthians 15:54 "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."

Romans 6:10 "For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God."

Jesus gave His body on the cross to pay the debts for the sins of all the world. Hebrews 10:10 "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once [for all]". John 1:29 "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

Romans 6:11 "Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

II Corinthians 4:11 "For we which live are alway delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh." In John 3:5 "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and [of] the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." And John 3:6 "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

Romans 6:12 "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof."

This is plainly saying that we must get the flesh under the control of the spirit. As I said before, our will will be controlled by the spirit or the flesh. If the lusts of the flesh control you, then you do not belong to God.

Romans 6:13 "Neither yield ye your members [as] instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members [as] instruments of righteousness unto God."

Notice here, that it is in our power to control this. There is a war constantly between the flesh and the spirit. We must not yeild to temptation. One of the easiest ways to not be tempted is to be reading and studying God's word every day and stay busy. Ephesians chapter 6 is a good Scripture to study to learn how to battle for the Lord, verse 10 is good place to begin.

Notes

Romans 13 Questions

1. What foolish question is in verse 1?
2. Our flesh must be dead that our _____ may live
3. What are the two forces in our body?
4. In verse 2, we find that Christians should be dead to _____.
5. In Galatians chapter 2, verse 20 we find that we must be _____ with Christ.
6. I live, yet not I, but _____ liveth with me.
7. If we be Christ's we no longer serve the _____ but we follow the _____ of God.?
8. When we were baptized, we were baptized into Jesus _____.
9. Verse 4 tells us after we are baptized we should walk in _____.
10. We are buried a _____ man and we are raised a _____ man.
11. If we are planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall Be also in the likeness of what?
12. Where does Christ sit?
13. What should we set our affections on?
14. When Christ shall appear, where will we be?
15. Our old man is crucified with him, that the body of _____ might be destroyed.
16. What are we told to do in Colossians ch. 3 vrs. 5?
17. What does Mortify mean?
18. Verse 7 says, he that is dead is _____.
19. Our new life is in whom?
20. What proved that death had no dominion over Christ?
21. 11 Timothy chapter 1 verse 10, Jesus abolished death and brought two things to light through the gospel; what were they?
22. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is what?
23. How are we Christians sanctified?
24. Who called Jesus the Lamb of God?
25. How can we be alive to God?
26. We must be born of two things other than flesh, what are they?
27. In verse 12, what two words indicate that we have the power not to sin?
28. What is the war that is constantly going on within us?
29. What Scripture tells us how to fight the spiritual war?

We will begin this lesson in Romans 6:14 "For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace."

Grace requires more than the law. The law means following a set of rules, but in grace the desires of the heart can even be sin. The Christian under grace must walk in newness of life. Our walk must be in the Light of Jesus. John 12:35 "Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth." John 12:36 "While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them." Jesus is the Light, read chapter 1 of John about Jesus as the Light.

Romans 6:15 "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid."

As we said above, grace requires God's laws to be written on the heart. The heart will be judged. Jesus said, if you lust in your heart for a woman, you have committed adultery already. Grace received is not a license to sin.

Romans 6:16 "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

We cannot call Jesus Christ our Lord unless we obey Him. If he is our Lord, we are under His command. I Peter 1:13 "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;" I Peter 1:14 "As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:" I Peter 1:15 "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;" I Peter 1:16 "Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." We choose who to follow. We have a free will and we will to follow Jesus or the lust of the flesh.

Romans 6:17 "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you."

Everyone, before they came to Jesus were the servants of sin. I John 1:10 "If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." We read in chapter 5 of Romans that all men have sinned. Thank God we do not have to remain in sin. We who believe in Christ have taken on the righteousness of Jesus Christ and no longer serve sin.

Romans 6:18 "Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."

I John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." We read of this change from sin to righteousness in II Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Galatians 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-

suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith," Galatians 5:23 "Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

Romans 6:19 "I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness." Romans 6:20 "For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness."

Paul is explaining, here, he is making this just as clear as he can so that they will understand. He is not just speaking in parables or even spiritually, but literally so those in the flesh can understand. Sin occurs through lust of the flesh. Righteousness occurs when the heart of a man is washed in the blood of Jesus Christ and made brand new in Jesus.

Romans 6:21 "What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things [is] death."

We read in James 1:15 "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." We read specifically in 1 Cor. of unrighteousness that will keep a person from inheriting the kingdom of God. I Corinthians 6:9 "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind," I Corinthians 6:10 "Northieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."

Romans 6:22 "But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life."

A servant obeys his master. Obedience is better than sacrifice. God wants our loyalty and our love.

Ephesians 5:9 "(For the fruit of the Spirit [is] in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)" All of this is saying to us, that if Jesus is living inside of us, we will walk through this life as if Jesus was taking the steps Himself. Self will be no more, Christ-in-me shall rule. If we do not give up, we will inherit eternal life. Galatians 6:9 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of God [is] eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Genesis 2:17 We read "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." The desire of every person is to inherit eternal life. Just as in Matthew chapter 19 verse 16, the question was, what must I do to have eternal life? This is the question of all. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Another very good Scripture is Romans ch. 9 vrs. 10. One of my favorite Scriptures on this is found in John 5:24 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting

life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."

Romans 14 Questions

1. In verse 14, we find that Christians are not under law, but under _____?.
2. Why does grace require more than the law?
3. In John chapter 12 verse 35 and 36, we learn that Christians should walk in what?
4. Shall we sin as Christians so grace may abound?
5. Where is God's law written for the Christian?
6. Grace is not a license to _____.
7. Whose servant are you, if you sin?
8. Verse 16 says, sin brings what?
9. What name can we not call Jesus unless we obey Him?
10. In 1st Peter chapter 1 verses 13-16 we are told to be _____ as he is _____.
11. In verse 17, we see that even though we were servants of sin, we obeyed from the _____ the doctrine which was delivered.
12. What is the message from 1st John chapter 1 vs. 10?
13. We who believe in Jesus have taken on His _____.
14. In vs. 18 we see we have been made free from _____.
15. 1st John chapter 1 vs. 7 says, that if any man walk in the light he has fellowship with whom?
16. In that same chapter and verse of 1st. John, we find that what cleanses us from all sin?
17. In second Corinthians ch. 5 vs. 7 we find that, if we be in Christ we are what?
18. Galations ch. 5 vs. 22 the fruit of the spirit is what 9 things?
19. Why did Paul speak after the manner of men?
20. When ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from _____.
21. John chapter 8 vs. 34, Whosoever committeth sin is _____ to _____.
22. Matthew chapter 6 vrs. 24 says, "No man can serve _____ masters."
23. The end of sin is _____.
24. Name some of the things listed in 1st Cor. chapter 6 vrs. 9 and 10 that will keep a person from inheriting the Kingdom of God.
25. Obedience is better than _____.
26. Ephesians ch. 5 vrs, 9 the fruit of the spirit is what?
27. The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is _____.
28. In Genesis ch. 2 vrs. 7 we read when you eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall surely _____.
29. What is the desire of every living person?
30. What is the best known Scripture on how to get eternal life?
31. What is one of the favorite Scripture of the author from John on eternal life?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 7:1 "Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?"

We see here, that Paul is speaking to his Hebrew brethren who knew the law of Moses. A man was required to keep the law all the days of his life. Death cancels out all obligations of the dead person. Until death (by the mosaic law) a man is obligated to keep the law.

Romans 7:2 "For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to [her] husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of [her] husband."

In Matthew 19:4 "And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made [them] at the beginning made them male and female," Matthew 19:5 "And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?" Matthew 19:6 "Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder". Please take note that this is one flesh, not spirit . We must be careful to see that we are not one in the spirit with our husband or wife. This oneness is in the flesh. All who are Christians become the bride of Christ and are one in the spirit with Christ. That which is flesh is earthly (husbands and wives on the earth are one in the flesh.) The groom (Jesus Christ) and His bride (all Christians) are one in the Spirit of God.

When we die with Christ (in the flesh) we will live with Him in the spirit. When we become a Christian, we are buried with Jesus Christ in baptism, and we rise to our own new spirit life in Him. In Ephesians chapter 5 beginning with 21 and going thru v-33, we find the reverence of the wife to the husband and the love of the husband for the wife to do with flesh. Verse 23 the husband is the saviour of her body. In verse 28 notice the husband loves the wife, because she is part of his body. All through this chapter, Christ is head of the church (male and female). The church is not made up of just men, but women, as well. I say notice (no where does this indicate that the earthly husband is over the woman's Spirit). He, the earthly husband should be revered in the flesh as head of the family. He rules over the flesh of not only his wife, but the children, as well. Jesus Christ is head of all in the Spirit. With God there is no male or female. Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Women, if you are expecting your husband's Christianity to save you, take another look at Ananias and Sapphira. She was judged separate from her husband. Read Acts chapter 5. Women are not excused from their obligation to God, because their husband does not believe. Husbands and wives have an obligation to each other on the earth. At death of the flesh that obligation ends.

Romans 7:3 "So then if, while [her] husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man."

Here, again, we see that husbands and wives are one flesh until one is taken in death. The obligation is to the flesh (not the spirit). There are two things in the Bible that are grounds for divorce; physical and spiritual adultery. Matthew 5:31 "It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement:" Matthew 5:32 "But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery." The key word in this is fornication. Fornication means harlotry [includes incest and idolatry]. Chapter 7 of 1 Corinthians is good to read. I Corinthians 7:15 "But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such [cases]: but God hath called us to peace."

Romans 7:4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, [even] to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

We Christians are no longer under the law of the flesh, because we have buried that flesh in water baptism. We are no longer flesh, but spirit. The lust of the flesh and sin associated with it were crucified on the cross of Jesus. Colossians 2:12 "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with [him] through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." Colossians 2:13 "And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;" Colossians 2:14 "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;" We are dead to the flesh and alive with his spirit, if we are Christians.

Romans 7:5 "For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death." I Corinthians 15:47 "The first man [is] of the earth, earthy: the second man [is] the Lord from heaven." I Corinthians 15:50 "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doeth corruption inherit incorruption." Flesh and blood have to do with what all of us are until Jesus comes into our life and makes us a spirit being. Sin brings death. Jesus brings life.

Romans 7:6 "But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not [in] the oldness of the letter."

In Galatians 5:16 "[This] I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh." Galatians 5:17 "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would." Galatians 5:18 "But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law." Those whom Jesus made free are free indeed.

Romans 15 Questions

1. Who was Paul speaking to in verse 1?
2. How long did the law have dominion over man?
3. What cancelled out the Jews' obligation to keep the law?
4. How long is the woman bound by the law to her husband?
5. In Matthew ch. 19 vs. 5, husband and wife are one in what?
6. All Christians are one in what with Christ?
7. In Ephesians 5 vs 32, it says this is a great mystery concerning whom?
8. The reverence of the wife to her husband in Ephesians ch. 5 is in what area?
9. The husband is the saviour of her _____.
10. In Ephesians ch. 5 vrs. 28, Why does the husband love the wife?
11. Who is head of the church?
12. Who makes up the church?
13. What does the husband rule over on the earth?
14. Where in Galatians do we read that with God there is no male or female?
15. Who do we read about in Acts chapter 5 that lets us know that women are responsible for their own sins?
16. If a woman marries some one else while her first husband is alive, what is she called?
17. What are the only two things a husband or wife can get a divorce for?
18. What does fornication mean?
19. What does 1 Corinthians ch. 7 vrs. 15 tell us about marriage to an unbeliever?
20. Why are we Christians no longer under the law of the flesh?
21. How are Christians buried with Christ?
22. Which trespasses did Jesus buy our forgiveness for?
23. Sin brings fruit unto what?
24. 1 Corinthians ch. 15 vrs. 5 tells us what about flesh and blood?
25. In vrs 6, we see that after we are delivered from the law we are to serve what?
26. Walk in the _____ and ye shall not fulfil the _____ of the _____.
27. If ye be led of the _____, ye are not under the law.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 7:7, "What shall we say then? [is] the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet."

The law is not sin. It just makes us aware of right from wrong. When we know right from wrong and do wrong anyway, then we have sinned. Galatians 3:24 "Therefore the law was our schoolmaster [to bring us] unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith." We would not have even known we needed a Saviour had there been no law. Galatians 2:16 "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified." Moses' law guided the Israelites for hundreds of years until Jesus. Jesus is the law of the Christians. The law of God is placed in our heart, if we are a Christian.

Romans 7:8 "But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin [was] dead."

Concupiscence means lust, or a desire for things that are forbidden. Sometimes the forbidden is the very thing the flesh lusts for. To mention that something is a sin sometimes causes certain fleshly people to desire to do that very thing. Men did what was right in their own sight until the law came.

Romans 7:9 "For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died."

We see in vrs. 9 above that until you are conscious of the law, you cannot sin against the law. Once the law was given and we became conscious of the law, then a guilty conscious of sins came. To sin in full knowledge of the law of God brings death. We dwelled in death until Jesus came and brought life.

Romans 7:10 And the commandment, which [was ordained] to life, I found [to be] unto death.

The law was first given to help people understand what the will of God was and show that it was possible to please God by keeping His commandments. The same law that brought the opportunity for eternal life if it was kept, brought death if it were not kept.

Romans 7:11 "For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew [me]."

The old man was corrupt. The lust for sin in the flesh was actually what slew him. Read Ephesians ch.4 vrs.22 to see this corrupt spirit in mankind. Ephesians 4:22 "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;" Verse 23 & 24 tell what we must do. Ephesians 4:23 "And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;" Ephesians 4:24 "And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

Romans 7:12 "Wherefore the law [is] holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good."

We read in Psalms about the perfect law Psalms 19:7 " The law of the LORD [is] perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD [is] sure, making wise the simple." We also see a similar statement in I Timothy 1:8 "But we know that the law [is] good, if a man use it lawfully;"

Romans 7:13 "Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful."

Until Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, there was no knowledge of good and evil. Sin entered into the world through Adam. Psalms 34:21 "Evil shall slay the wicked: and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate."

Romans 7:14 "For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin."

In I Timothy 1:8 "But we know that the law [is] good, if a man use it lawfully;" I Timothy 1:9 "Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers," I Timothy 1:10 "For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;"

Romans 7:15 "For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I."

We see in verse 15 above, the struggle that all mankind faces. The struggle is truly between our flesh and spirit. Paul desires to have his spirit in control at all times. He says that sometimes his flesh wins out. It is a daily struggle for all of us. To live for Jesus the spirit has to overcome the flesh. Galatians 5:17 "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."

Romans 7:16 "If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that [it is] good." Romans 7:17 "Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me."

The quickest way to tell if we are following after the flesh is if whatever you are doing feels good to the flesh. If the flesh is enjoying your actions, it is probably displeasing to the spirit.

Romans 7:18 "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but [how] to perform that which is good I find not."

No man's flesh follows God. Man's flesh must be crucified for the spirit to reign. Galatians 5:24 "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts." Galatians 5:25 "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Galatians 5:26 "Let us not be

desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another." Paul is trying to say that the flesh of man is a hindrance to him. Even Jesus, when facing the cruel death of the cross, said (my spirit is willing, but my flesh is weak). We must somehow get our flesh and the lusts thereof under subjection to the spirit of God within us.

Romans 7:19 "For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do."

We see that flesh does not desire to do good, only evil. I feel Paul is making a point that we must stay away from the influence of the flesh.

Romans 7:20 "Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me."

Paul is making a point, again, about the flesh. This in the flesh sin must be put to death.

Romans 7:21 "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me."

Hear the cry of a man who desires to please God. Psalms 19:12 "Who can understand [his] errors? cleanse thou me from secret [faults]." Psalms 19:13 "Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous [sins]; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression." Psalms 19:14 "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer."

Romans 7:22 "For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:"
Romans 7:23 "But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members."

We see in 11 Corinthians a similar Scripture. II Corinthians 10:3 "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:" II Corinthians 10:4 "(For the weapons of our warfare [are] not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) II Corinthians 10:5 "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;"

Romans 7:24 "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

Now we see Paul's point in all of this. There is no way within ourselves that we can overcome the problems between our flesh wanting to sin and our spirit knowing sin is wrong. The only solution is to give ourselves over to Jesus Christ and no longer live our own lives, but let Jesus live in us and through us.

Romans 7:25 "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin."

The answer is to bury self into the watery grave with Jesus and be risen from the grave to a new spirit life with Jesus Christ. Read chapter 15

of 1st Corinthians. I will quote here verse 49 of that chapter to show how we take on the image of Jesus Christ. I Corinthians 15:49 "And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."

Romans 16 Questions

1. I had not known sin, but by the _____.
2. Is the law sin?
3. In Galatians Chapter 3V-24 the law was our_____.
4. How are we justified?
5. By the works of the law_____ shall be justified.
6. What does concupiscence mean?
7. To mention something being a sin sometimes causes what?
8. When does a guilty conscience of sin come?
9. We dwelled in _____until Jesus Christ came and brought _____.
10. In V-11, what deceived him?
11. The old man (of sin) is corrupt according to what?
12. In V-12, we find the law is what?
13. In Psalms ch.19 v.7, we find what about the law of God?
14. When did sin enter into the world for our time?
15. In v-14, the law is described how?
16. Who was the law made for as mentioned in 1 Timothy chapter 1 v-8?
17. In V-15, what do we really see?
18. In Galatians chapter 5 V17, we find that the _____lusteth against the _____.
19. What is the quickest way to find, if we are following the flesh?
20. In Galatians chapter 5 V-24, we find that they that are Christ's have done what to the flesh?
21. If we live in the spirit, we must _____in the spirit.
22. How was even Jesus' flesh a hindrance to him?
23. What point does the author think Paul is making in V -19?
24. In Psalms chapter 19 V-12, we see the prayer of a man who desires to do what?
25. Quote Psalms chapter 19-V-14.
26. Who shall deliver me from this body of death?
27. In V-25, Paul says with his mind he serves whom?
28. What verse in 1 Corinthians chapter 15 shows how we take on the image of Jesus Christ.?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 8:1 "[There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

So many Christians want to stop with the statement (There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus.) This statement is true only, if the last part of this statement is kept. Salvation is a daily walk. There is no condemnation in righteousness. If we walk in righteousness, not after the flesh but after the Spirit of God there is no condemnation. To preach that Christians are above condemnation when they are living like the world is in error. If you are walking in the Spirit of God, there is nothing to condemn you for. In I Peter 1:15 "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;" I Peter 1:16 "Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy." II Corinthians 5:7 "(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)"

Romans 8:2 "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

We see in Galatians chapter 5 verse 1 where Jesus has changed us and allowed us to walk in Him. Galatians 5:1 "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." Also 1st Corinthians chapter 15 verse 45 speaks of death through the first Adam and life through the second Adam (Jesus Christ). I Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit." Verse 50 of this same chapter tells us that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Our flesh will die so that our spirit may live.

