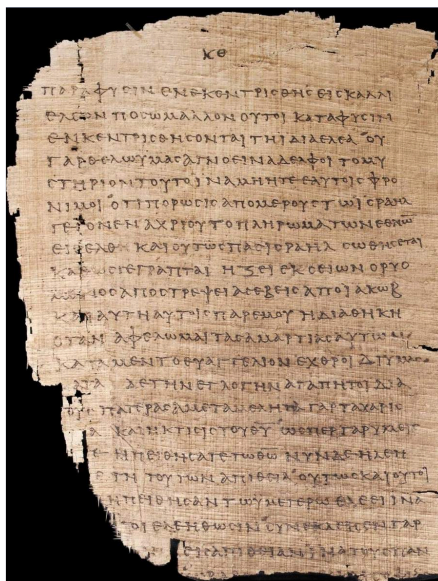


ROMANS

The Gospel, Explained

AUTHOR	Paul, once a Pharisee who hunted Christians, now an apostle. He spoke the letter out loud, and a helper named Tertius wrote it down, 16:22.
WRITTEN FROM	Corinth, Greece, near the end of Paul's third missionary trip, right before he took an offering for the poor to Jerusalem, 15:25 to 26.
DATE WRITTEN	About AD 56 to 57.
WRITTEN TO	The church in Rome, Jews and Gentiles together. Paul had never been there. Emperor Claudius had thrown the Jews out of Rome about AD 49, and by now they were back.
CARRIED BY	Most likely Phoebe, a deacon from Cenchrea, the harbor town next to Corinth, 16:1 to 2.
KEY VERSE	Romans 1:16 to 17. I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes. The righteous will live by faith.



THE OLDEST COPY OF ROMANS

This is a page of Papyrus 46, a book of Paul's letters copied in Egypt about AD 200. Part of it is in the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin, Ireland, and part is at the University of Michigan. This page holds Romans 11:24 to 33. The first words, against nature, are from the olive tree picture in 11:24, and lower down you can read the Deliverer will come from Zion, 11:26. Papyrus 46 puts the closing praise of 16:25 to 27 at the end of chapter 15.

Historical Setting

Rome is the capital of the world, a city of about a million people. The church there was not started by Paul, and no one knows for sure who started it. Visitors from Rome were in Jerusalem at Pentecost, Acts 2:10, and may have carried the news home. Jewish and Gentile believers were now trying to be one church, and they did not always agree. Paul wanted to visit on his way to Spain, so he sent ahead the clearest explanation of the gospel he ever wrote.

What Was Going Wrong

EVERYBODY SINNED. Gentiles traded God for idols, 1:23. Jews had the law but did not keep it, 2:23. All have sinned, 3:23.

JUDGING EACH OTHER. Believers looked down on each other over food and holy days, 14:3 to 4, 14:10.

BRAGGING. Some Gentile believers acted superior to the Jews. Paul says do not boast over the branches, 11:18.

FAKE TEACHERS. Some people caused divisions to serve their own appetites, 16:17 to 18.

The Idiot Proof Summary

Romans is the gospel laid out step by step. Paul starts with the bad news: everyone has sinned, and no one can earn their way to God. Then the good news: God makes people right with Him as a free gift through faith in Jesus. That new life comes with the Holy Spirit, a place in God's family and a love nothing can break. Paul shows God still has a plan for Israel, then spends five chapters on how to live it out.

Romans at a Glance

CH 1 to 3:20

EVERYONE HAS SINNED

Gentiles, Jews, all of us. No one is righteous, not even one.

CH 3:21 to 5

MADE RIGHT BY FAITH

A free gift through Jesus, just like Abraham.

CH 6 to 8

NEW LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

Dead to sin, alive to God, and nothing can separate us from His love.

CH 9 to 11

GOD'S PLAN FOR ISRAEL

God has not given up on His people.

CH 12 to 16

LIVING IT OUT

Love, government, freedom, unity and a long list of friends.

Where Jesus Shows Up

ROMANS 1:3 TO 4

Descended from David according to the flesh, declared to be the Son of God with power by His resurrection. Fulfills 2 Samuel 7:12 to 16.

ROMANS 5:8

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Points back to Isaiah 53:5 to 6.

ROMANS 10:9

Jesus is Lord, and God raised Him from the dead. The heart of the whole letter in one sentence.

