

Romans – Review chapters 1 - 11

Romans 1 - 11 - 09/06/2015

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP

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I am NOT ashamed of the **Gospel of Christ**

BECAUSE it is the Power of God unto Salvation to Everyone who BELIEVES . . .

for the Jew, first, and also for the Greek (the Gentile – the non-Jew)

For in it a Righteousness of God is Revealed from faith to faith;

as it is written, “the righteous person shall live by faith.” **Romans 1:16-17**

The Good Report, the Excellent Report, the Good Word, the Good Story, the Good News about Jesus Christ ...

It is supposed to be GOOD NEWS ... it should make us Joyful, Excited, Happy, Hopeful, etc... right?

Here's the Catch ... yes there's always a Catch ... but this is a Good Catch ...

We **must know the Bad News about our condition, first** - he doesn't lead with “**God Loves You**”

He leads with God's Righteousness and Our SINFULNESS ... the Bad News First

That is why Paul takes pains to explain to us in Romans 1:18 – end of chapter 4 . . .

1. **God is real, He is Creator, He is the Ruler, Judge of the Universe (it is His Universe) and God is Wrathful against all sin and ungodliness**
God has every right to judge sinners, since He is both Good and Just

Romans 1:18-23

¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **SUPPRESS THE TRUTH** in unrighteousness, ¹⁹because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man — and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

2. **No Matter who we are ... we are all sinners ...**

the horrible depraved sinful, outwardly rebellious, sinner ...

or

the “righteous”, “nice”, “good”, and moral Gentile ...

or

the “righteous” devout Jewish person...

Romans 2:1-6,12: Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. ²But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. ³And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? ⁵But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, ⁶who “will render to each one according to his deeds”

¹²For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law

This means that the LAW of God, whether written on Paper/Scrolls/In a book or whether written on the sinful human heart .. the LAW applies to all sinners, whether Jew or Gentile ...

God's Law, ultimately will judge us of our sinfulness. Remember, we have all been created in the Image and Likeness of God ... so that Image of God, no matter how marred by the Fall of Adam and Eve into sin and the effects of sin in this world... it still bears that image, which also has the Conscious and the remnants of the Law written on our hearts.

As humans, we all have a conscious and have some semblance of a sense of "justice" and know some sort of "right from wrong" ... this derives from us being Created in the Image and Likeness of God.

Romans 3:19-20;23

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the LAW says, it says to those who are UNDER THE LAW, that EVERY MOUTH MAY BE STOPPED (or "shut"), and ALL THE WORLD may become GUILTY before God. ²⁰Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, FOR BY THE LAW IS THE KNOWLEDGE OF SIN.

²³for ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

3. Justification – Christ's Righteous Imputed to Our Account ...

We are **MADE RIGHTEOUS** - as Righteous as Jesus Christ is Righteous before God
God's Righteous is STAMPED into our accounts, in Christ

All debts, all sins, all Paid For... Forever Forgiveness... God's **Mercy, Grace, Love**
Forever Righteousness ... Forever made right with God, by God, for God

²¹But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²²even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God set forth as a propitiation (an Atoning Sacrifice) by His BLOOD, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Righteousness has legal aspects and relational aspects . . .

- I am legally made right with God – as if I never sinned
- He has forgiven me of all my sin-debt – all my sin-debt has been paid, past, present & future
- I am made **right with God**, so that I can have a Forever Relationship with Him. I never had that before I was saved. My life has been corrected, so that I can have that kind of relationship He wants me to have with Him. Again, this does not mean that I will always behave perfectly.

I receive this by Repenting and then Trusting in Him.

I, first, must REPENT of my sins ... acknowledge and agree with God that I have sinned, and that I am a sinner – under the Just sentence of a Holy God. I must agree and confess my sins and that I have been believing the wrong things about myself, about God, about everything. I now, believe Him and His Word, the Bible.