Romans 8:3 "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:"

We see in 1st Peter chapter 2 just exactly what Jesus did for us on that cross. I Peter 2:21 "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:" I Peter 2:22 "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:" I Peter 2:23 "Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed [himself] to him that judgeth righteously:" I Peter 2:24 "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." We see in this that Jesus not only covered our sins, but did away with them with his own blood, and also made healing available to all who believe.

Romans 8:4 "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

We see from this Scripture above, that it is possible to walk in the Spirit of God and not fulfill the desires of the flesh. This is a state of being for all true Christians who have turned over their free will to the perfect will of God. We, like Jesus, must come to a place that we can say not my will be done, but thine oh Lord.

Romans 8:5 "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit."

We cannot be flesh man and spirit man both. One spirit will rule. In other words we cannot keep one foot in the world and one foot in heaven. We read in Titus 2:14 "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." We, also, read just how far this separation extends in I Peter 2:9 "But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:" If we would go on in chapter 2 v-10, we will find that we who are believers in Christ are a changed people. I Peter 2:10 "Which in time past [were] not a people, but [are] now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." This whole 2nd chapter is good to read, because it tells us not to listen to fleshly desires, but live in God's Spirit.

Romans 8:6 "For to be carnally minded [is] death; but to be spiritually minded [is] life and peace."

Galatians 6:8 "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." This is just one more way to say that our flesh desires to sin and our spirit desires to please God.

Romans 8:7 "Because the carnal mind [is] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be."

This very statement is why mind control is so bad. The mind, not given over to the Lord Jesus Christ, truly can have power, but it is from the wrong source. Mind power tells us that we have the power within ourselves to bring miracles about. It really is saying we don't need God, we can do it ourselves. Man, since Adam and Eve, has wanted to be a God. This is that same spirit. To truly be God's children, we must not depend on our mind, but on the mind of Christ. I Corinthians 2:16 "For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." The Lord Jesus must have all of us for us to be his. Matthew 22:37 "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." Jesus went so far as to say this was the # 1 commandment. We are not to have a worldly mind, but one staid upon God.

Romans 8:8 "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God."

The flesh and its desires must die so that the spirit man can live. The flesh desires things of this earth, but the spirit is staid upon God's will in our lives. Read 1st Corinthians chapter 15, beginning with verse 35 to really understand about the spirit man who lives when the flesh dies.

Romans 8:9 "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

Galatians chapter 2 verse 20 says it all. Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." This Spirit of Christ is

the Spirit of the risen Christ (The Holy Spirit of God). He is our teacher and our guide.

Romans 17 Questions

1. Who is there no condemnation for?
2. How are the uncondemned to walk?
3. What is a falacy that is being taught about this very thing?
4. In 1st Peter ch. 1 v-15, we are told to be _____ even as he is _____.
5. 2nd Corinthians ch. 5 V-7 says, we walk by _____ not by _____.
6. What has made me free from the law of sin and death?
7. What advice is given us in Gal. ch.5 v-1?
8. Who brought death to all mankind?
9. Who brought life for all mankind who will accept it?
10. In verse 3, we find that the law was weak, how?
11. In 1st Peter ch.12 what do we find that Jesus did for us?
12. How should Christians walk? v-4?
13. Verse 5 tells us that those after the flesh regard what?
14. In Titus ch.2 v-14 Christians are called what kind of people?
15. What wonderful things are Christians called in 1st Peter ch.2, v-9?
16. V-6 says to be carnally minded is _____.
17. What does being spiritually minded bring? (2 things?)
18. The carnal mind is _____ against God.
19. Why is mind control so bad?
20. What Scripture tells us that Christians have the mind of Christ?
21. What did Jesus say was the number one commandment?
22. Who cannot please God in verse 8?
23. How can we be in the spirit in verse 9?
24. What do we find is necessary to be walking with Christ in Galatians chapter 2 verse 20?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 8:10 "And if Christ [be] in you, the body [is] dead because of sin; but the Spirit [is] life because of righteousness."

Jesus took the sin of all of us upon His body on the cross and sin and His flesh died. The Spirit of Jesus lived on. Jesus dismissed his Spirit from His body and commanded it to go to the Father. Luke 23:46 "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost." We have mentioned it several times already in this study, but to truly understand, thoroughly read 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 36 on. Just as sin killed the body of Christ on the cross, sin causes our body to die and return to dust. The spirit of man lives on. If we are a Christian, our spirit will live eternally in heaven. If we are not a Christian, our place for all eternity is hell.

Look at 1st Corinthians chapter 15 verse 20 through verse 23. I Corinthians 15:20 "But now is Christ risen from the dead, [and] become the first fruits of them that slept." I Corinthians 15:21 "For since by man [came] death, by man [came] also the resurrection of the dead." I Corinthians 15:22 "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Skip down to verse 45 and we can understand the difference between our flesh and spirit. I Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit." Drop down to I Corinthians 15:49 "And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly." Look also in 2nd Corinthians chapter 5 verses 6 thru 8 II Corinthians 5:6 "Therefore [we are] always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:" II Corinthians 5:7 "(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)" II Corinthians 5:8 "We are confident, [I say], and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." We shall rise because Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life. The Spirit of the risen Christ dwells in all believers. This Spirit of the Resurrection shall quicken our mortal bodies.

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Romans 8:12 "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh."

The promise that the Christians have that the rest of the world does not have is the promise of the resurrection of our bodies. Romans 6:4 "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Romans 6:5 "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also [in the likeness] of [his] resurrection:" You see we do not owe our bodies anything. The flesh is our enemy. If we obey the lust of the flesh, we are living in sin. We must overcome the flesh, put it in subjection to the spirit.

Romans 8:13 "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

Here, again, we see the warfare that goes on within each of us. Our spirit wants to do the things of God and our flesh lusts for the things of the flesh and world. If we choose to let the Spirit of God rule our life, and in so doing (kill the flesh) we shall live for all of eternity in heaven with Jesus. If we choose to follow the ways of the world, it brings eternal damnation and total separation from God.

Romans 8:14 "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

If God's blood flows in us, we are his children. When we allow Jesus to be Lord of our lives, the Spirit of God dwells inside of us. That Spirit within us makes us God's children. Galatians 3:26 "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus."

Romans 8:15 "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

A very similar Scripture is in I Corinthians 2:12 "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." When God adopted us into his family, then that made us heirs to all he possesses. We will be joint-heirs with Jesus as we read in v-17 of Romans 8. There are 3 places in the new Testament Abba is used; one here in Romans; once in Mark ch. 14 verse 36 and once in Galatians chapter 4 v-6. Mark 14:36 "And he said, Abba, Father, all things [are] possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt." Galatians 4:6 "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father." We see in all of these 3 verses that this name is reserved for only the children of God to call Him by. The world can not call Him by this name. This name is a very endearing name for the Father. I say, again, that the unsaved are not permitted to use this name.

Romans 8:16 "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:" Romans 8:17 "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with [him], that we may be also glorified together."

Notice, this first Spirit in the sentence above is Capitalized meaning the Holy Spirit of God (or the Spirit of the risen Christ this Spirit within us is God's Spirit. There is plenty of evidence in our lives when this Spirit dwells within us, because we allow Christ to live through our actions and deeds. We become Christ like.

Romans 8:18 "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time [are] not worthy [to be compared] with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

2nd Corinthians chapter 4 V 17 calls it light affliction. Our affliction truly is light compared to Christ's suffering. Paul, in v- 18 above, can speak from first-hand about suffering. He was stoned, shipwrecked, and so many times left for dead: suffering was no stranger to him. John 13:16 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him." We can easily see that this present suffering is minor compared to the great

glory we will receive when Jesus recognizes us as His when we stand before Him in heaven.

Romans 8:19 "For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God."

Everyone who believes in Jesus the Christ, is also earnestly awaiting the coming of Christ and our eternal life as a son of God. While we are in a fleshly body, it is our most blessed hope. When we leave this body and are in heaven with Jesus, it will be a reality. In Galatians 3:25 "But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster." Galatians 3:26 "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:27 " For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

Romans 8:20 "For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected [the same] in hope," Romans 8:21 "Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God."

Mankind, born in flesh, blooms like a flower in youth. This flower soon fades and the flesh of mankind dies. The flesh returns to the dust from where it came. Genesis 3:19 "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou [art], and unto dust shalt thou return." Of course, all this is speaking of the flesh of man, but mankind's spirit lives on forever. 1st Corinthians chapter 15 verses 51 thru 54 explains it very well. I Corinthians 15:51 "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed", I Corinthians 15:52 "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." I Corinthians 15:53 "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal [must] put on immortality." I Corinthians 15:54 "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."

Notes

Romans 18 Questions

1. In v-10 we see (if Christ be in you) the body is _____.
2. The Spirit is _____ because of righteousness.
3. When Jesus' flesh died, what happened to His Spirit?
4. What is different about the everlasting home of a Christian and someone who is still living the flesh life?
5. Who will quicken our mortal body, if we are a Christian?
6. In 1st Corinthians chapter 15 v-20, what has Christ become in his resurrection?
7. Who brought death to all on the earth?
8. In 1 Corinthians ch. 15 V-45, the first man was made what?
9. The last Adam was made what?
10. While we are at home in the body we are absent from whom?
11. Jesus is what 2 things that guarantees us everlasting life?
12. What Spirit dwells in all believers?
13. What do we owe the flesh?
14. In V-13, we learn, if we live after the flesh _____
15. _____.
16. If ye through the Spirit we do mortify the flesh, _____
17. _____.
18. Who are the sons of God in V-14 ?
19. In Galatians Ch. 3 V 26, how are we Christians children of God?
20. When we receive the Spirit of adoption, what do we call the Father.
21. Where else is this name found in the Bible?
22. Who are not permitted to use this name?
23. What bears witness that we are God's family?
24. What must we do to be joint-heirs with Christ?
25. Why should we not be too concerned about suffering for Christ now?
26. 2nd Corinthians chapter 4 V-17 calls this suffering what?
27. What suffering did Paul go through for Christ?
28. In V-19, we find the earnest expectation of the creature waits for what?
29. Who have put on Christ?
30. What must happen before we go up with Jesus?
31. Death is swallowed up in _____.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 8:22 "For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now."

Until Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross, there was no promise of everlasting life. Mankind died with no hope of everlasting life. The atonement (payment) for sins up until Jesus Crucifixion was just for 1 year at a time. The blood of an animal could not do away with sin, it could only cover it. In Hebrews Chapter 10 v-4, we read "For [it is] not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins." We read this very thing even more plainly in Hebrews chapter 9 v-12 "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us]."

Romans 8:23 "And not only [they], but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, [to wit], the redemption of our body."

In V-18 of the first chapter of James, we read of the Christians being firstfruits. James 1-18 "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures." In 1 Corinthians chapter 15 V-23 we read, "But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." This is really speaking of those who received the baptism of the Holy Ghost at Pentecost. Receiving the Spirit of God inside of yourself is a first fruit promise of the resurrection.

Romans 8:24 "For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?" Romans 8:25 "But if we hope for that we see not, [then] do we with patience wait for [it]."

II Corinthians 5:7 "(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)" This hope above is the same as faith. In Hebrews Chapter 11 verse 1 we read "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

The root word that hope in V-24 is translated from is elpo. Elpo means to anticipate with pleasure and is sometimes translated faith. Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and hope of the resurrection is really what saves us. Romans Chapter 10 V-9 says it clearly.

Romans 8:26 "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

We see the problem that many Christians face when they are praying for others. We all pray to the very best of our ability, and still we do not always know what to pray for, or how to pray for a particular thing. This is when the Spirit takes over for us and prays for us. God's Spirit knows exactly what the needs are.

Romans 8:27 "And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what [is] the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to [the will of] God."

This is speaking of the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) praying for the saints. The Spirit of God knows the will of God. He prays for us according to God's will. God knows the desires of our heart, even before we pray.

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose."

This is another Scripture that is many times misunderstood, because most people stop reading when it says to them that love God. It truly says much more than that though. Are we fulfilling God's purpose in our lives? If you are, then all things work together for good to you. The key is (them that are called according to His purpose). People in all types of ministry forget that God has called them to a particular ministry and they hurry to get into something of their own choosing. The ministry that God will bless you in is the one He called you to. Sometimes we do not realize exactly what God would have us to do. If we would get alone with God and pray and ask Him, He will reveal unto us what He would have us to do.

Romans 8:29 "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

We see from this above, that this predestination did not overrule our will. What this is really saying, is that God knew from even before you were born, how you would choose. God has foreknowledge of all happenings, not only in my life and yours, but he knows everything from the beginning of time to the end of time. In fact, He is the Beginning and the Ending. He knows everything about everyone and everything from the beginning to the end. This is because of His foreknowledge. It is predestined, because He foreknew your decision. Jesus' crucifixion was planned from the foundation of the earth. Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus paid for you and me to be adopted into the family with His precious blood at Calvary. We are part of the family of God, because our elder brother (God's only begotten Son) purchased our right to be called God's sons.

Romans 8:30 "Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."

In 2nd Timothy Chapter 1 verse 9 we read, II Timothy 1:9 "Who hath saved us, and called [us] with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began," This predestination above, as I said before, is just a carrying out of His foreknowledge. God sent His Son, Jesus Christ to shed His blood that we might be justified (just as if we had never sinned) by His blood. The exciting thing is that we did not work to earn this salvation. We received it by faith. We must believe that Jesus shed His blood on the cross for our sins and believe that He (Jesus) arose from the grave, and be willing to tell this to everyone. (Romans ch. 10-9).

The plan was set at the foundation of the world. Man could not be saved by his own deeds, he must have a Saviour. That Saviour we must have is Jesus Christ our Lord. We do know that God's call for many of His ministers, was a call before they were even born, like John the Baptist. John the Baptist's entire life (even before birth) was planned of God. Read the account of John the Baptist's birth in Luke chapter 1. This does not mean

that John had no Choice. He could have refused, but he didn't. God knew he would carry out God's purpose in his life. Obedience to God's will in our life will bring peace in our life, too. Most people today take their call to serve God far too lightly. It is serious business to answer God's call and serve God. We must first be able to say (not my will be done, but thine O Lord) and then say, Here am I Lord, send me.

Notes

Romans 19 Questions

1. In V-22, we see that the whole creation until now does 2 things, what are they ?
2. What brought us a promise of everlasting life ?
3. What does atonement mean ?
4. In Hebrews Chapter 10 V-4, we read that the blood of what could not do away with sin ?
5. Who is the only hope for mankind?
6. In Romans Ch.8 v.23, we Christians groan within ourselves waiting for what?
7. In James ch.1 v.18, we are called a kind of the _____ of God`s creatures.
8. 1 Corinthians ch.15 v.33, who is the actual first fruit?
9. Romans ch.8 v.24 says, we are saved by what?
10. What does 2nd Corinthians ch.5 v.7 say about faith?
11. In Hebrews ch.11 v.1, what is faith?
12. Elpo means what?
13. What really saves us?
14. When we do not know what to pray for, who prays for us?
15. Verse 27- He that searcheth the hearts knowest what is the mind of the _____ .
16. His intercession is according to what?
17. Who do things work together for good to?
18. How is Romans ch.8 v.28 many times misunderstood?
19. Explain about God's calling us to the ministry.
20. Explain about the predestination in verse 29.
21. What name of God tells us that He knows everything from the foundation of the world until the end of the world?
22. Who is Jesus called in verse 29?
23. How did Jesus pay for our adoption into the family of God?
24. In verse 30, we see that whom God Predestined He _____ .
25. Who justified us? How?
26. What does being justified mean?
27. In 2nd Timothy ch.1 v.9, we find that not our works, but his _____ and _____ which was given us in Christ Jesus saved us.
28. Who is a good Bible example of being called before birth to God`s work?
29. In verse 29, we are to be conformed to whose image.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in chapter 8 V-31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God [be] for us, who [can be] against us?"

We read in 1 Corinthians chapter 8 verse 12, "But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ." God fights for us and gives us the victory. God causes even our enemies to live at peace with us, if we are Christians. Those who are opposed to God's people are really opposed to God.

Romans 8:32 "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

The hardest thing for the carnal mind to understand is why God would sacrifice His Son for a bunch of sinners. We read in Romans Chapter 5 V 8, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." The amazing thing is that God loves the worst sinner. God provided through His Son a way out for all. Jesus died for all sin. The way out is through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The problem is that many will not accept this way out and therefore will die in their sin. The beautiful story in Genesis in the O.T. of Abraham about to sacrifice his son Isaac, is a type and shadow of God sacrificing His Son for all of mankind. A type or shadow is not exact in every detail, but makes you think of the happening it is shadowing. Both Abraham and God were about to sacrifice the one who meant the very most to them. In the case of Abraham, God stopped him and gave him a substitute. In God's case, there was no one greater than Himself to stop Him. Jesus Christ (the only begotten of the Father) was the substitute for all mankind. The greatest gift of love in all time was God loving us enough to give His Son to save us. We deserved to die on that cross, but God the Son took our place for us. He was our substitute. We read earlier in Romans Ch. 6 V-23 "For the wages of sin [is] death; but the gift of God [is] eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." In Corinthians ch. 15 V-45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit." God has given us life in Jesus Christ. What more can we ask?