ROMANS 15:12

The Root of Jesse will appear, one who will rise to rule over the Gentiles. Fulfills Isaiah 11:10.

What to Watch for in Romans

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES	1:4, 2:29, 5:8-10, 5:18-19, 6:9, 8:34, 9:7 and 9 more
MESSIANIC FORESHADOW	3:23-25, 10:6-8
PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE	4:16-17, 9:9, 9:27-28, 10:20-21, 11:5
END TIMES PROPHECIES	8:19-23, 11:25, 16:20
THE HEART	1:21, 2:5, 2:15, 5:5, 6:17, 8:27, 16:18
ARCHAEOLOGY	16:23
MIRACLES	8:26, 15:19
DEMONIC	1:22-25, 2:22, 11:4
NOTABLE	6:23, 16:1-2, 16:7
JESUS SPEAKING	Words in red are Jesus speaking, or God the Father speaking from heaven.

Cool Stuff Most People Miss

LUTHER'S BREAKTHROUGH

Martin Luther, a monk who was terrified of God, studied Romans 1:17 and finally saw it: the righteous live by faith, not by being good enough. He said he felt born again and that the gates of paradise opened. His 1522 German New Testament put the word alone into 3:28, justified by faith alone, and his preface called Romans the purest gospel.

AUGUSTINE'S GARDEN

In a garden in Milan in AD 386, Augustine heard a child singing, Take up and read. He opened Paul's letters to 13:13 to 14, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and gave his life to God.

WESLEY'S WARM HEART

On May 24, 1738, on Aldersgate Street in London, John Wesley heard someone reading Luther's preface to Romans and felt his heart strangely warmed. The Methodist movement grew from that night.

THE ROMANS ROAD

Five verses that explain the gospel: 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9 to 10 and 10:13. Look for the yellow notes that lead from one stop to the next.

Did Anybody Listen?

Paul did reach Rome, but in chains, Acts 28. Tradition says he was killed there under Nero. His letter outlived the empire. Romans changed Augustine, Luther and Wesley, and through them the whole church. The Reformation, almost every Protestant church, and millions of people who walked the Romans Road can trace their faith back to this one letter.

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES THE HEART DEMONIC OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

1

CHAPTER 1 IN 30 SECONDS

Paul introduces himself to a church he has never met and says he is not ashamed of the gospel. Then he explains how people went wrong. They could see God in creation, but they traded Him for idols, and everything slid downhill from there. The list of sins at the end is long enough that nobody gets to feel left out.

PAUL GREETES THE SAINTS IN ROME

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, and set apart for the gospel of God— ²the gospel He promised beforehand through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, ³regarding His Son, who was a descendant of David according to the flesh, ⁴and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

⁵Through Him and on behalf of His name, we received grace and apostleship to call all those among the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. ⁶And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

⁷To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

UNASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL

⁸First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being proclaimed all over the world. ⁹God, whom I serve with my spirit in preaching the gospel of His Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you ¹⁰in my prayers at all times, asking that now at last by God's will I may succeed in coming to you. ¹¹For I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you, ¹²that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.

¹³I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, how often I planned to come to you (but have been prevented from visiting

until now), in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles. ¹⁴I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. ¹⁵That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

¹⁶I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, then to the Greek. ¹⁷For the gospel reveals the righteousness of God that comes by faith from start to finish, just as it is written: "*The righteous will live by faith.*"

GOD'S WRATH AGAINST SIN

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness. ¹⁹For what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from His workmanship, so that men are without excuse.

²¹For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking and darkened in their foolish hearts. ²²Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images of mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

²⁴Therefore God gave them over in the desires of their hearts to impurity for the dishonoring of their bodies with one another. ²⁵They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is forever worthy of praise! Amen.

■ ROM 1:17 [QUOTES] Direct ← HAB 2:4 p.~

■ ROM 1:18 [NOTE] Romans 1:18 to 32 follows the same steps as Wisdom of Solomon 13 to 14, written before Jesus: people could know God from creation, turned to idols instead, and fell into every kind of sin. Paul seems to have known that book. See Wisdom of Solomon, p.~ in the Books Between the Testaments. Knowing a book is not the same as calling it Scripture.

■ ROM 1:21 [HEART] They knew God but did not honor Him, so their foolish hearts were darkened.