Then, I must Trust in Him Personally ... that is what FAITH is ... Faith in Christ, Faith in God is Trusting in God. I must Trust in Him, that when Christ died on the Cross – He died on the Cross for my sins. I must Trust that Christ's Crucifixion, Death, Burial, and Resurrection is enough to Forever Forgive me of all my sins (past, present and future), Gives me Full Justification before a Holy God (Christ's Righteousness Imputed / Stamped to my account), and Give me Eternal/Everlasting Life with God ... So, I Trust in Christ and His Finished Work of Redemption ... Trusting that God punished Jesus Christ in my place for all of my sins. I am redeemed, I am Justified before the Awesome and Holy God.

4. We Received Peace, Hope, Grace, Love, Freedom and the Power in Christ ...

→ so that we can Live the Christian Life in a very sinful and rebellious world

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have PEACE with God through our LORD Jesus Christ - Romans 5:1

... [we] **REJOICE** in **HOPE** of the glory of God ... Now **HOPE** does not disappoint, because the **LOVE** of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us - Romans 5:3,5

But God **DEMONSTRATES** His own **LOVE** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. - Romans 5:8

²⁰ Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, **GRACE ABOUNDED MUCH MORE**, ²¹ so that as sin reigned in death, even so **GRACE** might **REIGN** through **RIGHTEOUSNESS** to eternal life through Jesus Christ our **LORD**. Romans 5:20-21 → **The Free Gift of God's Salvation** ... → **GRACE**

We've been Set Free from the Power of Sin ...

¹¹ Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but **ALIVE** to God in Christ Jesus our **LORD**. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. Romans 6:11-12

²² But now having been **SET FREE FROM SIN**, and having become **SLAVES** of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the **FREE GIFT** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our **LORD**. Romans 6:22-23

NO CONDEMNATION ... we are Justified and Forgiven, in Christ

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:1

⁹ But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Romans 8:9-11

If a Person is Truly Born Again in Christ → that Same Power of God by His Holy Spirit that Raised Christ from the Dead dwells in you now.

We not only have Power of over Sin, we have Power for LIVING for Christ ... to Love Him, to Obey Him, to Worship Him, Share His Gospel ... He is that Power in Us & through us – to Live the Christian Life

We have Power over Doubt ...

¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God Romans 8:15-16

We have Power over Sufferings ...

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Romans 8:18
Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. Romans 8:26

We are invincible . . . (the church is invincible)

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?
Romans 8:31

Nothing will ever Separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus

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

5. **God is Faithful** ... He will fulfill all of His Plans for Israel and the Gentiles ... and it will be fulfilled based up God's Plan as revealed through the Gospel of Christ for everyone. Israel is one of the best Proofs of God's Existence and of the Veracity of the Bible.

Implications.... Here is the TIP of the ICEBERG ...

If you are Truly Born Again in Christ Jesus ...
then What God says that you are in Christ Jesus our Lord ...

1. You are Beloved - Loved Greatly – the Object of His Love – He loves you
2. You are Justified - as if you never sinned - you are as Righteous as Christ is in God's Sight
3. You are Forgiven of all your sins (past, present, future)
4. You are Redeemed, Bought with the Precious Blood of Christ ...
5. You are Special and Highly Valuable (The Treasure in the Field / The Pearl of Great Price)
6. You have Purpose, KINGDOM PURPOSE
7. You have Great Potential of Being Fruitful for Him
8. You are Child of God, a Child of the King of the Universe ... ROYALTY
9. You are His Ambassador, Representative in Christ to a Lost World
10. You are a member of His church, His world-wide church, the Family of God
11. With other members of His church, you are invincible (if God is for us, who can be against us?)
12. **You are DESTINED, PREDESTINED for GLORY in CHRIST ... to Be Revealed when Christ is Revealed ... with Him in Glory – God's Heavenly Kingdom Citizen forever ...**

Knowing this about yourself in Christ Jesus ... as a Born Again Christian ...

How do these truths make you feel about God? ... about yourself?... about other Believers?
Is this Good News To You?

Does this make you excited about Serving God?

Does this motivate you to Serve Him?

What do you want to in obedience to God, because of these truths? →

(i.e.: obedience that springs forth out of your love for Him)