Romans 8:33 "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? [It is] God that justifieth."

Some young children learned the hard way not to insult God's elect in 2 kings Chapter 2 V 23 and 24. They had made fun of Elisha's bald head. Elisha cursed them in the name of the Lord and 42 of them were torn of she bears. It is a very dangerous thing to say bad things about God's elect. Another example of how God will not allow this is when Miriam spoke against Moses and became leprous. She was cleansed when Moses prayed for her. Numbers Chapter 12 V-10. These 2 instances remind us not to come against God's elect. God fights their battles for them. We who are God's are not justified by our own deeds, we are justified because we have been cleansed by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. We are justified, because we have taken on the righteousness of Christ.

Romans 8:34 "Who [is] he that condemneth? [It is] Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

In Matthew Chapter 25, we see that all the people of the world will stand before Jesus to be judged. Beginning with v-31 read the rest of the Chapter. Jesus separates them into sheep on the right (His followers) and goats on the left. The lost and saved are spoken of in v-46 "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal." We also take note of what we believe about Jesus in verse 34 chapter 8 of Romans. It gets into real specifics and out what we must believe. 1. Christ died for our sins. 2. He rose again. 3. He sits at the right hand of the Father. 4. He is constantly reminding God that He died to pay the cost for our sins. (intercessor).

Romans 8:35 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? [shall] tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?"

This is a very interesting question. In the parable of the sower in Matthew the 13th chapter, beginning with the third verse, we read about how different people were affected by the cares of the world and turned aside from the love of God. One did not understand the Word (love) he had received, and the evil one immediately took it away. In verse 21 of Matthew 13, we read of another who was slightly stronger than the one mentioned, but in the face of tribulation and persecution lost out. V-22 of Matthew 13 tells of someone who the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches caused to fail. Out of all of the seed (word or love) sown, there was one who received it and nothing or no one could take it away. This person was not only not shaken by all the problems that came, but actually went out and brought others to the Lord. Problems did not stop this person, it just made him stronger and more determined to do the will of God.

Romans 8:36 "As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter."

Since Jesus was crucified, there have been men and women who were willing to be martyred (killed) to bring the true message of God. Paul in writing this could be speaking of himself. He was stoned, ship-wrecked, beaten and left for dead, but he never gave up the cause of Jesus Christ. We are sheep, if we are followers of Jesus Christ (the great Shepherd.) The sheep will follow the Shepherd even to death of his body.

Romans 8:37 "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

A true follower of Jesus Christ will not turn back into these problems. We know that Jesus has won the victory. These little battles are nothing, Jesus won the war at Calvary. Our strength is in Jesus.

Romans 8:38 "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come," Romans 8:39 "Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

I think Ephesians chapter 2 verse 18 thru 22 says it all. Ephesians 2:18 "For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father." Ephesians 2:19 "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;" Ephesians

2:20 "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner [stone];" Ephesians 2:21 "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord:" Ephesians 2:22 "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit."

We are in Him and He is in us. How can you separate that?

Notes

Romans 20 Questions

1. If God be for us, _____ can be against us?
2. 1 Corinthians ch.8 v.12 says if ye sin against the brethern you are really sinning against whom?
3. Who did the Father God not spare to help us?
4. What does verse 32 say He will freely give us?
5. What is the hardest thing for the carnal mind to understand?
6. While we were yet in _____, Christ died for us.
7. What O.T. character is a type and shadow of God the Father?
8. What is the difference between the shadow and the real Father?
9. What is the greatest show of the Father's love to mankind?
10. The first Adam was made a living _____ .
11. The second Adam (Jesus Christ) was made a _____ .
12. Who justifies the elect?
13. Give two examples of how dangerous it is to be against God's elect.
14. Who is He that condemneth?
15. Where is Christ now?
16. Who intercedes for the Christians?
17. Who is the judge of all the world?
18. What two animals describe the two sides of good and evil?
19. Where do we find the Scripture that tells us of this?
20. What four things must we believe?
21. Verse 35 asks a question about six things that might separate us from the love of Christ? What are they?
22. What does the parable of the sower from Matthew the 13th Chapter show us?
23. What is meant by us being killed all the day long?
24. What are we called in V-37?
25. Who won the war? when?
26. In V-38 & 39 many things are named that cannot separate us from the love of God, name a few.
27. What does Ephesians Chapter 2 Verses 18-22 tell us about the Christians and Jesus?

We will begin this lesson in Romans 9:1 "I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost," Romans 9:2 "That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart."

We will see in the beginning of this chapter a sorrowful Paul. As we have said before in these lessons, Paul was a Pharisee and he never would quite give up on his Jewish brothers. He went to great lengths to try to reach them over and over. His greatest opposition came from his own people. In many cases, Paul practiced the old Jewish law to try to win them to Christ, but even this failed and Paul went away sorrowful.

Romans 9:3 "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:"

We see, here, in this verse that Paul would have gone to almost any length to have his Israelite brothers come to Christ. He says that he would even give up his own salvation, if this would have saved them. Paul makes it clear, here, that these Israelites are his brothers in the flesh, not the spirit. His spiritual brothers are Christians.

Romans 9:4 "Who are Israelites; to whom [pertaineth] the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service [of God], and the promises;"

This just means that God had chosen the Hebrews (Israelites) to give the law to, and he had chosen them to be a peculiar people set aside to worship Him. God's first choice for the salvation message to go to was these Israelites.

Romans 9:5 "Whose [are] the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ [came], who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen."

We find, here, the same thing that we find in Revelation about the physical house of Israel belonging to Father God. The spiritual house of Israel (Christians) belongs to Jesus. You remember from the Revelation teaching, that the 144,000 Jews: 12,000 from each of the 12 tribes are marked with the Father's seal and the vast number in white robes around the throne had been washed in the blood of the Lamb. The white robed large number were followers of Jesus and bore His name (Christians).

Romans 9:6 "Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they [are] not all Israel, which are of Israel:"

This means those who follow God are His children. The followers of God are Israelites, not those who were born into the house, but those who chose to follow God.

Romans 9:7 "Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, [are they] all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called."

Isaac was the son of promise. He represented the Spirit. Abraham had a son of the flesh (Ishmael). The promises God had made to Abraham came through the Spirit, not through the flesh. You see from this that the Spirit

of God and the promises thereof are for the Spirit, and not for the flesh. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Notice above, it speaks of seed as one, not many seed. Flesh does not inherit the things of God. I Corinthians 15:50 "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." God is Spirit and His blessings are for His children in the Spirit.

Romans 9:8 "That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these [are] not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed."

Galatians 3:26 "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." We can look at another Scripture in Luke 3:8 "Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to [our] father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham." We can easily see from this that God is not interested in the flesh, but the spirit of man.

Romans 9:9 "For this [is] the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son."

Genesis 17:19 "And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, [and] with his seed after him." You see again here that the promise that God made to Abraham was to come through the child of promise (Isaac) the child of the spirit. We can see the chain of blessings from the following verse in Genesis 25:11 "And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac; and Isaac dwelt by the well Lahai-roi."

Romans 9:10 "And not only [this]; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, [even] by our father Isaac;"

Rebecca, also, had 2 sons; one of the flesh (Esau) and a son who the promises of God would flow through (Jacob) whose name would be changed to Israel.

Romans 9:11 "(For [the children] being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)"

This business of election is sometimes hard to explain. We find that all through the Bible there are people who have been chosen out and called to do a certain thing for God. A very good example of that is John the Baptist who seemed to live for one purpose (to tell of the coming Messiah). God has elected that certain things will happen to get the job done that He wants done. We see in the verse above, that He has chosen Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to funnel the spiritual blessings to all the believers in the world. I Peter 1:2 "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied." We see from this, that God actually knew from the foundation of the world who would choose to follow Him and who would not. He did not predestine, He foreknew.

Romans 9:12 "It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger."

We see in this that Ishmael (son of the flesh) served Isaac (son of the spirit). We, also, see in this that Esau (the oldest son) served Jacob (the younger son). Since we are looking at the spiritual side of these lessons, we can not overlook the fact that the law was given first to the physical house of Israel, and that grace was given to the spiritual house of Israel (Christians). Grace is better than the law.

Romans 9:13 "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."

We know that God would not hate Esau without a cause. God hated Esau, not because of who he was, but because he did not regard his birthright as being very valuable. In fact, he thought so little of it that he sold it to his brother for a bowl of soup. The blessing of God through Abraham and Isaac then would come through the second son Jacob. From him, the 12 tribes of Israel would come. I say, again, God did not just hate Esau without a cause. Esau turned his back on God when he sold his birthright.

Romans 9:14 "What shall we say then? [Is there] unrighteousness with God? God forbid."

If this had been predestined some would say this was unfair, but this was not predestined, only known ahead of time by God.

Romans 9:15 "For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."

It is God's world and we are His creation. He can do with us whatever He chooses to do. We are His creation and He is the Creator. Genesis 2:7 "And the LORD God formed man [of] the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

Romans 9:16 "So then [it is] not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy."

I Peter 2:9 "But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:" I Peter 2:10 "Which in time past [were] not a people, but [are] now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." We read, also, Titus 3:5 "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"

Romans 9:17 "For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth."

We know that the 10 plagues that came upon Egypt were for the purpose of discrediting the false gods of Egypt. Egypt represents the world. God shows, through Pharaoh's rebellion, that the gods of this world are no match for the real God. We see an almost identical Scripture in the Old Testament account of this event. Exodus 9:16 "And in very deed for this [cause] have I raised thee up, for to shew [in] thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth." I Samuel 2:7 "The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up." I Samuel 2:8 "He raiseth up

the poor out of the dust, [and] lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set [them] among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth [are] the LORD'S, and he hath set the world upon them." Look also at Proverbs 16:4 "The LORD hath made all [things] for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil." This all speaks for itself, we need no more comment here.

Romans 21 Questions

1. Paul says in verse 1, that what bears him witness?
2. Why did Paul keep on trying to win the Jews to Jesus?
3. In the third verse, what did Paul say he wished himself, if it would save his Jewish brothers?
4. These Physical Israelites were Paul's brothers in the _____.
5. Who were Paul's spiritual brothers?
6. Who had God chosen to give the law to?
7. Who was God's first choice to give the salvation message to?
8. Who does the physical house of Israel belong to?
9. Who do the Christians belong to?
10. Who are the true Israelites?
11. Which of Abraham's sons would the promise come through?
12. Which of Abraham's sons was thought of as the son of the flesh?
13. In Galatians 3-29, we find that who are the heirs?
14. In Galatians 3-26, we find that we are children of God by what?
15. What unbelievable thing can God raise sons of Abraham of, if He has to?
16. In Genesis God promises Abraham a son, what is his name?
17. After Abraham's death, God blessed his son _____.
18. What was the names of the 2 sons of Rebecca?
19. Which of these sons would the blessings of God come through?
20. What are the names of the 3 patriarchs who the blessings would flow through to all believers in God?
21. In 1 Peter 1-2, the elect was according to what?
22. When did God know who would follow Him?
23. God did not predestine, He _____.
24. Since we are looking at the spiritual, what does the fact that the second son ruling over the first tell us?
25. In verse 13, who does God hate?
26. Why did God hate him?
27. What absolutely ridiculous question is asked in verse 14?
28. Why does God not have to explain what He chooses to do?
29. In 1 Peter 2-9, what are those who have come into the Light out of darkness called?
30. Not our righteousness saved us, but what?
31. Why did God bring the 10 plagues on Egypt?
32. In Proverbs, we read that God made all things for whom?
33. We find in 1 Samuel that _____ makes the rich and the poor.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 9:18 "Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will [have mercy], and whom he will he hardeneth."

Sometimes it is very difficult to understand why God does a specific thing. Remember we are His creation and He can do with us whatever He wishes to do. God does not have to explain to us why He chooses to do something. God looks at the overall picture and we just look at the here and now. Even the fact that sometimes God hardens a person's heart; God has a really good purpose in this to prove something in the overall picture. We find that especially in evil people. Pharaoh is a very good example of this. God hardened Pharaoh's heart until God Himself had discredited all the false gods of Egypt. Exodus 4:21 "And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go." We also see this very same thing in Joshua 11:20 "For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that he might destroy them utterly, [and] that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses." We are not to question God's motives. In both of these instances, this taught us that God is even in control of Satan and all his evil forces. God can cause them to destroy themselves.

Romans 9:19 "Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?"

II Chronicles 20:6 "And said, O LORD God of our fathers, [art] not thou God in heaven? and rulest [not] thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand [is there not] power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?" This is the perfect explanation here, for who can withstand God? The answer is simple; NO ONE. Even all the heavenly beings are subject to Him. Everything in heaven, everything in earth, and everything under the earth are under His control. We have no opinion coming, if it differs with God's opinion.

Romans 9:20 "Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed [it], Why hast thou made me thus?"

Isaiah 45:9 "Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! [Let] the potsherd [strive] with the potsherd of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?" We can see in these verses above, that we are not to talk back to God on any matter. We are not even to question the things He has done. Someone said to me a few days ago, if God speaks to you, why does He not speak to me? I don't know. It is really none of our business. God is the boss. It is His decision to do with His creation as He wishes. That is the only answer I have for them.

Romans 9:21 "Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?"

Until we can say, not my will be done but thine O Lord, we are truly not His. One of the first things a Christian must do is let God cut away all

the rough edges. We must get on the wheel and let God form us into what He would have us to be. He has a perfect plan for us, if we will just submit and let Him fulfill it. Isaiah 64:8 "But now, O LORD, thou [art] our Father; we [are] the clay, and thou our potter; and we all [are] the work of thy hand." II Timothy 2:20 "But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. II Timothy 2:21 "If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, [and] prepared unto every good work." It is not our job to figure out what we are to do for God. He chooses what position we are to have and we must conform to His wishes.

Romans 9:22 "[What] if God, willing to shew [his] wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:"

II Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." You see there is a day of God's wrath coming when men will gnaw their tongue for pain, but God loves His creation and is waiting, hoping some more people will come to Him before that terrible day. Ephesians 5:5 "For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." Ephesians 5:6 "Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience." We deserve the wrath of God. Only those who accept full pardon through the shed blood of Jesus Christ will be spared the wrath of God which will surely come.

Romans 9:23 "And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory," Romans 9:24 "Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?"

Ephesians 2:3 "Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others." Ephesians 2:4 "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us," Ephesians 2:5 "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)" You see, the mercy of God is so great that He holds back His wrath until all who will accept Jesus as Saviour have come into the kingdom.

Romans 9:25 "As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved." Romans 9:26 "And it shall come to pass, [that] in the place where it was said unto them, Ye [are] not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God."

I John 3:1 "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not." We see in all of this that God is speaking of the Gentiles who become spiritual Israelites through faith in Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Romans 9:27 "Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved:"

Romans 11:4 "But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to [the image of] Baal." God has always saved a remnant. My own personal opinion of this remnant of 7000 is that they have grown to the 144,000 mentioned in Revelation. Many are called but few are chosen. Matthew 22:14 "For many are called, but few [are] chosen."

Romans 9:28 "For he will finish the work, and cut [It] short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth."

Psalms 9:8 "And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness." Acts 17:31 "Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by [that] man whom he hath ordained; [whereof] he hath given assurance unto all [men], in that he hath raised him from the dead." We read of this in Matthew chapter 24. God is not slack, but is longsuffering not willing that any should perish, but that all would come unto righteousness.

Romans 9:29 "And as Esaias said before, Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha."

These 2 evil cities were destroyed by fire and brimstone. We know that God will not always look the other way. Sin of the same nature as that of Sodom and Gomorrah is rampant in the U. S. today. The day of reckoning is coming. America better stop homosexuality, lesbianism, drugs, and all the other related sins of our nation or the wrath of God will fall on the U.S.

Romans 9:30 "What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith."

I Corinthians 6:9 "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind," I Corinthians 6:10 "Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." I Corinthians 6:11 "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." The Gentiles are saved, because they are not depending on their own righteousness to save them, but the blood of Jesus Christ.

Romans 9:31 "But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness."

Romans 9:32 "Wherefore? Because [they sought it] not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone;"

Matthew 21:42 "Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?" Matthew 21:44 "And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder." We see in all of this that the Jews rejected Jesus as their Messiah and He turned to the

Gentiles who would accept Him. Faith is what pleases God. By faith the elders received a good report. Abraham's faith was counted unto him as righteousness. Our faith in Jesus is what saves us. We can not be good enough to be saved and neither could the Jews who had the law. We all need a Saviour and His name is Jesus Christ the Righteous.

Romans 9:33 "As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

I Peter 2:6 "Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded." I Peter 2:7 "Unto you therefore which believe [he is] precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner," I Peter 2:8 "And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, [even to them] which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed." And just one more Scripture makes it very clear. I John 2:28 "And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming." There is little to add to this, except to say that our faith in Jesus Christ is our salvation, whether we be Jew or Gentile believers.