■ ROM 1:22 [DEMONIC] People trade God's glory for images of men and animals

■ ROM 1:3 [ALLUDES TO] Refers to ← 2SA 7:12 p.~

■ ROM 1:4 [FULFILLS] Declared to be the Beloved Son of God ← PS 2:7 p.~

THE HEART OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

²⁶ For this reason God gave them over to dishonorable passions. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ Likewise, the men abandoned natural relations with women and burned with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸ Furthermore, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, He gave them up to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed, and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant, and boastful. They invent new forms of evil; they disobey their parents. ³¹ They are senseless, faithless, heartless, merciless.

³² Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things are worthy of death, they not only continue to do these things, but also approve of those who practice them.

2

CHAPTER 2 IN 30 SECONDS

Anyone reading chapter 1 and nodding along gets a surprise. You who judge others do the same things. Knowing God's law does not save you if you do not keep it. Paul says a real Jew is one whose heart has been changed by the Spirit, not just someone with the right family tree.

GOD'S RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT // PSALM 75:1–10

¹ You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on another. For on whatever grounds you judge the other, you are

■ **ROM 1:26 [NOTE]** Paul is describing same sex acts here, and the church has always read it that way. But keep reading. The list goes on in 1:29 to 31: greed, envy, gossip, slander, boasting and disobeying parents. Then 2:1 turns it around: you who judge do the same things. Many churches treat one sin on this list as the one that sends you to hell and shrug at the rest. That is a double standard. Paul's point comes in 3:23: all have sinned.

■ **ROM 1:27 [TEXT]** The word homosexual is not in the Greek. It was coined in German in 1868 and first showed up in an English Bible in 1946, in 1 Corinthians 6:9, where the Greek words are rare and debated. Romans 1 uses plain words, men with other men. The debate here is over against nature in 1:26. Most read it as against God's design. Some say it means against custom, since Paul uses the same words for God grafting in the Gentiles in 11:24.

condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. ² And we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. ³ So when you, O man, pass judgment on others, yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? ⁴ Or do you disregard the riches of His kindness, tolerance, and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you to repentance?

⁵ But because of your hard and unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of wrath, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. ⁶ God "will repay each one according to his deeds." ⁷ To those who by perseverance in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality, He will give eternal life. ⁸ But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow wickedness, there will be wrath and anger.

⁹ There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil, first for the Jew, then for the Greek; ¹⁰ but glory, honor, and peace for everyone who does good, first for the Jew, then for the Greek. ¹¹ For God does not show favoritism.

¹² All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³ For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but it is the doers of the law who will be declared righteous.

¹⁴ Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ So they show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts either accusing or defending them ¹⁶ on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Christ Jesus, as proclaimed by my gospel.

■ **ROM 2:5 [HEART]** A hard and unrepentant heart stores up wrath for the day of judgment.

■ **ROM 2:6 [QUOTES]** Quotes ← PS 62:12; PROV 24:12 p.~

■ **ROM 2:15 [HEART]** Even people without the law have it written on their hearts. Their conscience tells them.

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES | DEMONIC | OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

THE JEWS AND THE LAW

¹⁷ Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; if you rely on the law and boast in God; ¹⁸ if you know His will and approve of what is superior because you are instructed by the law; ¹⁹ if you are convinced that you are a guide for the blind, a light for those in darkness, ²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of infants, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth— ²¹ you, then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal? ²² You who forbid adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? ²³ You who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law? ²⁴ As it is written: *“God’s name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.”*

²⁵ Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision. ²⁶ If a man who is not circumcised keeps the requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision?

²⁷ The one who is physically uncircumcised yet keeps the law will condemn you who, even though you have the written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker.

²⁸ A man is not a Jew because he is one outwardly, nor is circumcision only outward and physical. ²⁹ No, a man is a Jew because he is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a man’s praise does not come from men, but from God.

■ ROM 2:22 [DEMONIC] You who hate idols, do you rob temples

■ ROM 2:24 [QUOTES] Direct ← IS 52:5 p.–

■ ROM 2:29 [HEART] Real circumcision is of the heart, by the Spirit.

■ ROM 2:29 [FULFILLS] God would circumcise the hearts of His people so they would love Him ← DT 30:6 · MEDIUM p.–

3

CHAPTER 3 IN 30 SECONDS

So is anybody good? Paul strings Old Testament verses together to answer: no one is righteous, not even one. All have sinned and fall short. Then comes the good news. God makes people right with Him as a free gift through faith in Jesus, who paid for sin with His blood.

