



**LESSON ONE:
INTRODUCTION**

ROMANS

The Revelation of the Righteousness of God

Why study the book of Romans? Some have said it's because 'if you get Romans, then God gets you'. But what do this mean?

Many Christians doubt their salvation – that they are really going to heaven. They wonder if they are good enough, or if they've done enough good things to get to heaven.

Others doubt they will go because of all the bad things they have done, "God would never take me." So, rather than enjoying the peace of the

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THE GREEK. (ROMANS 1:16)

the false idea that one can be saved, or must be saved, by the basis of their own righteousness. Salvation is a gift of God's grace to those who believe. Is Paul speaking to you?

gospel, these individuals suffer from anxiety of a falsely understood gospel. This is the first reason why you need to study the book of Romans – so you can come to know the true gospel of Christ, how God makes one righteous, so you can have confidence in your salvation.

The second reason springs from the first. People doubt that they are

good enough to go to heaven because too many are teaching a **works based** salvation (some without even knowing it) and too many are believing it. We should not be surprised of this, because Paul had to deal with the same issue in his day. This is why he wrote the letter to the Romans: *to refute the false idea that one can be saved, or must be saved, by the basis of their own righteousness.* Salvation is a gift of God's grace to those who believe. Is Paul speaking to you?

The next reason Paul writes this letter is because some people had erroneously concluded that it didn't matter if they sinned, for God's grace would forgive them. Paul corrects this idea and teaches us how a Christian should live in response to the wonderful grace of God. In short, you need to study this book to learn of God's way of making you righteous.

FAST FACTS

THE WRITER: the apostle Paul, identified in 1:1

THE RECIPIENTS: the church at Rome. Paul has never been there and we are not certain who started the church.

THE DATE: 57-58 A.D.; while Paul on his third journey (Acts 20:1-3).

THE PLACE OF WRITING: Corinth, as evident from the greetings of Gaius, (Romans 16:23; 1Cor. 1:14), and of Erastus, (Romans 16:23; 2 Tim. 4:20). Also, Phoebe, who apparently accompanied the epistle (Romans 16:1-2), was from the church at Cenchræa, a "suburb" of Corinth.

[from Copeland's Executable Outline]

THE THEME: The revelation of the righteousness of God; namely, God makes man righteous on the basis of faith in His work through Christ, and not by the works of men. This free gift of salvation demands that all offer themselves as 'living sacrifices' to God.

THE THEME VERSE:
Romans 1:16, 17

OUTLINE

A Brief Outline of the Book

1. **Introduction:** 1:1-19
2. **The Revelation of the Righteousness of God:** 1:18 – 8:39
 - a. **The Condemnation of all,** 1:18-3:20
 - b. **The Justification of all who believe,** 3:21 – 5:21
 - c. **The Sanctification of those now saved,** 6:1 – 8:39
3. **The Vindication of the Righteousness of God:** 9:1 – 11:36
 - a. **The Election by God,** 9:1 – 33
 - b. **The Rejection of God,** 10:1 – 21
 - c. **The Restoration by God,** 11:1 – 36
4. **The Application of the Righteousness of God:** 12:1 – 15:13
 - a. **The Transformed Life,** 12:1 – 13:14
 - b. **Accepting one another,** 14:1 – 15:13
5. **Concluding Remarks:** 15:14 – 16:27

Called 'Paul's masterpiece' and 'the most important book you will ever read', Romans is essential to understanding the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Key Words of Romans:

1. Righteousness
2. The Righteousness of God
3. The Law
4. Works of the Law
5. Justification
6. Grace
7. Faith
8. Sin