Notes

Romans 22 Questions

1. We learn in Romans 9-18 that God can do what 2 things without explaining to anyone?
2. Why can God do with us whatever He wishes?
3. What name immediately comes to mind when we think of someone whose heart God hardened?
4. What lesson can we learn from the 2 instances of God hardening someone's heart?
5. In 2 Chronicles ch.20 v.6 who can resist God?
6. Can our opinion differ from God's opinion?
7. Shall the thing _____ say to him that _____ it, Why hast thou made me thus?
8. Woe unto him that _____ with his maker.
9. In Romans ch.9 v.21, we find that God makes 2 kinds of people out of one lump, what are they?
10. Until we can make what statement, we are not truly God's?
11. Name the vessels that God made in 2 Timothy 2-20.
12. In 2 Peter ch.3 v.9, we find that God is not slack, but _____?
13. Name the people in Ephesians ch.5 v.5 who will not inherit the kingdom of God.
14. Why is God's wrath going to come on the earth?
15. In Romans ch.9 v.24 we find that God not only called the Jew but the _____ as well.
16. Before we were saved we were by nature children of _____.
17. The people who come to God will be called what that we find in Romans ch.9 v.26?
18. Why does the world not know the Christian?
19. Who are truly Abraham's seed?
20. What one word describes the physical house of Israel?
21. Who does the author think the 7000 mentioned in Romans ch.11 v.4 grew into?
22. Where do we find the Scripture (many are called, but few are chosen)?
23. How shall He judge the world (Psalms ch.9 v.8)?
24. What 2 cities were destroyed by God for the sins they committed?
25. How did God destroy them?
26. What were the sins they were guilty of?
27. First Corinthians ch.6 v.9 names a number of sins that will keep you out of heaven, what are they?
28. All have sinned and deserve death, what saves the Christian?
29. How did the Jews fail in their search for righteousness?
30. Who is the Cornerstone?
31. Abraham's _____ was counted unto him for righteousness.
32. First John ch.2 v.28 little children _____ in Him.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 10:1 " Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved."

We have been saying over and over in these lessons how important it was to Paul that the Jewish people would accept Jesus as their Saviour. God actually called Paul to the Gentiles, but he could not help but desire his own people to come to Jesus Christ. We see that the Lord Jesus desired them to be saved as well as Paul, but they would not. We see in Luke 13:34 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen [doth gather] her brood under [her] wings, and ye would not!"

Romans 10:2 "For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge."

It is so strange to me that the people who were supposed to know the Word of God the best did not truly understand what that Word was saying, and they rejected their promised Messiah. The Scripture above, says that it was for lack of knowledge. Perhaps, it was for lack of understanding what they were reading. Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children." Even we Christians are warned of the dangers of lack of knowledge.

Romans 10:3 "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."

We see from the following Scriptures, the self righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees and how it displeased God. Luke 18:9 "And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:" Luke 18:10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican." Luke 18:11 "The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men [are], extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican." Luke 18:12 "I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." Luke 18:13 "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as [his] eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner." Luke 18:14 "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified [rather] than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." God loves the humble in heart who are looking to Jesus Christ for their righteousness.

Romans 10:4 "For Christ [is] the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

Jeremiah 23:6 "In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this [is] his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." This is possibly one of the most beautiful names of Jesus Christ in all the Bible, and in the name we see what the Lord has truly done for us. We take on His righteousness, because our righteousness is but

filthy rags. Isaiah 64:6 "But we are all as an unclean [thing], and all our righteousnesses [are] as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away." We really must depend on the righteousness of Christ to save us. We put it on when we are washed in the blood of the Lamb [Jesus Christ].

Romans 10:5 "For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them."

Leviticus 18:5 "Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I [am] the LORD." There were literally hundreds of the Levitical laws that had to be kept to be righteous in the law. There was absolutely no way that a person could even keep up with them, much less keep them. Jesus came and fulfilled them for us that we might live by the grace of God.

Romans 10:6 "But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down [from above]:)" Romans 10:7 "Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)"

Deuteronomy 30:11 "For this commandment which I command thee this day, it [is] not hidden from thee, neither [is] it far off." Deuteronomy 30:12 "It [is] not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?" Deuteronomy 30:13 "Neither [is] it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?" Deuteronomy 30:14 "But the word [is] very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it." We really had very little to do with the great gift God gave us of His only Son to give His body on the cross that we might live. God loved us while we were yet in sin. The gift of righteousness He provided for us is free, all we have to do is believe and receive it.

Romans 10:8 "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, [even] in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;"

Matthew 10:32 "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 10:33 "But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." We can clearly see the importance of the things we say from all of this. Faith, we know is believing in things we cannot see. If you can see something, it takes no faith to believe. Jesus Himself said, blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed. John 20:29 "Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed [are] they that have not seen, and [yet] have believed."

Romans 10:9 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

This leaves absolutely no doubt at all what we must do to be saved. We also read that our father Abraham believed and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Genesis 15:6 "And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness."

Romans 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Verse 9 and 10 above are used in my messages very often, because it leaves no doubt at all what you and I must do to be saved. Really the first baptism takes place in your heart. When you repent of your sins, Jesus washes your heart with His blood and you receive a brand new heart with the laws of God written on the fleshly parts of your heart. It is like a heart transplant. Jesus has given you a brand new heart, washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Romans 10:11 "For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

I Peter 2:6 "Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded." If you have really made Jesus the Lord of your life, you want to tell everybody you see. Christians are the bride of Christ. Have you ever seen a new bride that can keep quiet about her groom?

Romans 10:12 "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him."

Galatians 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." We see from this that the only thing that can keep us from receiving Christ is ourself. If we refuse to receive Him, in our life, He will not force Himself on us. If we truly want to receive Him He will not deny us. Revelation 22:17 "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Acts 2:21 "And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." We see from these 2 Scriptures that God answers when we call on Him. His greatest desire is that all will come to Him.

Romans 10:14 "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

Now, we see the reason God chose preachers to work here on the earth. I Corinthians 1:21 "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." We, also, see by the foolish things of this world God confounded the wise. I Corinthians 1:27 "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;"

Romans 10:15 "And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" We see, here, almost the exact Scripture. The God of the Old Testament is the same as the God of the New Testament. Matthew 28:19 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:" Matthew 28:20 "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen."

Romans 10:16 "But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?"

Hebrews 4:2 "For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard [it]." As we have said in so many of these lessons, it is not profitable to just hear the Truth, we must accept it and live by it, also.

Romans 10:17 "So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Luke 11:28 "But he said, Yea rather, blessed [are] they that hear the word of God, and keep it." It is the Word of God that is powerful, that convicts us of our sin and sets us on the road to salvation. Look at the next Scripture and see just how powerful this Word is. Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God [is] quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and [is] a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Romans 10:18 "But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world."

Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." With the advantage of television and satellite dishes, we have seen this Scripture above fulfilled. Man is without excuse before God; we have been forewarned.

Romans 10:19 "But I say, Did not Israel know? First Moses saith, I will provoke you to jealousy by [them that are] no people, [and] by a foolish nation I will anger you." Romans 10:20 "But Esaias is very bold, and saith, I was found of them that sought me not; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me." Romans 10:21 "But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people."

We will see that the Gentiles were not God's first choice to bring the salvation message to, but when the Jewish people rejected Jesus, then salvation was offered to the Gentile. Jeremiah 35:15 "I have sent also unto you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending [them], saying, Return ye now every man from his evil way, and amend your doings, and go not after other gods to serve them, and ye shall dwell in the land which I have given to you and to your fathers: but ye have not inclined your ear, nor hearkened unto me." God gave them literally thousands of years to repent and follow Him and they did not.

Romans 23 Questions

1. In verse 1 Paul's desire for Israel was what?
2. In Luke ch.13 v.34, who did Jesus say killed the prophets?
3. Paul said the Jews had a zeal for God, but not to what?
4. In Hosea ch.4 v.6, the people were destroyed for what?
5. What was wrong with the righteousness of these Jews?
6. In Luke the 18th chapter, which of the two men who went to the temple pleased God?
7. Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to whom?
8. In Jeremiah ch.23 v.6, what name is the Lord to be called?
9. Where do we find the Scripture that says our righteousness is filthy rags?
10. How do the Christians fulfill the law?
11. Explain what is intended in Romans ch10 v.6.
12. How close is salvation to us, that we read about in Deuteronomy ch.30 v.14?
13. What did Paul say he preached in verse 8?
14. Who will Jesus confess before the Father?
15. In John ch.20 v.29, who are the blessed?
16. Quote Romans ch.10 v.9.
17. What was counted unto Abraham as righteousness?
18. With the _____ man believeth unto righteousness.
19. What happens to your heart when you repent of your sins?
20. Have you ever seen a bride who can keep quiet about her groom?
21. Is there a difference between the Jew and Greek?
22. What is the only thing that can keep us from receiving Christ?
23. Where do we find the Scripture that says, whosoever will can come to Christ?
24. What is the greatest desire of Jesus toward us?
25. Romans ch.10 v.4 says, how shall they hear without whom?
26. It pleased God by the foolishness of _____ to save them who believe.
27. How shall they preach except they be _____?
28. What part of the body is mentioned as being beautiful of those who preach the gospel?
29. Matthew ch.28 v.9 explains to baptize in whose name?
30. It is not profitable to just hear the gospel, we must do what?
31. How does faith come?
32. Luke ch.11 v.28 says who are blessed?
33. What Scripture tells of the power of the Word?
34. When shall the end come?
35. When the Jewish people rejected Jesus, who was the salvation message brought to?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 11:1 "I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, [of] the tribe of Benjamin."

We see here, again, that Paul is proud of his Israelite heritage. Paul mentions this heritage several times in his writings. 2nd Corinthians 11:22 "Are they Hebrews? so [am] I. Are they Israelites? so [am] I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so [am] I." And we, also, read in Paul's writings Philippians 3:5 "Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, [of] the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;" Paul is very proud that he was of the physical house of Israel as well as the spiritual house of Israel.

We, also, see that God never completely gives up on the physical house of Israel even if they have walked away from Him. Jeremiah 33:24 "Considerest thou not what this people have spoken, saying, The two amilies which the LORD hath chosen, he hath even cast them off? Thus they have despised my people, that they should be no more a nation before them." Jeremiah 33:25 "Thus saith the LORD; If my covenant [be] not with day and night, [and if] I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth;" Jeremiah 33:26 "Then will I cast away the seed of Jacob, and David my servant, [so] that I will not take [any] of his seed [to be] rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: for I will cause their captivity to return, and have mercy on them." God is long-suffering and is always ready to forgive them and receive them back.

Romans 11:2 "God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying," Romans 11:3 "Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life."

I Kings 19:10 "And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, [even] I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." I Kings 19:11 "And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; [but] the LORD [was] not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; [but] the LORD [was] not in the earthquake:" I Kings 19:12 "And after the earthquake a fire; [but] the LORD [was] not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice." I Kings 19:13 "And it was [so], when Elijah heard [it] that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, [there came] a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?" I Kings 19:14 "And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, [even] I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." We can see from this that God is interested in just one prophet that belongs to Him. God will not forsake His own. Just as any parent will not forsake their children, God will not forsake His own.

Romans 11:4 "But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to [the image of] Baal."

I Kings 19:18 "Yet I have left [me] seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him." We see something very distinctive here. This is established by two, an Old and a New Testament book. God will save a remnant as we said in a previous lesson. I believe the 144,000 who are sealed with the Father's seal in Revelation are the remnant. Remember once again that they have the seal of the Father God and the large number around the throne in heaven at the same time have on the white garment of righteousness and belong to God the Son. They have been washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Romans 11:5 "Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace." Romans 11:6 "And if by grace, then [is it] no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if [it be] of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work."

Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God:" Ephesians 2:9 "Not of works, lest any man should boast." We see from this that we can not work our way to heaven. Salvation is a free gift. Truly even the Holy Spirit must woo you, or the desire to come to Jesus would never be there. Or part in all of this is to reach out and take what God has offered to us. Truly we have nothing to do with who we are as we read in this next Scripture. I Corinthians 15:10 "But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which [was bestowed] upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."

Romans 11:7 "What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded" Romans 11:8 "(According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.

Matthew 13:14 "And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:" Matthew 13:15 "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and [their] ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with [their] eyes and hear with [their] ears, and should understand with [their] heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them." These Scriptures leave no doubt that God first must call us and the Holy Spirit has to reveal to us the meaning, or we, too, would be blinded. It is God that opens our ears of understanding to His Word. He is our source, we must depend on Him. The beginning of wisdom is to fear God. This fear is to reverence Him or to hold Him in awe. Unless God reveals Himself to us, we do not truly know Him. He loves everyone and wants us all to love Him, but if we choose not to follow Him, He will stop up our ears and eyes and we will not be able to understand. He does not want us to come to Him with our mind, He wants our heart. Ezekiel 12:2 "Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they [are] a rebellious house." Mark 4:11 "And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all [these] things are done in parables:" Mark 4:12 "That seeing they may

see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and [their] sins should be forgiven them." This is because of their evil heart that Jesus does not reveal Himself to them.

Romans 11:9 "And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them:" Romans 11:10 "Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see, and bow down their back always."

Recompence means to quit like men. I Timothy 6:17 "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;" I Timothy 6:18 "That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;" I Timothy 6:19 "Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." We see from these 3 Scriptures that to whom much is given, much is required. This does not mean just wealth of money, but has to do with knowledge of the Bible, as well. To know God and His Word and then to sin is much worse than to sin in ignorance. In the 23rd Psalm, we see the opposite of this table. Psalms 23:5 "Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over." David's table was a blessing and theirs was a curse. They did not have their heart right with God.

Romans 11:11 "I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but [rather] through their fall salvation [is come] unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy."

Acts 13:42 "And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath." We see that the Gentiles readily accepted the Lord Jesus Christ when the Jews rejected Jesus. God still loves the Jew [the physical house of Israel] and, as we have been reading, He will save a remnant of them.

Romans 11:12 "Now if the fall of them [be] the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?"

This is just God's way of allowing the Gentile believers to be saved. We Gentile believers have been grafted in to the family of God. We are His adopted children. Romans 8:15 "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

Romans 11:13 "For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:" Romans 11:14 "If by any means I may provoke to emulation [them which are] my flesh, and might save some of them."

Paul was actually commissioned of God to bring the salvation message to the Gentiles, but he could not quite ever give up on his brothers, the Jews. Acts 9:15 "But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:" You can see from this that his first call was to the Gentile. I will give you one Scripture of many that shows that Paul was aware of his

call to the Gentiles. II Timothy 1:11 "Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles." Paul in verse 14 above is saying that, perhaps, while he is bringing this message to the Gentiles, some of his Hebrew brothers will hear and understand, as well.

Romans 11:15 "For if the casting away of them [be] the reconciling of the world, what [shall] the receiving [of them be], but life from the dead?"

There is no better example of this in all the Bible than in Ezekiel where the story of the dry bones is found. In this account we will see, that at the end God will bring back to life the natural Israelite, and they and the spiritual house of Israel {Christians} will all be part of the family of God. The 2 sticks that come together are the spiritual and the physical houses of Israel. Jesus Christ {their Messiah} saves us all. Ezekiel 37:1 "The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which [was] full of bones," Ezekiel 37:2 "And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, [there were] very many in the open valley; and, lo, [they were] very dry." Ezekiel 37:3 "And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest." Ezekiel 37:4 "Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD." Ezekiel 37:5 "Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:" Ezekiel 37:6 "And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I [am] the LORD." Ezekiel 37:7 "So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone." Ezekiel 37:8 "And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but [there was] no breath in them." Ezekiel 37:9 "Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." Ezekiel 37:10 "So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army." Ezekiel 37:11 "Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts." Ezekiel 37:12 "Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel." Ezekiel 37:13 "And ye shall know that I [am] the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves," Ezekiel 37:14 "And shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken [it], and performed [it], saith the LORD." In verse 11 above, the word whole is used meaning the physical and the spiritual house of Israel.

Notes

Romans 24 Questions

1. In verse one Paul asks, Has God cast away His people, has He?
2. What 3 things does Paul call himself in verse one?
3. He wrote that he was an Israelite in other books, name them.
4. God is _____ and is always ready to forgive.
5. Who had Elias made intercession for?
6. In verse 3 what 2 things had they done that made Elias think that he alone was left?
7. In 1 Kings chapter 19 what mighty things were mentioned that God was not in?
8. What was God in?
9. Elias in Romans is the same person as _____ in 1 Kings.
10. God will not _____ His own.
11. In chapter 11 verse 4, how many had God reserved who had not bowed their knee to Baal?
12. What Old Testament Scripture is the second witness of this which makes it absolute?
13. This remnant is according to what in verse 5?
14. Quote Ephesians ch.2 v.8.
15. Why is it not of works that we are saved?
16. Paul says by what {I am, what I am}?
17. In verse 7, we see that who obtained while all others were blinded?
18. Describe the eyes and ears of those who did not receive it.
19. Who opens our understanding to God's Word?
20. What is the beginning of wisdom?
21. God does not want our mind, He wants what?
22. Why does Jesus not reveal Himself to some people?
23. In verse 9 David said for those who reject the truth to have their table be what?
24. In verse 10, what will happen to their eyes?
25. What does recompense mean?
26. In 1 Timothy ch.6 v.17, what are those who are rich in this world to do?
27. Quote Psalms ch.23 v.5.
28. In verse 11, we see that their fall came for what purpose?
29. In Acts ch.13 v.42 when the Jews had gone out of the synagogue who asked that the message be brought to them on the next Sabbath?
30. Who is the physical house of Israel?
31. In verse 12 we see that the diminishing of them be riches to whom?
32. In Romans ch.8 v.15 we have received what spirit?
33. When we have been added to the family of God, what should we cry?
34. Who was Paul commissioned to bring the salvation message to?
35. Who did Paul desire to save whatever it took?
36. In verse 15, what does the receiving of them bring?
37. In Ezekiel chapter 37, what does the story of the dry bones bring?
38. Who are the dry bones mentioned in Ezekiel ch.37 v.11?
39. What causes these dry bones to live in Ezekiel ch.37 v.14?
40. Why is the word whole used in verse 11 of Ezekiel 37?

We have seen in the previous lessons the 2 houses of Israel. The Christians are the spiritual house of Israel and the Hebrews are the physical house of Israel. We will continue on in Romans 11:16 "For if the firstfruit [be] holy, the lump [is] also [holy]: and if the root [be] holy, so [are] the branches."