GOD REMAINS FAITHFUL

¹ What, then, is the advantage of being a Jew? Or what is the value of circumcision? ² Much in every way. First of all, they have been entrusted with the very words of God.

³ What if some did not have faith? Will their lack of faith nullify God’s faithfulness? ⁴ Certainly not! Let God be true and every man a liar. As it is written:

*“So that You may be proved right when You speak
and victorious when You judge.”*

⁵ But if our unrighteousness highlights the righteousness of God, what shall we say? That God is unjust to inflict His wrath on us? I am speaking in human terms. ⁶ Certainly not! In that case, how could God judge the world? ⁷ However, if my falsehood accentuates God’s truthfulness, to the increase of His glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner? ⁸ Why not say, as some slanderously claim that we say, “Let us do evil that good may result”? Their condemnation is deserved!

THERE IS NO ONE RIGHTEOUS // PSALM 14:1–7;

PSALM 53:1–6; ISAIAH 59:1–7

⁹ What then? Are we any better? Not at all. For we have already made the charge that Jews and Greeks alike are all under sin. ¹⁰ As it is written:

*“There is no one righteous,
not even one.*

¹¹ *There is no one who understands,
no one who seeks God.*

¹² *All have turned away,
they have together become worthless;
there is no one who does good,
not even one.”*

■ ROM 3:4 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 51:4 p.–

■ ROM 3:10 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 14:1–3; 53:1–3 p.–

MESSIANIC FORESHADOW OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

- 13 *"Their throats are open graves;
their tongues practice deceit."
"The venom of vipers is on their lips."*
- 14 *"Their mouths are full
of cursing and bitterness."*
- 15 *"Their feet are swift to shed blood;
16 ruin and misery lie in their wake,
17 and the way of peace they have not
known."*
- 18 *"There is no fear of God
before their eyes."*

19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. 20 Therefore no one will be justified in His sight by works of the law. For the law merely brings awareness of sin.

RIGHTEOUSNESS THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST //
PHILIPPIANS 3:1-11

21 But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, as attested by the Law and the Prophets. 22 And this righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no distinction, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

25 God presented Him as an atoning sacrifice in His blood through faith, in order to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance He had passed over the sins committed beforehand. 26 He did this to demonstrate His righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and to justify the one who has faith in Jesus.

27 Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of works? No, but on that of faith. 28 For we maintain that

a man is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

29 Is God the God of Jews only? Is He not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too, 30 since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith.

31 Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Certainly not! Instead, we uphold the law.

4

CHAPTER 4 IN 30 SECONDS

Paul goes back to Abraham to prove this is not a new idea. Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness, years before he was circumcised and centuries before the law. So Abraham is the father of everyone who believes, Jew or Gentile. He trusted God even when he was about a hundred years old.

ABRAHAM JUSTIFIED BY FAITH // GENESIS 15:1-7;
PSALM 32:1-11; HEBREWS 11:8-19

1 What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has discovered? 2 If Abraham was indeed justified by works, he had something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? *"Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."*

4 Now the wages of the worker are not credited as a gift, but as an obligation. 5 However, to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness. 6 And David speaks likewise of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

- 7 *"Blessed are they whose lawless acts are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
8 Blessed is the man
whose sin the Lord will never count against
him."*

9 Is this blessing only on the circumcised, or also on the uncircumcised? We have been saying that Abraham's faith was credited to him as righteousness. 10 In what context was it

- ROM 3:13 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 5:9 p.-
- ROM 3:13 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 140:3 p.-
- ROM 3:14 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 10:7 p.-
- ROM 3:15 [QUOTES] Direct ← IS 59:7-8 p.-
- ROM 3:18 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 36:1 p.-
- ROM 3:20 [ALLUDES TO] Refers to ← PS 143:2 p.-
- ROM 3:23 [NOTABLE] THE ROMANS ROAD, STOP 1 OF 5.
A simple way to explain the gospel using only verses from Romans. It starts here: everyone has sinned. No-body passes God's test on their own. Next stop, 6:23.
- ROM 3:23 [FULFILLS] It is the blood that makes atonement ← LEV 17:11 p.-
- ROM 3:25 [FULFILLS] God would meet His people above the mercy seat ← EX 25:22 • MEDIUM p.-

- ROM 4:3 [QUOTES] Direct ← GEN 15:6 p.-
- ROM 4:7 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 32:1-2 p.-
- ROM 4:9 [QUOTES] Quotes ← GEN 15:6 p.-

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE

THE HEART

OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

credited? Was it after his circumcision, or before? It was not after, but before.

