

Romans Outline

- I. Opening (1:1-17)
- II. Exposition of the Gospel (1:18-5:21)
 - A. The problem: sin (“the wrath of God is revealed”; 1:18-3:20)
 - 1. Suppression of truth in unrighteousness (1:18-2:5)
 - 2. God’s coming judgment (2:6-16)
 - 3. False and true Judaism (2:17-3:8)
 - 4. The universal sinfulness of humanity under the law (3:9-20)
 - B. The solution: Christ (“the righteousness of God has been manifested”; (3:21-5:21)
 - 1. The righteousness of God through faith (3:21-26)
 - 2. Justification by faith honors God and his law (3:27-31)
 - 3. Abraham’s justification by faith (4:1-25)
 - 4. Our peace with God through our justification by faith (5:1-11)
 - 5. The power of Christ’s work vs. the power of Adam’s failure (5:12-21)
- III. The Effects of Justification by Faith in our Lives (6:1-8:39)
 - A. In Christ we are dead to sin and alive to God (6:1-7:25)
 - B. The power of the Spirit of God in our lives (8:1-39)
- IV. The “Problem” of Israel (9:1-11:36)
 - A. Paul’s anguish over Israel’s unbelief (9:1-5)
 - B. Not all who are physically descended from Abraham are the true Israel (9:6-10:21)
 - 1. Within Abraham’s own family, the promise was only transmitted to some (9:6-13)
 - 2. God’s sovereign prerogative to act with or without mercy (9:14-23)
 - 3. God’s sovereign prerogative to choose Gentiles as the objects of his mercy and to allow the sinful in Israel to be objects of his wrath (9:24-10:21)

- C. Nevertheless, God has not rejected Israel (11:1-36)
 - 1. The reality of a remnant among the Jews (11:1-6)
 - 2. The hardening of reprobate in Israel (11:7-10)
 - 3. God's purpose in Israel's failure: Israel's salvation (11:11-32)
 - 4. Paul's doxology to God for his inscrutable wisdom in salvation history (11:33-36)
- V. Living in Light of the Gospel (12:1-15:13)
 - A. Paul's general appeal (12:1-2)
 - B. Live as members of the body of Christ (12:3-8)
 - C. Let love be genuine (12:9-21)
 - D. Submission to earthly authorities (13:1-7)
 - E. Love is the fulfillment of the law (13:8-10)
 - F. The time has come to put on Christ (13:11-14)
 - G. Judging one another in gray areas (14:1-12)
 - H. Prayer to God for hope, joy, and peace (15:13)
- VI. Paul and His Ministry (15:14-16:23)
 - A. Paul's responsibility before God to the Romans (15:14-16)
 - B. Paul's missionary activity (15:17-33)
 - C. A final blessing (15:33)
 - D. Special instructions (16:1-20)
 - E. Greetings from Paul's companions (16:21-23)
- VII. Doxology (16:25-27)