James 1:18 "Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures." Jesus Christ is the root. In fact, He is the Tree and we are the branches. A peach tree does not produce apples, but peaches. If Christ is the tree, then we Christians are the branches. A Christian should be Christ like.

Romans 11:17 "And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert grafted in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;"

The natural branches were the physical house of Israel {Hebrews} and we Christians are the grafted in branches. All believers are the spiritual house of Israel. Ephesians 3:6 "That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:" Revelation 11:4 "These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth." Sometimes the graft in branch is stronger than the natural branch.

Romans 11:18 "Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee." Romans 11:19 "Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in." Romans 11:20 "Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:"

I Corinthians 10:12 "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Hebrews 4:6 "Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:" We Christians are like faithful Abraham: saved by faith in Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Lack of faith got the Hebrew branches cut off and our faith got the Christian branches grafted in. Without faith it is impossible to please God.

Romans 11:21 "For if God spared not the natural branches, [take heed] lest he also spare not thee." Romans 11:22 "Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in [his] goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off."

Ezekiel 33:17 "Yet the children of thy people say, The way of the Lord is not equal: but as for them, their way is not equal." Ezekiel 33:18 "When the righteous turneth from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, he shall even die thereby." Ezekiel 33:19 "But if the wicked turn from his wickedness, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall live thereby." God will not allow wickedness to go on unpunished. He is a forgiving God, but He is also the Judge of all the earth. Revelation 2:5 "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works;

or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent." God will help us, if we love Him and do our best to follow Him.

Romans 11:23 "And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be graffed in: for God is able to graff them in again." Romans 11:24 "For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert graffed contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural [branches], be graffed into their own olive tree?"

Luke 21:24 "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." The they is speaking of the Jews. The end of the Gentile age is near. God's blessings will go back to the physical house of Israel. Jeremiah 31:33 "But this [shall be] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people." Hebrews 8:10 "For this [is] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:" You see, this is not a statement of just the Old Testament, but of the New Testament, as well. God loves all Israel; physical and spiritual. Those 2 are the branches of the olive tree.

Romans 11:25 "For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in."

It greatly concerns me when I hear someone run our Jewish brothers down. We have been warned over and over in the Holy Bible not to think ourselves better than the natural Hebrew. We are not the tree. We do not decide who is part of the tree and who is not. The tree decides which branches He will accept and which branches He rejects. It is none of our business. He does not have to explain to you and me why He does it either. We should just be happy that He allowed us to be grafted in to the tree.

Romans 11:26 "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:"

Micah 7:18 "Who [is] a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth [in] mercy." Micah 7:19 "He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." Micah 7:20 "Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, [and] the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old." So many people I know do not want to believe that God will forgive the physical house of Israel. This is so strange to me, because we were not worthy of His forgiveness and He forgave us. Why would He not forgive His chosen family? My Bible says that every knee will bow and every tongue confess Jesus when they see Him coming in the clouds. My own personal belief is that the Christians will not be on the earth for the wrath of God, but the physical house of Israel will. I believe that the physical house of Israel will

accept Jesus as their Messiah during the great tribulation that is coming on the earth. They will be saved as by fire. I Corinthians 3:15 "If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." We will get into this more in a later lesson.

Romans 11:27 "For this [is] my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins."

Jeremiah 31:33 "But this [shall be] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Romans 11:28 "As concerning the gospel, [they are] enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, [they are] beloved for the fathers' sakes."

Revelation 14:1 "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty [and] four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads." Notice, here, that this 144,000 have the seal of the Father. The Christians have the covering of the blood of Jesus Christ. Revelation 7:9 "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;" Revelation 7:13 "And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?" Revelation 7:14 "And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." You can easily see the Christians are not part of the 144,000. These are the 2 houses, one belong to the Father {144,000}, and the white robed Christians belong to Jesus Christ the Lamb. We could go on and on about this, but I believe we have made the point. Jeremiah 31:31 "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:" Jeremiah 31:32 "Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day [that] I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:" Jeremiah 31:33 "But this [shall be] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people." Jeremiah 31:34 "And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Notes

Romans 25 Questions

1. If the first fruit be holy, the lump is also ____.
2. If the root be holy, so are the _____.
3. Jesus is the root, and who are His branches?
4. Christians are called what in verse 17?
5. Who is of the spiritual house of Israel?
6. Revelation ch.11 v.4 is speaking of whom when it speaks of the two olive trees?
7. We are warned to boast not against whom?
8. In ch.11 v.19 it appears that the Christians brag that physical Israel was cut off, why are they bragging?
9. Be not _____ but fear.
10. How are Christians like Abraham?
11. Without _____, it is impossible to please God.
12. In Romans ch.11 v.22, we are told to behold what 2 things?
13. In Romans ch.11 v.22 and in Ezekiel ch.33 v.18 we see what, that is opposed to not being able to lose your salvation once you have it?
14. Who is God, besides being a forgiving God?
15. Revelation ch.2 v.5 gives us one word that tells us how to get back to God, what is it?
16. What hopeful statement for the natural Israelite is made in Romans ch.11 v.23?
17. How long will Jerusalem be trodden down by the Gentiles?
18. In Jeremiah ch.31 v.33 what is the covenant God made?
19. Blindness in part is happened to Israel until when?
20. How much of Israel shall be saved in Romans ch.11 v.26?
21. In Micah ch.7 v.18, we read that God pardoneth iniquity because He delights in what?
22. Where will He cast all their sins?
23. Eventually who will bow to Jesus?
24. In Jeremiah ch.31 v.33 God places His law where?
25. These of the house of Israel pertaining to election are beloved for whose sake?
26. Whose name was on the 144,000 in Revelation ch.14 v.1?
27. In Revelation ch.7 v.14, who were those dressed in white?
28. Why is the answer to 26 and 27 important?
29. We find in Jeremiah, there will come a day when we will not teach each other of God; then how will we know?
30. God will remember their____ no more.

Notes

We have been studying how God is merciful, more than any of us deserve. Many do not believe or understand that God still loves Israel, even after they rejected Jesus. What God does with the physical house is really none of our business. The world and everyone in it belong to Him, and He can do as He wishes without our permission. Our only concern is that we must believe in Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Lord, if we intend to be saved. We must not try to figure out why this is true, just accept this as fact and go on.

We will begin this lesson in Romans 11:28 "As concerning the gospel, [they are] enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, [they are] beloved for the fathers' sakes." Romans 11:29 "For the gifts and calling of God [are] without repentance."

We had verse 28 in our last lesson, but we needed it here to complete this statement in verse 29. All who have been called of God to do a job, can see from this Scripture above that God does not take back a call. I know a lady who is the most gifted pianist that I have ever heard. She had a little problem in the church and many thought her usefulness to God was over. If that is true, then we must remove verse 29 above from the Bible, because it says the call or gift is without repentance. If you have been called of God to do anything, sing, play, heal, preach or anything else, God needs you now for the battle that the Christians are in. Numbers 23:19 "God [is] not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do [it]? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" People the war has begun. The enemy {devil} has large numbers of troops. Put on your armour and fight for God.

Ephesians 6:10 "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Ephesians 6:11 "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Ephesians 6:12 "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high [places]." Ephesians 6:13 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Ephesians 6:14 "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;" Ephesians 6:15 "And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;" Ephesians 6:16 "Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked." Ephesians 6:17 "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:" Ephesians 6:18 "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;" Ephesians 6:19 "And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel," We are not to quit, just because the battle is thick. God calls us without repentance, and we are to fight till the end with everything within us. Matthew 24:13 "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."

Romans 11:30 "For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief:" Romans 11:31 "Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy."

The next few verses tell of the sin of mankind. A person involved in this type sin and has not been washed in the blood of the Lamb is in serious trouble. Praise God that He is merciful and willing to forgive us. I Corinthians 6:9 "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind," I Corinthians 6:10 "Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." I Corinthians 6:11 "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." When we receive our forgiveness, we must walk in that forgiveness, not desiring in our heart to sin again.

Romans 11:32 "For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all."

I Timothy 2:3 "For this [is] good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;" I Timothy 2:4 "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." I Timothy 2:5 "For [there is] one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" I Timothy 2:6 "Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." You see, not only were we heathen not keeping the law of God, but the Hebrews, who God had given the law to, were not keeping it either. In fact, the law was given as a schoolmaster to make us realize our need for a Saviour. Galatians 3:22 "But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe."

Romans 11:33 "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable [are] his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"

Colossians 2:3 "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." The minute we start speaking of Someone who had no beginning and had no end, you get beyond our comprehension. In Proverbs, it lists so many things that God has done that we could never understand. Just the fact that God placed a planet in open space and it has stayed there is really unbelievable. Nature, itself, tells us that there is an intelligence so far superior to us. Have you made any worlds lately? Neither have I. The human body is so complicated that doctors still do not know everything about it. Just take a look around you and it will not be hard to realize that God is a mystery that our little brain could never figure out. The best thing to do is just let God be God and realize that He has everything figured out for us. Accept Him on simple faith and then do it His way. My husband says stop trying to figure Him out and just faith it out.

Romans 11:34 "For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?"

Isaiah 40:13 "Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or [being] his counsellor hath taught him?" God is all in all. We need Him, He does not need us. He loves us and wants us, but He does not need us. Revelation 4:11 "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." You see, the reason we were created in the first place was for God's pleasure. We are His, we are not our own.

Romans 11:35 "Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?"

I Corinthians 4:7 "For who maketh thee to differ [from another]? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive [it], why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received [it]?" We did not give to God, He gave even our life to us. We are what we are by the grace of God. We had absolutely nothing to do with what family we were born in, or what race we are, or what color our hair is, or how tall we are, or how intelligent we are: God chose. Job 35:7 "If thou be righteous, what givest thou him? or what receiveth he of thine hand?" This in Job said it all.

Romans 11:36 "For of him, and through him, and to him, [are] all things: to whom [be] glory for ever. Amen."

Colossians 1:16 "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [they be] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:" It is God's world and everything and everyone in it belong to Him too. In view of all this, how could we neglect so great a salvation?

Notes

Romans 26 Questions

1. Who should be concerned with the outcome of the physical house of Israel?
2. What should be our only concern?
3. The gifts and calling of God are without _____.
4. God is not a ____ that He should lie.
5. What are we advised to do in Ephesians ch.6 v.11?
6. We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against what?
7. He that shall _____ unto the end, the same shall be saved.
8. Know ye not that the _____ shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
9. Name some of the sins mentioned that could keep a person out of heaven, if they practice them.
10. And such were some of you, but ye are _____ the _____.
11. _____.
11. When we receive our forgiveness, what must we continue to do?
12. God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that He might do what?
13. Who is the Mediator between God and man?
14. The promise by faith of Jesus Christ is given to whom?
15. Colossians ch.2 v.3 tells us that, what is hidden in God?
16. Revelation ch.4 v.1 says the Lord is worthy to receive what?
17. What important questions are asked in 1 Corinthians ch.4 v.7?
18. Quote Romans ch.11 v.36.
19. Colossians ch.1 v.16, says that He created what?
20. In view of all this, how could we neglect so great _____?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 12:1 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service."

I Peter 2:5 "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." Psalms 19:14 "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer." We can see from this that God expects our loyalty. We have been bought and paid for with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. The least we can do is live for Him since He ransomed us from death.

Romans 12:2 "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Deuteronomy 18:10 "There shall not be found among you [any one] that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, [or] that useth divination, [or] an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch," Deuteronomy 18:11 "Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer." Deuteronomy 18:12 "For all that do these things [are] an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee." Divination is witchcraft. An observer of times has to do with studying your horoscope. An enchanter is someone who practices hypnotism or practices magic. A charmer casts spells. A wizard conjures up spirits. A necromancer is someone who has an affair with a dead body or it can mean someone who is always searching for the truth and never finds it. The things that displeased God in the Old Testament are still what displeases Him today. God wants us to be holy as He is holy. Jesus is coming back for those who are without spot or wrinkle. If , you have sin in your life, repent and ask God to help you live free of sin.

Romans 12:3 "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think [of himself] more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."

We read in the very words of our Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 18:3 "And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:4 "Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." It seems so strange to some people how one person seems to have more faith than the other, if we have all received our measure of faith. The truth is that our faith grows as we use it and as we read the word of God. Romans 10:17 "So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." We have said over and over in these lessons that the two great powers in this world are the spoken and the written Word. I Corinthians 12:7 "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal." I Corinthians 12:8 "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;" I Corinthians 12:9 "To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;" We can see from these

Scriptures that there is a gift of faith that we can pray and receive. This is not a normal amount of faith, but a supernatural faith; which is actually a gift of the Spirit.

Romans 12:4 "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:" Romans 12:5 "So we, [being] many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

I Corinthians 12:12 "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also [is] Christ." I Corinthians 12:13 "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether [we be] Jews or Gentiles, whether [we be] bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." I Corinthians 12:14 "For the body is not one member, but many." I Corinthians 12:20 "But now [are they] many members, yet but one body." I Corinthians 12:27 "Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." A TRUE CHURCH IS MANY MEMBERS MAKING UP ONE BODY. We see in that body that there are many different offices. I Corinthians 12:28 "And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues."

Romans 12:5 "So we, [being] many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another."

Ephesians 5:30 "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones." We can see how important it is for us to be in one accord in the church. If we are one body as the Scripture says, then when we tear at someone else in the church we are tearing up the body.

Romans 12:6 "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, [let us prophesy] according to the proportion of faith;" Romans 12:7 "Or ministry, [let us wait] on [our] ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;" Romans 12:8 "Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, [let him do it] with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness."

We see in all of this that God calls each of us to do a specific job. Whether God has called you to be pastor of a church or a teacher in a Christian school, God will not call you to do a job that He will not equip you to do. What the Scriptures above are saying is that any job God calls you to do, you should do it through the power of the Holy Spirit and not in your own strength. Ephesians 4:11 "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;"

Romans 12:9 "[Let] love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good."

Without dissimulation means to be sincere or to not be a hypocrite. We see from this then, that it is very important for our love to be sincere. Abhor means to detest utterly. This would be an extreme dislike for something or someone. We can see from the following Scripture just how important it is to God for us to love our brothers and sisters in Christ and to love Him. Hebrews 1:9 "Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, [even] thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

Romans 12:10 "[Be] kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;"

John 13:34 "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." John 13:35 "By this shall all [men] know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." All Christians are brothers and sisters in Christ. I Thessalonians 4:9 "But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another." You see, regardless where the Scripture is we are taught the same thing; to love as we would want to be loved .

Romans 12:11 "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;"

In 1988, we saw a strange thing happen. Many people thinking that the Lord was coming back that year; sold everything they had and gave up their jobs to go and wait for the return of the Lord. We can easily see in the Scripture above that that is not what God would want us to do, even if He were coming back right now. When He does come back [and I believe He is coming soon] we are to be found working. Hebrews 13:21 "Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom [be] glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Romans 12:12 "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;"

The hope that we are to rejoice in is the hope of the resurrection. We are warned not to be like those that have no hope of the resurrection. I Thessalonians 4:13 "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope." I Thessalonians 4:14 "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him." We, also, know that in this life there will be tribulation. Tribulation comes to make us strong. John 16:33 "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." We see from this that we certainly do face tribulation. Romans 5:3 " And not only [so], but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;" Ephesians 6:18 "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;" Prayer is the power available to the Christian. Prayer is so important that even Jesus went aside and prayed to the Father. The disciples that walked with Jesus, saw the importance of prayer and asked Jesus to teach them to pray. When we pray, we pray to the Father in the name of Jesus. We are told that anything we ask in the name of Jesus will be done. John 14:13 "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

Romans 27 Questions

1. How are we Christians to present our bodies to God?
2. In 1 Peter ch.2 v.5 we are lively stones which are built up into what?
3. In Psalms ch.19 v.14, what 2 things are we asking to be acceptable in God's sight?
4. We have been bought and paid for by what?
5. Be not _____ to this world.
6. Be ye transformed by the renewing of your _____.
7. What does Deuteronomy ch.18 v.10 warn against?
8. What are these sins called in Deuteronomy ch.18 v.12?
9. What is divination?
10. What does an observer of times study?
11. What does an enchanter practice?
12. What does a charmer do?
13. What does a wizard do?
14. Who is a necromancer?
15. God has dealt to every man the measure of _____.
16. We read in Matthew ch.18 v.3 Except ye become as _____, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.
17. Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?
18. In Romans ch.10 v.17, we read that faith comes how?
19. What are the 2 great powers in the world?
20. In 1 Corinthians chapter 12, we read of an extra amount of faith that we can receive by what?
21. So we being many, are one _____.
22. In 1 Corinthians ch.12 v.28, we read of the offices in the church, what are they?
23. In Romans ch.12 vs.[6-7] how are we to operate in these offices that God has trusted us with?
24. What is the 5 fold ministry mentioned in Ephesians ch.4 v.11?
25. What does without dissimulation mean?
26. What does abhor mean?
27. Quote Romans ch.12 v.10.
28. How will all men know that you are His disciples?
29. We are told to not be slothful in what?
30. What is the hope that we are to rejoice in?
31. Why does tribulation come?
32. Tribulation worketh what?
33. How are we instructed to pray?
34. What did the disciples ask Jesus to teach them to do?
35. What is the promise Jesus gave us in John ch.14 v.13?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 12:13 "Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality."

Acts 9:39 "Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them." We see that Dorcas had certainly fulfilled the lesson in the Scripture above. She saw a need and took care of it. Many believe that this same Dorcas paid for a great deal of Paul's necessities. We do know from this Scripture, that she was a very giving person. She was loved dearly by her sisters and brothers in Christ as you can see above. I will include several more Scriptures here that will demonstrate how important it is to God for us to be concerned about the needs of the saints, and in this we can, also, see how important it is to be hospitable, as well. Galatians 6:10 "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all [men], especially unto them who are of the household of faith." I Timothy 5:10 "Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work."

Romans 12:14 "Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not."