¹¹ And he received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. So then, he is the father of all who believe but are not circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited to them.

¹² And he is also the father of the circumcised who not only are circumcised, but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

ABRAHAM RECEIVES THE PROMISE // GENESIS

15:8-21

¹³ For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world was not given through the law, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴ For if those who live by the law are heirs, faith is useless and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵ because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law, there is no transgression.

¹⁶ Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may rest on grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all.

¹⁷ As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the presence of God, in whom he believed, the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being what does not yet exist.

¹⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." ¹⁹ Without weakening in his faith, he acknowledged the decrepitness of his body (since he was about a hundred years old) and the lifelessness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ Yet he did not waver through disbelief in the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that

God was able to do what He had promised. ²² This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."

²³ Now the words "it was credited to him" were written not only for Abraham, ²⁴ but also for us, to whom righteousness will be credited—for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. ²⁵ He was delivered over to death for our trespasses and was raised to life for our justification.

5

CHAPTER 5 IN 30 SECONDS

Since we are made right by faith, we have peace with God. Even our troubles build endurance, character and hope. God showed His love by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. Adam brought sin and death to everybody. Jesus brings grace and life to everybody who receives it.

THE TRIUMPH OF FAITH

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

³ Not only that, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us.

CHRIST'S SACRIFICE FOR THE UNGODLY // JOHN

3:1-21

⁶ For at just the right time, while we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God proves His love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

■ ROM 4:16 [FULFILLS] Abraham would be the father of many nations and kings would come from him ← GEN 17:4-6 p.-

■ ROM 4:17 [QUOTES] Direct ← GEN 17:5 p.-

■ ROM 4:18 [QUOTES] Direct ← GEN 15:5 p.-

■ ROM 4:22 [QUOTES] Quotes ← GEN 15:6 p.-

■ ROM 5:5 [HEART] God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

■ ROM 5:8 [NOTABLE] THE ROMANS ROAD, STOP 3 OF 5. God did not wait for us to clean up first. Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Next stop, 10:9.

■ ROM 5:8 [FULFILLS] The blood of the Lamb saves from divine wrath ← EX 12:13 p.-

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

⁹ Therefore, since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from wrath through Him! ¹⁰ For if, when we were enemies of God, we were reconciled to Him through the death of His Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through His life! ¹¹ Not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

DEATH IN ADAM, LIFE IN CHRIST // GENESIS 3:1-7

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, so also death was passed on to all men, because all sinned. ¹³ For sin was in the world before the law was given; but sin is not taken into account when there is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who did not sin in the way that Adam transgressed. He is a pattern of the One to come.

¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many! ¹⁶ Again, the gift is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment that followed one sin brought condemnation, but the gift that followed many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

¹⁸ So then, just as one trespass brought condemnation for all men, so also one act of righteousness brought justification and life for all men. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the

obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

²⁰ The law came in so that the trespass would increase; but where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

6

CHAPTER 6 IN 30 SECONDS

If grace covers sin, should we keep sinning to get more grace? Paul says, Absolutely not. In baptism we died with Christ and rose to a new life. Sin used to be the boss, but now you work for God. Sin pays its workers in death, but God gives eternal life as a free gift.

DEAD TO SIN, ALIVE TO GOD // 2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18

¹ What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may increase? ² Certainly not! How can we who died to sin live in it any longer? ³ Or aren't you aware that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin. ⁷ For anyone who has died has been freed from sin.

⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, He cannot die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. ¹⁰ The death He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹ So you too must count yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

■ ROM 5:8 [FULFILLS] God's righteous Servant would justify many ← IS 53:11b p.-

■ ROM 5:10 [FULFILLS] To make reconciliation for iniquity ← DAN 9:24b p.-

■ ROM 5:18 [FULFILLS] God's righteous Servant would justify many ← IS 53:11b p.-

■ ROM 6:9 [FULFILLS] He would prolong His days ← IS 53:10c p.-

THE HEART OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW NOTABLE

¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its desires.

¹³ Do not present the parts of your body to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and present the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

THE WAGES OF SIN

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Do you not know that when you offer yourselves as obedient slaves, you are slaves to the one you obey, whether you are slaves to sin leading to death, or to obedience leading to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that, though you once were slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were committed. ¹⁸ You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to escalating wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness.