One of the most important teachings on this particular subject is found in Jesus' own words in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:44 " But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" A Christian's greatest desire should be to be like Jesus. The one thing that set Jesus aside from other people was that He loved us enough to die on the cross for us while we were yet in sin. He blessed us when we really deserved to be persecuted. I Peter 2:23 "Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed [himself] to him that judgeth righteously:"

Romans 12:15 "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep."

The shortest verse in all the Bible is a good example of weeping with those who weep. Jesus had great love for His friends, Mary and Martha, and His sorrow was sharing in their pain at the loss of their brother. Jesus knew that Lazarus would rise and He was not weeping for Lazarus. John 11:35 "Jesus wept." The truth of the matter is that we need to share in the griefs of our friends and, also, to rejoice with them in their victories. We must not be jealous of their victories. We need to be happy for them when they succeed. I Corinthians 12:26 "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it."

Romans 12:16 "[Be] of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits."

I Peter 3:8 "Finally, [be ye] all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, [be] pitiful, [be] courteous:" We see from both

of these Scriptures, that we are not to have someone as a friend just because they are wealthy or highly thought of in the community. In other words, we are not to have them for a friend because of what good they can do for us, but perhaps because we might be able to help them. If we think too highly of ourselves, we think the world and all it's people owe us something. We need to be thinking how we can help, rather than always wanting to be helped. The best Scripture that comes to mind pertaining to this is found in 1 Corinthians chapter 13. In this chapter speaking of charity, it is really speaking of great love for your fellow man. I Corinthians 13:1 "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become [as] sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." I Corinthians 13:2 "And though I have [the gift of] prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." I Corinthians 13:3 "And though I bestow all my goods to feed [the poor], and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." I Corinthians 13:4 "Charity suffereth long, [and] is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up," I Corinthians 13:8 "Charity never faileth: but whether [there be] prophecies, they shall fail; whether [there be] tongues, they shall cease; whether [there be] knowledge, it shall vanish away." What I see in this is, if what you are doing is being done for the wrong reason, even if it is a good deed, it will do you no good. God is more interested in why you are doing something than how much you do. Your heart must be in it to please God.

Romans 12:17 "Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men."

Recompense means to give away. We could see in this that God does not want us to get even for the things people have done to us. God wants us to turn the other cheek when we have been dealt a blow on one side. Matthew 5:39 "But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also." I Thessalonians 5:15 "See that none render evil for evil unto any [man]; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all [men]."

Romans 12:18 "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."

We see from the Scripture above, that it is not always possible to live in peace with all men. Paul found this to be very true. He was stoned, whipped, and even left for dead when all he was trying to do was good. Sometimes it seems the more good you do the more you are attacked by your fellow men. Jesus is the King of Peace. If we are truly His followers, then we want to have peace, as well. There is a peace that we can have and it is a peace in our heart that no one can take away from us. Colossians 3:15 "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful." This is a peace that we have within when in the world around us there is no peace.

Romans 12:19 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but [rather] give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance [is] mine; I will repay, saith the Lord."

Proverbs 25:21 "If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink:" Proverbs 25:22 "For thou shalt heap

coals of fire upon his head, and the LORD shall reward thee." In both of these Scriptures above, we see that God will take care of those who are abusive to us. We do not have to fight someone who is out to destroy us, God will do it for us. A real simple way to say this is kill them with kindness.

Romans 12:20 "Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head."

This is the very same Scripture we read in Proverbs above. You see the God of the Old Testament is the same as the God of the New Testament. Matthew 5:44 "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" Matthew 5:45 "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." These Scriptures here in Matthew are the Lord Jesus speaking because these are printed in red in the Bible. If we are to be like Jesus, then we must love people who do not deserve our love. He loved us while we were yet in sin. He gave His body on the cross for you and me, not because we deserved it, but because He loved us. We must love in spite of, rather than because, to be like Him.

Romans 12:21 "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Evil is of the devil. Christians are not of the devil, but of Christ. Jesus did not fight back. He submitted Himself to the humiliation of the cross. His goodness was so great that even in His pain on the cross, He said Father forgive them for they know not what they do. His goodness has lived on for thousands of years. We must follow His example. In Jesus' own Words, we read how we are to handle those who oppress us in Luke 6:27 "But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you," Luke 6:28 "Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you." Luke 6:29 "And unto him that smiteth thee on the [one] cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not [to take thy] coat also." Luke 6:30 "Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask [them] not again."

Romans 28 Questions

1. In Romans ch.12 v.13, we are not to give to the wants, but to the _____.
2. In Acts ch.9 v.39 why were they crying for Dorcas?
3. In Galatians ch.6 v.10 as we have _____, let us do good.
4. Bless them which _____ you.
5. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us to do what to our enemies?
6. Jesus blessed us when we deserved to be _____.
7. What are we to do when others rejoice?
8. Quote the shortest verse in the Bible.
9. Why was Jesus weeping?
10. What two ladies were very close friends of Jesus?
11. What lesson is taught in 1 Corinthians ch.12 v.26?
12. Romans ch.12 v.16 says, Be not wise in your own _____.
13. In 1 Peter ch.3 v.8, we are told to be what two things?
14. Instead of always wanting someone to help us, what should we be thinking?
15. What is the love chapter in the Bible?
16. What is another word interchangeable for love?
17. God is more interested in _____ than _____.
18. What does recompense mean?
19. Are we to get even for the wrongs done to us, explain?
20. Is it always possible to live in peace?
21. Who is the King of Peace?
22. Where is the peace of God to rule?
23. We find that vengeance is whose?
24. If we are real good to our enemies, what happens to them?
25. We are to kill them with what?
26. How can we be the children of our Father in heaven?
27. Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with _____.
28. What showed the great goodness of Jesus on the cross?
29. To be like Jesus, we must love _____ instead of _____.
30. What are we told to do when someone strikes us on the cheek?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 13:1 "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

In our society today, authority of every kind is being challenged. It begins in the home. In God's plans, the daddy is the head of the house. Mother should be over the children, as well. Secular humanism has taught our children that they are the center of everything, and because of this, children are rebelling. In most large schools in our country today, crime is very evident. A few years ago this was not true, because everyone had respect for the teachers and principal. Even in the military, we saw a break down of authority. Many young men burned their draft cards and refused to go to war for their country. No earlier than world war 2 that would have been total disgrace. These people have been looked on as if they were heroes. We have even lost respect for our government officials. Even employes are telling their boss that they will not do what they want them to. It seems that the whole world has gone mad.

We can read of all this in II Timothy 3:1 "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." II Timothy 3:2 "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy," II Timothy 3:3 "Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good," II Timothy 3:4 "Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;" II Timothy 3:5 "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

I Peter 2:13 "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;" I Peter 2:14 "Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well." I Peter 2:15 "For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:" I Peter 2:16 "As free, and not using [your] liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God." If we question too strongly the person in authority, we need to first stop and think who gave him or her that authority. God gave them the authority, and if we are fighting against them, we are in a sense fighting God.

Romans 13:2 "Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation."

Titus 3:1 "Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work," This is just one more word of caution, that we are not above the law just because we are Christians. The only time it is permissible to disobey authority is when it is in opposition to God's teachings.

Romans 13:3 "For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:"

I guess a way to say this so everyone in our day can understand is; if you didn't cheat on your income tax report, you won't mind being checked. It is so nice for them to check you, and find out that they owe you money, rather than you owing them. Proverbs 14:35 "The king's favour [is] toward a wise servant: but his wrath is [against] him that causeth shame." I Peter 3:13 "And who [is] he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?"

Romans 13:4 "For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to [execute] wrath upon him that doeth evil."

This really is saying that if we have broken the law, we can expect to be punished. If we speed and are caught we will probably pay a pretty large fine. Other sins require other punishment, but you can be sure God has marked it down for later review. In the Old Testament when someone was murdered, the closest relative went out and found the criminal and killed him. Pretty swift justice, wouldn't you say. Numbers 35:19 "The revenger of blood himself shall slay the murderer: when he meeteth him, he shall slay him."

Romans 13:5 " Wherefore [ye] must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake."

Acts 24:16 "And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and [toward] men." II Corinthians 1:12 "For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward."

You have heard the expression [let your conscience be your guide] if you are a Christian that is very good advice. The Christian has the laws of God written on the fleshly part of his or her heart. We are guided by what is pleasing unto God. Psalms 37:31 "The law of his God [is] in his heart; none of his steps shall slide." There will come a time when we will not be taught at all of man, but will be totally taught of God. Hebrews 10:16 "This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;" We can see from this that the heart of mankind is his conscience.

Romans 13:6 "For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing."

Matthew 17:24 "And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute [money] came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute?" Matthew 17:25 "He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? Of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers?" Matthew 17:26 "Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free." Matthew 17:27 "Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee." We

see in this that Jesus was not subject to these taxes, but He paid them anyway to keep down trouble.

Romans 13:7 "Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute [is due]; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour."

I Peter 2:17 "Honour all [men]. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king." In our society today, it has become fashionable to disrespect authority of all kinds. A few years ago our mother taught us to respect others. This is the same thing God says in His Word. Even the world who does not have Jesus should be shown respect, if they are in higher office. It is really respect for the office we are showing. We must remember that a person is in that particular office because God put him there.

In summing up this lesson, we can see the importance of having great respect for God. We must respect Him and trust Him enough that we will also respect the people He has put in authority. Remember if we do not respect those in authority, then we are saying that God was not wise in choosing that person for that job. We must not question or accuse God, He knows best.

Notes

Romans 29 Questions

1. Let every soul be subject to the _____.
2. There is no power but of _____.
3. In God's plan, who is the head of the home?
4. What has taught our children that they are the center of everything?
5. In 2 Timothy chapter 3, this time is called what?
6. Describe the people of this day from 2 Timothy 3.
7. For whom should we submit to those in authority?
8. When we question the authority of someone, who are we really fighting?
9. In Romans ch.13 v.2, Whosoever resisteth the power will receive what?
10. In Titus ch.3 v.1, who are we reminded to obey?
11. Who are rulers a terror to?
12. Who are they who can harm you, if you are good?
13. If we have broken the law, what can we expect?
14. In numbers ch.35 v.19, who shall do the punishing?
15. In Romans ch.13 v.5, we are not to obey just because we are afraid of God's wrath, but because of what?
16. Why should a Christian let his or her conscience be their guide?
17. Where is the conscience located?
18. If Jesus did not owe taxes, why did He pay them?
19. Where did they find the money to pay the taxes for Jesus?
20. Render therefore to all their _____.
21. Honour all _____.
22. Love the _____.
23. Fear _____.
24. Honour the _____.
25. Who first taught us to show respect?
26. When we show respect for the president, what are we really showing respect for?
27. Sum this lesson up by telling how much respect for God we should have.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 13:8 "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law."

In our society today, the number one cause of divorce is debt. Easy credit has caused our young people to over-spend, and then they start blaming each other when they can not meet their obligations. If we would all practice not owing anyone anything, it would take many of the day to day pressures off, and we could live more peaceful lives. It takes a little longer, but if we save to get something we really want, we will appreciate it more when we do get it.

We are commanded over and over to love each other by God throughout the Scriptures. God set the example of love when He gave His only begotten Son to die on the cross for us. God's type of love we can only hope to have. Agape love asks nothing in return. It is the perfect love. The love that we show is usually conditional. We usually love because of what someone has done for us, not in spite of what they have done to us. When Jesus was asked what was the most important commandment that God had given us, He replied; Mark 12:30 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment." Mark 12:31 "And the second [is] like, [namely] this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

Romans 13:9 "For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if [there be] any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

All of the above mentioned sins are against our fellow man. If we love our neighbor as we love ourselves, we will not commit these sins.

Romans 13:10 "Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love [is] the fulfilling of the law."

Love and charity are really the same thing in 1 Corinthians. Let us look at a Scripture that perfectly describes love. As you read it think love in your mind every time you see charity. I Corinthians 13:1 "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become [as] sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." I Corinthians 13:2 "And though I have [the gift of] prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing." I Corinthians 13:3 "And though I bestow all my goods to feed [the poor], and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." I Corinthians 13:4 "Charity suffereth long, [and] is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up," I Corinthians 13:8 "Charity never faileth: but whether [there be] prophecies, they shall fail; whether [there be] tongues, they shall cease; whether [there be] knowledge, it shall vanish away." I Corinthians 13:13 "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these [is] charity." I believe we should repeat again [love is the fulfilling of the law].

Romans 13:11 "And that, knowing the time, that now [it is] high time to awake out of sleep: for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed."

Ecclesiastes 9:10 "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do [it] with thy might; for [there is] no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." We see from these two Scriptures that, whatever we plan to do for God we better get after it. Salvation is for today, because we are not assured of tomorrow. We are warned in Matthew 24:42 "Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." I Corinthians 7:29 "But this I say, brethren, the time [is] short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none;" I Corinthians 7:30 "And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not;" I Corinthians 7:31 "And they that use this world, as not abusing [it]: for the fashion of this world passeth away." We must awake, because the coming of the Lord is near, and then the judgement.

I Thessalonians 5:1 "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you." I Thessalonians 5:2 "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night." I Thessalonians 5:3 "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." I Thessalonians 5:5 "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." I Thessalonians 5:6 "Therefore let us not sleep, as [do] others; but let us watch and be sober." I Thessalonians 5:7 "For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night." I Thessalonians 5:8 "But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation." We can easily see that we must not put off salvation, it might be too late.

Romans 13:12 "The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."

In this Scripture and the one above in Thessalonians, we see that Christians are not in darkness, we are children of the Light. I Thessalonians 5:4 "But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief." I Thessalonians 5:5 "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." Jesus is the Light and if we are full of Him, then we are full of light, as well.

Romans 13:13 "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying."

Chambering has to do with having sex relations with someone other than your spouse. Wantonness has to do with all sorts of sins of the body. We can see in these Scriptures that, these sins that are going on are the same sins that brought destruction to the earth in Noah's time and also in Lot's time. Luke 17:27 "They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all." Luke 17:28 "Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded;"

Romans 13:14 "But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to [fulfil] the lusts [thereof]."

Romans 8:12 "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh." Romans 8:13 "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

In all of these lessons, I have explained that we are a spirit that dwells in a body of flesh. The soul of man is either controlled by the desires of the flesh [which is sin], or we are controlled by the spirit which desires to do God's will. Galatians 3:27 "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." We can not overcome the flesh ourselves, but the Spirit of Christ within us can overcome the flesh. You see, we have no power of our own. It is the power of Christ that overcomes. Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

Notes

Romans 30 Questions

1. Owe no man _____.
2. Who has fulfilled the law in verse 8?
3. What is the number 1 cause of divorce in America today?
4. When did God set the example for love?
5. When they asked Jesus which were the most important commandments what did He answer?
6. Name the thou shalt nots in verse 9.
7. How are we to love our neighbor?
8. In verse 10, what is the fulfilling of the law?
9. What 2 words are the same thing in 1 Corinthians?
10. What chapter of Corinthians is the love chapter?
11. Why is it time for us to wake out of sleep?
12. In Ecclesiastes ch.9 v.10 it says what is not in the grave?
13. In Matthew ch.24 v.42, we are told to watch, why?
14. In 1 Thessalonians ch.5 v.1, what 2 things do we have no need to know?
15. The day of the Lord comes as a _____ in the _____.
16. When they shall say peace and safety; then comes sudden _____.
17. Put on the breastplate of what?
18. In Romans ch.13 v.12 we are told to put on the armour of _____.
19. Christians are not of darkness, but _____.
20. What does chambering mean?
21. What is wantonness?
22. What was going on just before the flood in Noah's time?
23. What was going on in Lot's day?
24. What are we told to do in Romans ch.13 v.14?
25. If we live after the flesh, how will we die?
26. Our soul is either controlled by the _____ or the _____.
27. Quote Galatians ch.2 v.20.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 14:1 "Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, [but] not to doubtful disputations."

We can easily see from this, that just because someone is not a trained Bible scholar is no reason not to fellowship with them. We are warned not to get into arguments with them that might lead to their not believing. The new convert to Christianity should be fed milk and honey for a while, until they are able to understand the deeper things in the Word. I Corinthians 3:1 "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, [even] as unto babes in Christ." I Corinthians 3:2 "I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able [to bear it], neither yet now are ye able." You can clearly see from this that, a person who has just been saved is not quite ready for the things of the Spirit. A babe in Christ needs a little time to get the flesh under subjection of the spirit. We Christians of long standing sometimes forget how hard it was at first to get the flesh to obey the spirit.

Romans 14:2 "For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs."

I Timothy 4:4 "For every creature of God [is] good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:" We know that anything we have prayed over is clean and may be eaten without fear of condemnation from God. The secret is the prayer, the prayer made it clean for us. I Timothy 4:5 "For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer." The person who is eating herbs is doing it from lack of knowledge. We, who know that it is alright to eat meat, should not make fun of a fellow Christian who feels it is wrong. We could however show him the following Scripture. I Timothy 4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" I Timothy 4:2 "Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; " I Timothy 4:3 "Forbidding to marry, [and commanding] to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth."

Romans 14:3 "Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him." Romans 14:4 "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand."

This tells me that to the fulness of the knowledge that we possess at the time, we should do our best to be pleasing to God. I Corinthians 10:29 "Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other: for why is my liberty judged of another [man's] conscience?" Here, we see the answer to it all. Whatever we do, we must do it with a clear conscience. Again I say, God will not hold you responsible for the things you do not know, if you have made an effort to do what you believe to be pleasing to Him. Why don't we just let God handle His business? We are not anyone's judge, God is. What God does with someone else is not our business.

Romans 14:5 "One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day [alike]. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind."

Colossians 2:16 "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath [days]:" These are both interesting Scriptures, in face of the fact that, the Jews celebrate Saturday as their Sabbath, and the Christians celebrate Sunday as the Lord's day or first fruits. We are told to be fully persuaded that what we are doing is pleasing to God. We are to celebrate with a clear conscience. Whatever day you esteem, do it as unto the Lord.

Romans 14:6 "He that regardeth the day, regardeth [it] unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard [it]. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks."

God is not so interested in the technicality of what day we celebrate as He is in the fact that we have chosen an individual day and set it aside to worship in. God wants our heart to be in worshipping Him. We know that Jesus said, that the sabbath was made for man and not man for the sabbath. Mark 2:27 "And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:" You see from this it is not the day that is important, but the fact that we choose to worship God one day a week.

Romans 14:7 "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself."

I Corinthians 6:19 "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" I Corinthians 6:20 "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." We can do nothing of ourselves. The Spirit is our teacher and guide. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Romans 14:8 "For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."

I Corinthians 6:20 "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." Jesus bought us on the cross with His own precious blood. We are not our own, we belong to Jesus. Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." You see, if I am a Christian, then Christ lives through me and in me.

Romans 14:9 "For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living."

John 11:25 "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:" We see from this Scripture that, Jesus not only rose from the dead, but because He rose, we have the promise that we will rise also if we believe in Him. Jesus is actually Lord over everything. Philipians 2:10 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth;" You see, there is no limit to His power and rule.

Romans 14:10 "But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ."

Ecclesiastes 12:14 "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether [it be] good, or whether [it be] evil." Jesus is the Judge of all the earth. We will stand or fall by whether we are accepted by Him as His sheep, or whether we are among the goats. Jesus sends the sheep to eternal life in heaven with Him. He sends the goats to eternal damnation. Matthew 25:32 "And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth [his] sheep from the goats:" Matthew 25:33 "And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left." Matthew 25:34 "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:" Matthew 25:41 "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:"

Notes

Romans 31 Questions

1. We are to receive the weak in faith, but not unto what?
2. In 1 Corinthians chapter 3, why could he not speak to them about spiritual matters?
3. In Romans ch.14 v.2 the weak eats only what?
4. What makes all food clean for us to eat?
5. What kind of doctrine does 1 Timothy chapter 4 say it is to practice not eating meat?
6. What caution is given us in verse 3 of the 14th chapter of Romans?
7. Who is able to make us stand or fall?
8. 1 Corinthians ch.10 v.29 uses what one word that tells us what we must be guided by?
9. What are we to be fully persuaded of in Romans ch14 v.5?
10. What day is Sabbath for the Jews?
11. What is Sunday for the Christian?
12. The Sabbath was made for ____.
13. Our body is the temple of what?
14. I can do all things through _____ who strengthens me.
15. Whether we live or die, we are the _____.
16. Quote Galatians ch.2 v.20.
17. Christ is Lord of both the _____ and the _____.
18. Jesus called Himself 2 things in John ch.11 v.25, what were they?
19. In Philippians ch.2 v.10, Jesus is Lord of what?
20. Who shall stand before the judgement seat of Christ?
21. What 2 animals represent those who are bound for heaven and those bound for hell?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 14:11 "For it is written, [As] I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

Philippians 2:10 "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of [things] in heaven, and [things] in earth, and [things] under the earth;" Isaiah 45:23 "I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth [in] righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." We can see, again, in these three Scriptures above that, God never changes. He is the same in Isaiah that He is in Romans. We read in Revelation 1:7 "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they [also] which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen." We must not wait to declare Him our Saviour, until we can see Him with our physical eyes. We must accept Him by faith, not fact, to be saved.

Romans 14:12 "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Jesus will judge us one at a time. Whether your mother or dad was saved will not matter. You will stand or fall by the decision you made about what you would do about Jesus. II Timothy 4:1 "I charge [thee] therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;" All believers in Christ will stand before His Throne in heaven. Revelation 7:9 "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;" These in white robes are the Christians who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Romans 14:13 "Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in [his] brother's way."

It does no good at all for us to try to judge another, because we are not the Judge, Jesus is. We are told to judge not, lest ye be judged and, also, with whatever judgement we judge another we will be judged. We find a very good Scripture covering this in James 4:11 "Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of [his] brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge."

Romans 14:14 "I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that [there is] nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him [it is] unclean."

We see here another illustration of the sin taking place in the heart and conscience. If we believe something to be sin and go ahead and do it anyway, then regardless of what it is, it is sin to us. Titus 1:15 "Unto the pure all things [are] pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving [is] nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled." Again, this is a very good example that the sin takes place when we do something feeling in our heart that it is displeasing to God. God judges the thoughts

and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God [is] quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and [is] a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Romans 14:15 "But if thy brother be grieved with [thy] meat, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died."

I Corinthians 8:11 "And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?" I Corinthians 8:12 "But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ." Paul tells just how important it is not to lead our weak brothers and sisters astray. I Corinthians 8:13 "Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend." This is some very good advice from Paul. We must not let our liberty in the Lord cause us to encourage someone else to go against their conscience.

Romans 14:16 "Let not then your good be evil spoken of:"

II Corinthians 8:21 "Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men." The best sermon any of us can preach is letting the unbelieving world see in our lives the way a Christian ought to live. I Thessalonians 5:22 "Abstain from all appearance of evil." Christians are to be different from the world. The Bible calls us a peculiar people. If we are just like the world, then the people we are trying to witness to will have no desire to follow us.

Romans 14:17 "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

I Corinthians 8:8 "But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse." Galatians 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith," What all three of these Scriptures are saying is that the abundance of the things God has entrusted to us do not make us right with Him. The blessings that really count are the gifts of the Spirit that He entrusts us with.

Romans 14:18 "For he that in these things serveth Christ [is] acceptable to God, and approved of men."

James 2:18 "Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works." James 2:19 "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." James 2:20 "But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" God expects us to use the gifts of the Spirit that He gives us. The power of the Holy Spirit is given for a reason. The reason is to make us more effective workers for God. It explains it perfectly in Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Romans 14:19 "Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another."

Edify means confirming or building. In other words, instead of tearing someone down, build them up.

Romans 14:20 "For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed [are] pure; but [it is] evil for that man who eateth with offence."

We touched on this earlier, but will just say again, here, that if the man thinks it is sin to eat whatever this is, then it is sin for him. He would be sinning against his conscience.

Romans 14:21 "[It is] good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor [any thing] whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak."

We see here, again, that whatever it takes to set a good example before our weaker brothers and sisters in Christ is what we should do. If they think it is sin to eat something, then in their presence we should not eat it either; just because they would feel we were sinning.

Romans 14:22 "Hast thou faith? have [it] to thyself before God. Happy [is] he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth."

As we said before, we must not even give the appearance of evil. When we are alone, we can eat anything that we do not feel guilty about eating.

Romans 14:23 "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because [he eateth] not of faith: for whatsoever [is] not of faith is sin."

This has to do with more than just food. Everything we do must be done through faith. Without faith, it is impossible to please God. Abraham's faith was counted unto him as righteousness. This is true for us, as well. Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Romans 32 Questions

1. Who will bow to Jesus?
2. In Isaiah, who has God sworn by?
3. When Jesus returns to the earth, who will see Him?
4. Is it safe to wait for the second coming of Christ to be saved?
5. Who do each of us give an account to?
6. Will it help your condition with God, if your parents are saved?
7. Jesus shall judge the _____ and the _____ at His appearing.
8. Who are these dressed in white robes standing around the throne?
9. What has made their robes white?
10. In Romans ch.14 v.13, we are cautioned against doing what to our brother?
11. Who is the Judge of all the world?
12. When we speak evil of our brother, we are actually speaking evil of what?
13. What really is unclean to us?
14. Where does a person's sin really take place?
15. What does Titus ch.1 v.15 mean?
16. Describe the Word of God from Hebrews ch.4 v.12.
17. Why is our brother offended in verse 13 of 1 Corinthians chapter 8?
18. We are to stay honest not only in God's sight, but in whose sight?
19. What is another short way of saying the same thing as verse 18?
20. What one word describes the way others view Christians?
21. The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but what?
22. The fruit of the Spirit is what?
23. What does James ch.2 v.18 say about faith?
24. Faith without works is _____.
25. Romans ch.14 v.19 says follow after what?
26. What does edify mean?
27. Romans ch.14 v.22 says have faith where?
28. Whatsoever is not of faith is _____.
29. Without what it is impossible to please God?
30. He that cometh to God must believe that _____.

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 15:1 "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

We know that to whom much knowledge of the Word is given, much is required. I Thessalonians 5:14 "Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all [men]." Another Scripture we need to look at is Luke 12:48 "But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few [stripes]. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more." You see, God holds us responsible for what we know. The shepherds that God has placed over the flock, God requires to bring His message to the sheep.

Romans 15:2 "Let every one of us please [his] neighbor for [his] good to edification."

We see a statement by Paul about how He tried to win people to Christ by meeting them on their ground. I Corinthians 9:19 "For though I be free from all [men], yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more." I Corinthians 9:20 "And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;" I Corinthians 9:21 "To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law." I Corinthians 9:22 "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all [men], that I might by all means save some."

Romans 15:3 "For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me."

When Jesus was facing death of His body on the cross, He asked for the cup to pass from Him. His very next statement was not my will but thine Father. Jesus submitted His will to the Father. Psalms 40:8 "I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law [is] within my heart." This really is the desire of true Christians; to do the will of God. John 8:29 "And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him."

Romans 15:4 "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

Galatians 3:24 "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster [to bring us] unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith." Galatians 3:25 "But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster." We know that faith comes by hearing and the hearing must be the word of God. Our hope comes from knowing the word of God. We have said before that, the power is in the spoken and written Word of God.

Romans 15:5 "Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus:"

It is very important that we Christians be in one accord. We are all part of the family of God and will live in heaven together. We need to learn to live peaceably here with each other. Romans 12:18 "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men." Consolation in the Scripture above means comfort. In the upper room on the day of Pentecost, they were in one accord. This pleased God and the Holy Ghost fell with power from on high. The unity that God wants us to have is unity of the Spirit.

Romans 15:6 "That ye may with one mind [and] one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Ephesians 1:3 "Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly [places] in Christ:" We must all be together on the fact that Jesus Christ our Saviour and Lord is also the Resurrection and our Life. Our praises to the Father should go up continually for giving His only begotten Son that we might be saved. 1 Peter 1:3 "Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"

Romans 15:7 "Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God."

We really cannot do anything directly for God. In the 25th chapter of Matthew, we read that if we have done it to the least of these our brethren, we have done it to God. Read all of Matthew chapter 25 for the whole message. We are taught to love our neighbor as we love ourself.

Romans 15:8 "Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises [made] unto the fathers:"

Jesus came first to the physical house of Israel. The promises here mentioned are the ones made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. We know also, that all believers in Christ are heirs of the promises to Abraham. Galatians 3:29 "And if ye [be] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Jesus says He was sent to the house of Israel in Matthew 15:24 "But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

Romans 15:9 "And that the Gentiles might glorify God for [his] mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name."

There were two promises of this very thing in the Old Testament. II Samuel 22:50 "Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will sing praises unto thy name." Psalms 18:49 "Therefore will I give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and sing praises unto thy name." Galatians 3:14 "That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." Acts 15:7 "And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men [and] brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe." We Gentile believers have much to glorify God for.

Romans 15:10 "And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people."

Isaiah 24:15 "Wherefore glorify ye the LORD in the fires, [even] the name of the LORD God of Israel in the isles of the sea." As I have said so many times in these lessons, I believe there is a physical house of Israel and a spiritual house of Israel. We Gentiles have been grafted into the tree of life. We are now Israel just like the natural Jew, by adoption into the family of God.

Romans 15:11 "And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people."

Psalms 117:1 "O Praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people." We know that this could not be just the Jews, because nations is plural. The physical house of Israel is just one nation. God inhabits the praises of His people. We should praise Him, because He has brought us life. I Corinthians 15:45 "And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam [was made] a quickening spirit." Jesus Christ [the second Adam] brought us life when He quickened our spirit.

Romans 15:12 "And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust."

Isaiah 11:1 "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:" This promise of the Branch is promising that Jesus will come to save all of us. Jeremiah 16:19 "O LORD, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and [things] wherein [there is] no profit." The plan of God from the beginning of the earth was to make the way open for salvation to whosoever will.

Romans 15:13 "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

The great hope is of the resurrection. God is our only hope. What a wonderful request here from Paul to all of us. II Thessalonians 2:16 "Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given [us] everlasting consolation and good hope through grace," II Thessalonians 2:17 "Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work." John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." God expects us to believe and He will do the rest.

Notes

Romans 33 Questions

1. Who should bear the infirmities of the weak?
2. Who does God require much of?
3. Who are we to warn?
4. He that knew not and committed sin will receive what punishment?
5. Romans ch.15 v.2 says, to please whom?
6. What did Paul do so that he might win some to Christ?
7. When Jesus was facing the cross, whose will did He submit His will to?
8. We through patience and comfort of what might have hope?
9. The law was our _____ to bring us to Christ.
10. We are justified by what?
11. How does faith come?
12. We Christians are all part of what family?
13. How are we to live with all men that we read in Romans ch.12 v.18?
14. What is the unity that God wants us to have?
15. What is Jesus, besides our Saviour and Lord?
16. How do we do things for God?
17. Jesus Christ was a minister of the _____.
18. What 3 patriarchs were these promises made to?
19. Who are heirs of the promise through Abraham?
20. The blessings of Abraham came to the Gentiles through whom?
21. What is the great hope?
22. Who is the Branch spoken of in Isaiah ch.11 v.1?
23. Romans ch.15 v.13 says, we abound in hope through what power?
24. What are we told not to let our heart do in John ch.14 v.1?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 15:14 "And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another."

The root word used for admonish here means to caution or put in mind. Colossians 1:9 "For this cause we also, since the day we heard [it], do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;" Colossians 1:10 "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" All Christians should pray for each other and share the knowledge that God has revealed to each of them.

Romans 15:15 "Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God,"

I Corinthians 15:10 "But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which [was bestowed] upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." Paul is saying, here, that his call to the Gentiles was by the grace of God, not because of any special thing he did. Paul was really not called to the physical house of Israel, but to the heathen. Galatians 2:9 "And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we [should go] unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision." We are to assume from this that Paul and Barnabas were called to bring the gospel message to the heathen and Peter, James, and John were to minister to the natural house of Israel.

Romans 15:16 "That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost."

We know at first the Jews would not believe that God had sent the message to the Gentile. Acts 10:45 "And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 10:47 "Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?" After the Holy Ghost came upon the Gentile, as well as those of the circumcision, then they could not deny that God had accepted them, as well. The word sanctified means set aside for God's purpose. We can see the call of Paul in the 26th chapter of Acts. He was specifically called to the Gentiles, as you can plainly see in the next few verses. We will pick up right after Jesus has encountered Paul on the road to Damascus. Acts 26:15 "And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest." Acts 26:16 "But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;" Acts 26:17 "Delivering thee from the people, and [from] the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee," Acts 26:18 "To open their eyes, [and] to turn [them] from darkness to light, and [from] the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and

inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." We can see without a doubt that Paul was called to the Gentiles.

Romans 15:17 "I have therefore whereof I may glory through Jesus Christ in those things which pertain to God."

Paul is saying in this Scripture that his glory is in Jesus. In the 11th chapter of 1 Corinthians, Paul goes to great extremes to show the suffering he has gone through for Christ. He is quick to say that the only glory he has, or we have, is in Christ.

Romans 15:18 "For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,"

I Corinthians 3:6 "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." I Corinthians 3:7 "So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase." I Corinthians 3:8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour." I Corinthians 3:9 "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, [ye are] God's building." Paul is saying above and these verses here, also, that all who labor for God are doing it in the power and might that God has provided us with. We may preach and minister to someone for years and never see that person come to Christ. Someone else whom God has sent may put the final piece of the message together for that person and they may accept Christ. It is not always the one who plants the seed that brings in the crop. The rewards will all be given out in heaven anyway.

Romans 15:19 "Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ."

When Jesus sent the disciples out two by two, He said these signs shall follow them. Mark 16:17 "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;" Mark 16:18 "They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." We know that these miracles are not done in the flesh, but are gifts of the Spirit of God. I Corinthians 12:8 "For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;" I Corinthians 12:9 "To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;" I Corinthians 12:10 "To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:" I Corinthians 12:11 "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." Paul explains that his ministry was accompanied with these very signs and wonders. He quickly explains that they are not by his great ability, but through the power of the Spirit of God. Notice, in Paul's ministry that it was not just one of these gifts that manifested itself, but many. The Scripture above says that, believers can receive several gifts. We must pray and ask God to give us the gifts that will help in our ministering.

Romans 15:20 "Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:"

Paul is saying in this that he went out as a missionary to areas where Christ had not yet been preached. He planted the first seed of Christianity in many of these places. He is saying that he is not building upon the work that Jesus has already started, but went about starting new churches where there were no churches. I Corinthians 3:9 "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, [ye are] God's building." I Corinthians 3:10 "According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon." I Corinthians 3:11 "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Romans 15:21 "But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand."

Again, here, Paul is saying that the people he went to had had no other disciples bringing them the salvation message. These you might say had been heathen people. Paul tried his best to bring this message to his Jewish brothers, but they as a whole rejected his message. Of course, there were exceptions to that, but as a whole they did not receive him. The Gentiles were the ones who really received Paul and his message of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Many churches like the church at Philippi owe their beginning to Paul's teaching.