²⁰ For when you were slaves to sin, you were free of obligation to righteousness.

²¹ What fruit did you reap at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? The outcome of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the fruit you reap leads to holiness, and the outcome is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

■ ROM 6:17 [HEART] You obeyed from the heart the teaching you were given.

■ ROM 6:23 [NOTABLE] THE ROMANS ROAD, STOP 2 OF 5. Sin pays a paycheck, and the paycheck is death. But eternal life is a free gift, and you cannot earn a gift. Next stop, 5:8.

7

CHAPTER 7 IN 30 SECONDS

The law is good, but it cannot make you good. It is like a mirror that shows the dirt but cannot wash your face. Paul describes the war inside: I do not do what I want, and I do what I hate. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me? Thank God, through Jesus Christ.

RELEASE FROM THE LAW // GALATIANS 3:15-25

¹ Do you not know, brothers (for I am speaking to those who know the law), that the law has authority over a man only as long as he lives? ² For instance, a married woman is bound by law to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. ³ So then, if she is joined to another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law and is not an adulteress if she marries another man.

⁴ Therefore, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God. ⁵ For when we lived according to the flesh, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, bearing fruit for death. ⁶ But now, having died to what bound us, we have been released from the law, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

GOD'S LAW IS HOLY

⁷ What then shall we say? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed, I would not have been mindful of sin if not for the law. For I would not have been aware of coveting if the law had not said, "Do not covet."⁸ But sin, seizing its opportunity through the commandment, produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from the law, sin is dead.

⁹ Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died. ¹⁰ So I discovered that the very commandment that was meant to bring life actually brought death.

■ ROM 7:7 [QUOTES] Direct ← EX 20:17; DT 5:21 p.-

¹¹For sin, seizing its opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through the commandment put me to death.

¹²So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous, and good.

STRUGGLING WITH SIN

¹³Did that which is good, then, become death to me? Certainly not! But in order that sin might be exposed as sin, it produced death in me through what was good, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

¹⁴We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. ¹⁵I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do, I do not do. But what I hate, I do. ¹⁶And if I do what I do not want to do, I admit that the law is good. ¹⁷In that case, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

¹⁸I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh; for I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

¹⁹For I do not do the good I want to do. Instead, I keep on doing the evil I do not want to do. ²⁰And if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹So this is the principle I have discovered: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²²For in my inner being I delight in God's law. ²³But I see another law at work in my body, warring against the law of my mind and holding me captive to the law of sin that dwells within me.

²⁴What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I serve the law of God, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

■ **ROM 7:14 [NOTE] TWO VIEWS.** Is Paul talking as a Christian here? Augustine, Luther and Calvin said yes: even believers fight sin every day, and Luther said a Christian is righteous and a sinner at the same time. Many early Greek teachers and John Wesley said no: Paul is describing life under the law without the Spirit, and chapter 8 is the answer. Either way, 7:25 ends with thanks to God through Jesus Christ.

8

CHAPTER 8 IN 30 SECONDS

No condemnation for those in Christ. The Spirit gives life, makes us God's children and helps us pray when we have no words. All creation is waiting to be set free. God works all things together for good for those who love Him. Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ.

WALKING BY THE SPIRIT // EZEKIEL 36:16-38;
GALATIANS 5:16-26

¹Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, [who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.] ²For in Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set you free from the law of sin and death. ³For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful man, as an offering for sin. He thus condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the righteous standard of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh; but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶The mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace, ⁷because the mind of the flesh is hostile to God: It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸Those controlled by the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are controlled not by the flesh, but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. ¹¹And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you.

■ **ROM 8:1 [TEXT]** The words in brackets are not in the oldest manuscripts. A copyist likely borrowed them from verse 4. Later copies and the KJV have them.

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

END TIMES PROPHECIES

THE HEART

MIRACLES

OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

HEIRS WITH CHRIST

¹² Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation, but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery that returns you to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption to sonship, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷ And if we are children, then we are heirs: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with Him, so that we may also be glorified with Him.

FUTURE GLORY // 2 CORINTHIANS 5:1–10

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not comparable to the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ The creation waits in eager expectation for the revelation of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but because of the One who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until the present time. ²³ Not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved; but hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he can already see? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not yet see, we wait for it patiently.