Notes

Romans 34 Questions

1. In Romans ch.15 v.14, Paul said they were filled with what?
2. What does admonish mean?
3. In Colossians ch.1 v.9, Paul says he has what desire for them?
4. How were they to be pleasing unto God?
5. When we receive some morsel of truth from God, what are we to do with it?
6. Paul says [I am what I am] by what?
7. Paul's call to the Gentiles was by what?
8. Who was Paul called to minister to?
9. What 3 men did Paul say seemed to be pillars?
10. Who was called to the circumcision?
11. How were the Gentiles to be sanctified?
12. What were those of the circumcision so surprised at that happened to the Gentiles?
13. What does sanctified mean?
14. In what chapter of Acts do we see the call of Paul to the ministry?
15. The message of Paul to the Gentiles was to _____ their eyes.
16. In Romans ch.15 v.17, how did Paul glory?
17. What chapter of 1 Corinthians tells of the hardships that Paul went through?
18. Paul says he planted, Apollos watered, and who gave the increase?
19. How do all the laborers of God do the work that God has called them to do?
20. Where will the rewards be given out?
21. Through mighty _____ and _____, by the power of the Spirit of God, Paul preached.
22. What signs followed those who Jesus sent out to minister?
23. What are some of the gifts we receive through the Spirit of God?
24. Is it possible to receive more than one gift of the Spirit?
25. Where did Paul preach?
26. What does Paul call himself in 1 Corinthians ch.3 v.10?
27. What is the only foundation acceptable to build upon?
28. Who were the people who received Paul's message that he started churches for?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 15:22 "For which cause also I have been much hindered from coming to you."

In the last lesson we saw where Paul was sent to the Gentiles. He went on 3 missionary journeys and established churches in the name of Jesus Christ. These areas were not areas where Jesus had ministered while He was on the earth. We know that Paul faced all sorts of dangers to make these journeys. On the way to the Romans, he was even shipwrecked. The Scripture above that says he was hindered is really an understatement. The hindrances were very great, but Paul's determination was greater. I Thessalonians 2:18 "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us." Every person trying to bring the message of God can say with Paul that Satan hindered them.

Romans 15:23 "But now having no more place in these parts, and having a great desire these many years to come unto you;" Romans 15:24 "Whensoever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you: for I trust to see you in my journey, and to be brought on my way thitherward by you, if first I be somewhat filled with your [company]."

We will see that Paul planned to go to Rome actually years before it became a reality. Paul's dad was a Roman, and it was Paul's desire to bring the gospel to them. I Corinthians 16:5 "Now I will come unto you, when I shall pass through Macedonia: for I do pass through Macedonia." I Corinthians 16:6 "And it may be that I will abide, yea, and winter with you, that ye may bring me on my journey whithersoever I go." I Corinthians 16:7 "For I will not see you now by the way; but I trust to tarry a while with you, if the Lord permit." This last verse says it all. Paul just like us must say [if the Lord permit].

Romans 15:25 "But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints."

Paul wanted to go to Jerusalem one more time on his way to Rome. He will make one more futile effort to reach his brothers {Jews}. Paul will endanger his life in this effort. He will really be under arrest the rest of his life. When he finally arrives in Rome, much of his ministry will be from his home where he is under house arrest.

Romans 15:26 "For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem."

Galatians 6:9 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:10 "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all [men], especially unto them who are of the household of faith." We see here that Paul has taught them well. They are concerned and want to help when there is someone in need. It seems that the persecution of the believers was worse in Jerusalem than anywhere else.

Romans 15:27 "It hath pleased them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things."

We see, here, that they really do appreciate all of the hardships that these saints at Jerusalem have gone through to send them the word of God. We know that many of these saints gave up everything they had to follow Jesus. It is only fair that they should live of the gifts given to the ministry. I Corinthians 9:11 "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, [is it] a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?" You can see that they brought the salvation message unselfishly to these people at cost of their livelihoods. The spiritual gift is far greater than the carnal. They are happy to send gifts in appreciation to them.

Romans 15:28 "When therefore I have performed this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I will come by you into Spain."

Paul is really explaining to the Romans why he is going by Jerusalem before he comes to Rome. We all know that this is just one of the reasons, Paul really wants to try to win his Jewish brothers to Christianity.

Romans 15:29 "And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ."

Paul is saying that God will be with him as he brings the gospel message to Rome. God wants Paul to take the message to Rome. Ephesians 1:3 "Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly [places] in Christ:" This fulness of the Godhead includes Father, Word, and Holy Ghost. It is as if Paul is saying they are all in the gospel message, and they truly are.

Romans 15:30 "Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in [your] prayers to God for me;"

We see a simple request from Paul here. He just says pray for me. It is such a shame that he would even have to ask. Your pastor needs your prayers. In our society today, it seems the pastor is ridiculed from all sides and few think to pray for him. Paul explains here that their prayers for him should not be just because they love him, but for the sake of all Christianity. If the enemy can stop the pastor of a church, he can usually destroy that church. In the next Scripture here you can see why you need to pray for the preacher. II Corinthians 4:5 "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake."

Romans 15:31 "That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which [I have] for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints;"

It seems that Paul knew there would be opposition in Jerusalem. Paul knew that there were those who desired to see him destroyed, but he went anyway. This really is the desire of every preacher, then and now. Lord, deliver me from those who will not accept my message that you have sent me with, and Lord help those chosen ones you have sent me to believe. II Thessalonians 3:2 "And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all [men] have not faith."

Romans 15:32 "That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed."

Paul was seeking a place where his message from God could be received in peace. Paul, like many ministers in our day is having a hard time finding that place of refreshing. The true desire of every minister who has ever brought the word of God in truth is that their people they ministered to would remain strong in the faith. I Thessalonians 3:7 "Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith:" I Thessalonians 3:8 "For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord."

Romans 15:33 "Now the God of peace [be] with you all. Amen."

Who is this God of peace? His name is Jesus Christ our Lord. He is the King of Peace. If He be with you, you have eternal life within you. This Scripture in Matthew in Jesus' own Words promises all believers His presence. Matthew 28:20 "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen."

Notes

Romans 35 Questions

1. Who did God send Paul to minister to?
2. How many missionary journeys did Paul make?
3. What hazard did Paul face on his way to Rome?
4. In 1 Thessalonians ch.2 v.18, who hindered Paul's coming to minister?
5. Why did Paul desire to go to Rome to minister?
6. What wise statement did Paul make that we all must make also, in {1 Corinthians ch. 16 v.7}?
7. In Romans ch.15 v.25 Paul says, he is going to Jerusalem to minister to whom?
8. Who had the people of Macedonia sent a contribution to?
9. Much of Paul's ministry in Rome was done from where?
10. Let us not be weary in _____.
11. Let us do good to all men as we have _____.
12. In what city was the persecution of the believers the worst?
13. If they have received spiritual blessings, they should give of their _____ things.
14. When Paul comes to them, he will come in the _____ of the blessings of the gospel.
15. The fulness of the Godhead includes whom?
16. In Romans ch.15 v.30, Paul says for them to pray for him for whose sake?
17. Why should everyone pray for their preacher?
18. Who did Paul ask to be delivered from?
19. In 2 Thessalonians ch.3 v.2 deliver us from what 2 kinds of men?
20. Paul was seeking peace, where would he find it?
21. Who is the King of Peace?
22. If The King of Peace be with you, what do you possess?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 16:1 "I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:" Romans 16:2 "That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also."

Succourer means a patron. In many of Paul's writings, such as this, we see that many women ministered with him. Paul calls her his sister, she is not his sister in the flesh, but in the ministry. Notice, also, that Paul says to help her in her business. In the first verse, he had told us that her business was as servant in the church. We see from this that, Paul is saying to help her in her ministry. She had been a great help to Paul, as well as others. Notice in this next Scripture in Jesus' own words what He feels toward these workers. Matthew 10:40 " He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me." You see, when you receive a servant of God {male or female} you are, in fact, receiving the God that sent them.

Romans 16:3 "Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:"

We know that these two had befriended Paul before. In fact, Paul lived with them and worked as a tentmaker while he ministered. Notice in the following Scripture that, they had a church in their home. I Corinthians 16:19 "The churches of Asia salute you. Aquila and Priscilla salute you much in the Lord, with the church that is in their house." The next Scripture will show that they brought the word in all truth to those who would hear. Acts 18:26 "And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto [them], and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly." These two were fellow workers with Paul on several occasions.

Romans 16:4 'Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles."

Here, we see Paul giving a glowing report on the sincerity of these two who had helped him. Paul says that, they even put themselves in danger to save him. John 15:13 "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Romans 16:5 "Likewise [greet] the church that is in their house. Salute my well beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia unto Christ."

Here, again, we see a mention of the church which was in their home. It seems that Epaenetus was the first one saved under Paul's ministry in Achaia. It would be a natural thing for Paul to inquire of his convert. Acts 18:27 "And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:" We see for certain that Paul ministered in Achaia from this Scripture. I Corinthians 16:15 "I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and [that] they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)" This Scripture shows the good fruits of the church that Paul started in Achaia.

Romans 16:6 "Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us."

It is difficult to know for sure which Mary this is, since there were so many with this name who were followers of Jesus. This just shows, again, here, that many women helped with Paul's ministry.

Romans 16:7 "Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellowprisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me."

Very little is written in the Bible about Adronicus. A history book states that he became bishop of Pannonia. His name means man-conquering. He and Junia seemed to be blood relations of Paul. It also appears that they were probably converts of Jesus because they were believers before Paul. Since they were counted as apostles they were probably part of the 70 that Jesus sent out by twos. All of this is just guessing, since we don't have much in the Bible to clarify this.

Romans 16:8 "Greet Amplias my beloved in the Lord."

We know no more of this person who was a Christian at Rome, except that Paul particularly loved him or her.

Romans 16:9 "Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and Stachys my beloved."

Urbane means polite or of the city. Stachys is said by historians (not the Bible) to have been bishop of Byzantium. Tradition, also, has him to be one of the 70 disciples.

Romans 16:10 "Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them which are of Aristobulus' [household]."

Just the fact that Apelles was approved of Christ tells us that he was probably one of the 70 sent out to minister by Jesus. Some historians believe he was the bishop at Smyrna. Aristobulus is another that is only mentioned here in the Bible, but seems to have been in the early converts to Christianity. Since his household is mentioned, probably his whole house received the Lord as Saviour. His name means counselor. Historians say that he was a brother to Barnabus.

Romans 16:11 "Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that be of the [household] of Narcissus, which are in the Lord."

Herodian here is a blood relative of Paul and very little other than this is known of him and even less is known of Narcissus.

Romans 16:12 "Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labour in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord."

Tryphena and Tryphosa are not mentioned anywhere else. All we know is that they worked for the Lord. The only thing we know about Persis is that this was a woman who was a labourer for the Lord.

Romans 16:13 "Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine."

From this Scripture, it seems that Rufus was Paul's brother, because he says his mother and mine. There is no historic record of this, however.

Romans 16:14 "Salute Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren which are with them."

The only thing we know about Asyncritus is that the name means incomparable. Phlegon means burning. Historians say he was one of the original 70 disciples of Christ. Hermas is celebrated as a saint on May 9th by the Romans. Hermas means mercury. Patrobas means life of his father. Little else is known of any of these Christians that Paul sent greetings to.

Romans 16:15 "Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints which are with them."

Philologus means fond of talk. There were many Julias at this time, and no one knows for sure which one she is. Nothing more is known of Nereus or Olympas.

Romans 16:16 "Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you."

We notice, here, that this kiss was to be a holy kiss. This was not a passionate kiss, but a friendly kiss. Paul is explaining how the church must be together in Christ. We will list 4 of the Scriptures that speak of this greeting with a holy kiss. I Corinthians 16:20 "All the brethren greet you. Greet ye one another with an holy kiss." II Corinthians 13:12 "Greet one another with an holy kiss." I Thessalonians 5:26 "Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss." I Peter 5:14 "Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace [be] with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen." If we were to do this today in our churches, people would accuse us of being forward. If we are truly brothers and sisters in Christ, we should love each other.

Notes

Romans 36 Questions

1. Phebe was a servant at the church where?
2. What business that Paul mentioned, was she probably involved in?
3. Succourer means what?
4. When a minister of God, male or female, is received who are they really receiving?
5. How did Paul know Priscilla and Aquilla?
6. How do we know that they were strong in the Lord?
7. Just how far had Priscilla and Aquilla gone to protect Paul?
8. Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his _____ for his friends.
9. Who was the firstfruits of Achaia?
10. What good addiction is mentioned in 1 Corinthians ch.16 v.15?
11. What does Adronicus mean?
12. What does Urbane mean?
13. What statement shows us that Apelles was one of the original 70 disciples?
14. Who is a blood relative of Paul in verse 11?
15. What makes it appear that Rufus was Paul's brother?
16. What does Phlegon mean?
17. Who is celebrated as a saint by the Romans on May 9th?
18. What does Hermas mean?
19. What does Patrobas mean?
20. How does Paul tell them to greet the Christians?

Notes

We will begin this lesson in Romans 16:17 "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them."

Galatians 1:7 "Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." Galatians 1:8 "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." Galatians 1:9 "As we said before, so say I now again, If any [man] preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." We can see from this Scripture that, Paul says not to fellowship with those who would cause divisions in the church. We are not to accept any other doctrine than that which has been established in our church.

Romans 16:18 "For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

This is primarily speaking of those who carry tales from one to the other causing strife in the church. The tongue of one person can destroy the church. Notice, that the words this person uses sound good. This person is a deceiver. Too much talk is not good. Proverbs 14:15 "The simple believeth every word: but the prudent [man] looketh well to his going." We see in this that some simple people believe whatever is said to them. The simple fall for anything. Be wise, don't listen to gossip. Matthew 7:15 "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Romans 16:19 "For your obedience is come abroad unto all [men]. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil."

I Kings 3:9 "Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?" It takes great understanding to be able to run a church. I Corinthians 14:20 "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men." This is the way to keep from being deceived by a talebearer. Ephesians 1:15 "Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints," Ephesians 1:16 "Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;" Ephesians 1:17 "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:" Do not listen to talebearers, but check out all things with the word of God.

Romans 16:20 "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [be] with you. Amen."

This prayer of Paul's is the same one we preachers should pray for our people. Satan is out to destroy the church. We have no power over Satan, but the name of Jesus has power over him, and we have been authorized to use Jesus' name. Since the third chapter of Genesis, we have been enemies of Satan. Genesis 3:15 'And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and

between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Hebrews 2:14 "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;" Hebrews 2:15 "And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." JESUS DEFEATED SATAN ON THE CROSS. He gave us permission to use His name to fight Satan.

Romans 16:21 "Timotheus my workfellow, and Lucius, and Jason, and Sosipater, my kinsmen, salute you."

Timothy, who is intended, is so close to Paul that Paul calls him his son. He is not his son in the flesh, but in the spirit. Acts 13:1 "Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simian that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul." We see here the connection between Paul {Saul} and Lucius. Jason means healing. He was from Thessalonica and had helped Paul and Silas there. Sosipater means saver of his father.

Romans 16:22 "I Tertius, who wrote [this] epistle, salute you in the Lord."

This does not mean that he was the author of this letter. It possibly means that he acted as secretary to Paul here.

Romans 16:23 "Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother."

Gaius was a Macedonian who went with Paul on some of his ministering journeys. He was arrested in Ephesus. This Erastus was from Corinth and was probably the city treasurer [chamberlain]. His name means beloved. Erastus went to Ephesus with Paul and was sent by Paul with Timothy to Macedonia. His usual place to live was Corinth and was there when Paul wrote this. Quartus means a fourth.

Romans 16:24 "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [be] with you all. Amen."

This is a benediction used by many churches even today. This is about the best blessing that could be spoken on you.

Romans 16:25 "Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,"

Colossians 1:26 "[Even] the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:" Colossians 1:27 "To whom God would make known what [is] the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:" In the Old Testament the veil was covering the things of God. Jesus opened the way for us to the Father when He died on the cross. It is as if He removed the scales from our eyes and the Holy Spirit of God has revealed to us the salvation story. We could hear it all day long, but until the Holy Spirit reveals the meaning we are without understanding. Praise God Jesus sent the comforter who is our teacher and guide, as well.

Romans 16:26 "But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:"

Manifest means to render apparent. Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Luke 24:44 "And he said unto them, These [are] the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and [in] the prophets, and [in] the psalms, concerning me." Luke 24:45 "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures," Luke 24:46 "And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:" Luke 24:47 "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Jesus spoke in parables when He taught so that the world would not understand. We see in the Scriptures above that He had to open our understanding for us to understand.

Romans 16:27 "To God only wise, [be] glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen."

Psalms 147:5 "Great [is] our Lord, and of great power: his understanding [is] infinite." This just about says it all. God is Wisdom. He is Power. He is Infinite.

Notes

Romans 37 Questions

1. Paul said mark them who do what 2 things and avoid them?
2. Galatians ch.1 v.8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let them be _____.
3. Romans ch.16 v.18, says that people who do this do not serve Jesus, but their own _____.
4. By what 2 things are the simple deceived?
5. The simple believeth every word, but the _____ looketh well to his going.
6. What are we warned to beware of in Matthew ch.7 v.15?
7. I would have you wise unto that which is _____.
8. Give thy servant an understanding heart to _____ the _____.
9. In 1 Corinthians ch.14 v.20 we are told not to be children in what?
10. Do not listen to talebearers, but check all things by what?
11. Who shall bruise Satan for us?
12. We have no power over Satan ourselves, but what can we use to help us fight him?
13. What is the first place in the Bible that tells us that Satan is our enemy?
14. Who defeated Satan?
15. Who is this Timotheus in Romans ch.16 v.21?
16. What does Jason mean?
17. What does Sosipater mean?
18. What is probably intended by the statement of Tertius?
19. What area was Gaius from?
20. What office did Erastus hold in his city?
21. Quartus means what?
22. Quote Romans ch.16 v.24.
23. What is the mystery among the Gentiles in Colossians ch.1 v.27?
24. Who has God given the believers who is our teacher and guide?
25. What does manifest mean?
26. How does faith come?
27. Why did Jesus teach in parables?
28. Great is our Lord and of great power; his understanding is _____.

Notes

*Thank you for taking the time for me to share my
thoughts on Revelation.
May God richly bless you, as you continue to read His Word.*

Your friend in Jesus,

Louise

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