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know how we ought to pray, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans too deep for

words. ²⁷ And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

GOD WORKS IN ALL THINGS // EPHESIANS 1:3–14

²⁸ And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the first-born among many brothers. ³⁰ And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also, along with Him, freely give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is there to condemn us? For Christ Jesus, who died, and more than that was raised to life, is at the right hand of God—and He is interceding for us.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS // PSALM 44:1–26

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

*“For Your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor principalities, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

■ ROM 8:19 [PROPHECY] The creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God... the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now → STILL TO COME

■ ROM 8:26 [MIRACLE] The Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans too deep for words

■ ROM 8:26 [THE BIG DEBATE] Is this praying in tongues? See the two Speaking in Tongues pages.

■ ROM 8:27 [HEART] God searches our hearts and knows what the Spirit is praying for us.

■ ROM 8:34 [FULFILLS] He would intercede for the transgressors ← IS 53:12e p.~

■ ROM 8:36 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 44:22 p.~

DEBATED THE BIG DEBATE

SPEAKING IN TONGUES

ROMANS 8:26 · 1 CORINTHIANS 12 TO 14 · ACTS 2:1 TO 13

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

Jesus said believers would speak in new tongues, Mark 16:17. At Pentecost the believers suddenly spoke real languages they had never learned, and visitors from all over heard God praised in their own languages, Acts 2:4 to 11. Tongues come again in Acts 10:46 and 19:6. Paul calls tongues a gift of the Spirit, 1 Corinthians 12:10. He says the one who speaks in a tongue speaks to God, and no one understands him; he utters mysteries in the Spirit, 14:2. He also says, I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you, 14:18, and, Do not forbid speaking in tongues, 14:39.

ROMANS 8:26

When we do not know what to pray, the Spirit Himself prays for us with groans too deep for words. Many Pentecostals, and scholars like Gordon Fee, connect this to praying in tongues. Others point out that the Greek word means wordless, so Paul may mean the Spirit's own silent groaning, not sounds we make. Either way, 8:27 says the Spirit prays for us according to the will of God.

TWO KINDS OF TONGUES

The tongues in Acts 2 were real human languages the crowd understood. In 1 Corinthians 14 no one understands without an interpreter, and Paul mentions the tongues of angels, 13:1. Many Pentecostals say they are doing the same thing that happened at Pentecost. But the Bible describes Acts 2 as real languages people understood, while most tongues today fit better with what Paul calls praying in the Spirit, 1 Corinthians 14:14 to 15, Ephesians 6:18 and Jude 20.

PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

Those who do it call it a personal prayer language. When you do not know what to pray for, the Spirit prays through you for God's perfect will for your life, Romans 8:27. Paul says it builds up the one who prays, 1 Corinthians 14:4. Many also believe the enemy cannot understand

these prayers, so he cannot work against them behind the scenes in the spirit realm. No verse says that outright. It comes from 14:2, no one understands him.

NOT ALL AT ONCE IN CHURCH

Paul set rules for church meetings. If the whole church speaks in tongues and outsiders or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your minds? 14:23. Only two or three should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret, or the speaker should stay quiet and speak to himself and God, 14:27 to 28. Many Pentecostal and charismatic services have the whole room praying out loud in tongues at the same time, which seems to break this rule. Defenders say Paul meant messages spoken to the church, not a room praying together.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GIFTS?

Irenaeus, about AD 180, wrote that he heard many believers speaking in all kinds of tongues. By about AD 390 John Chrysostom said these things used to happen but no longer did, and Augustine called tongues a sign for that time that had passed away. From about AD 500 to 1500, most believers in the West could not read the Bible for themselves. It was in Latin, most people could not read, and every copy was written by hand and cost a fortune. Some church councils banned Bibles in the common language: Toulouse in 1229 forbade lay people to own Bible books, and after 1564 reading one needed a bishop's permission. The Orthodox churches kept Scripture in Greek and Slavonic, closer to the people's own speech. When the printing press and the Reformation put the Bible back in people's hands, the church had to relearn much of what it teaches.

Tongues: The Two Sides

1 CORINTHIANS 13:8 TO 12 · 1 CORINTHIANS 14:39 TO 40

CESSATIONISM

The view that gifts like tongues, prophecy and healing stopped after the apostles. John Calvin did not invent it, since Chrysostom and Augustine said something like it first, but Calvin taught that miracles like healing had vanished away, and his teaching made the idea standard in many Protestant churches. Benjamin Warfield of Princeton built it into a full system in his 1918 book *Counterfeit Miracles*. Cessationists point to 1 Corinthians 13:8, tongues will cease, and say the gifts proved the apostles' message until the New Testament was finished.

THE PENTECOSTAL REVIVAL

On January 1, 1901, Agnes Ozman spoke in tongues at Charles Parham's Bible school in Topeka, Kansas. In April 1906 a revival broke out at 312 Azusa Street in Los Angeles, led by William J. Seymour, a Black preacher whose parents had been enslaved. Black and white believers worshiped side by side, which shocked people in those days. The Los Angeles Times headline said *Weird Babel of Tongues*. Meetings went on for about three years, and the Pentecostal movement spread around the world.

REAL LANGUAGES?

The first Pentecostals believed they were speaking real foreign languages like Acts 2. Some sailed overseas as missionaries expecting to preach without learning the language. It did not work, and most came to see tongues as a prayer language instead. Linguists who studied modern tongues, like William Samarin in 1972, found it does not have the structure of a human language. Many believers say that is the point: it is not Acts 2, it is praying in the Spirit, which no one understands, 14:2.

THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT

In 1960 Dennis Bennett, an Episcopal priest in Van Nuys, California, told his church he spoke in tongues. The experience spread into Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist and Catholic churches, with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal starting in

1967. In the 1980s John Wimber's Vineyard churches brought what was called the Third Wave. Today about one in four Christians in the world is Pentecostal or charismatic.

FOR EVERYONE OR FOR SOME?

Classical Pentecostals, like the Assemblies of God, teach that tongues is the first sign of being baptized in the Holy Spirit and is for every believer, Acts 2:4, 10:46 and 19:6. Many charismatics read 1 Corinthians 12:30, Do all speak in tongues?, and say it is one gift among many that the Spirit gives as He chooses, 12:11. Many hold both: a private prayer language any believer may ask for, and a public gift of tongues for some, which needs an interpreter.

CONTINUISM

The view that all the gifts continue today. Continuists say tongues will cease when the perfect comes, when we see face to face, 13:10 to 12, which means when Jesus returns, not when the Bible was finished. Paul never told the church to stop. He told them to keep order. Nearly every well known deliverance ministry today prays in tongues, which makes many believers think there may be something to it.

IS IT DEMONIC?

Some churches teach that tongues today are fake, or even demonic. If that were true, it would be strange that so many who pray in tongues also cast out demons, since Jesus said Satan does not drive out Satan, Mark 3:23 to 26. Both views come from people who love Jesus and the Bible. Read 1 Corinthians 12 to 14 and decide for yourself. Paul's last word on it: Be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. But everything must be done in a proper and orderly manner, 14:39 to 40.

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

9

CHAPTER 9 IN 30 SECONDS

Paul's heart breaks for his own people, Israel. He says not all who come from Israel are true Israel, and God chose Jacob over Esau before they were born. Is God unfair? Paul answers with a potter and his clay. This chapter has kept theologians arguing for about sixteen hundred years.

PAUL'S CONCERN FOR THE JEWS

¹I speak the truth in Christ; I am not lying, as confirmed by my conscience in the Holy Spirit. ²I have deep sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my own flesh and blood, ⁴the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory and the covenants; theirs the giving of the law, the temple worship, and the promises. ⁵Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them proceeds the human descent of Christ, who is God over all, forever worthy of praise! Amen.

GOD'S SOVEREIGN CHOICE // GENESIS 25:19-28; MALACHI 1:1-5

⁶It is not as though God's word has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. ⁷Nor because they are Abraham's descendants are they all his children. On the contrary, *"Through Isaac your offspring will be reckoned."* ⁸So it is not the children of the flesh who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as offspring. ⁹For this is what the promise stated: *"At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son."*

¹⁰Not only that, but Rebecca's children were conceived by one man, our father Isaac. ¹¹Yet before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad, in order that God's plan of election might stand, ¹²not by works but by Him who calls, she was told, *"The older will serve the younger."* ¹³So it is written: *"Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."*

■ ROM 9:7 [FULFILLS] Abraham's promised offspring

would come through Isaac ← GEN 21:12 p.-

■ ROM 9:9 [FULFILLS] Sarah would have a son at this time next year ← GEN 18:10 p.-

■ ROM 9:12 [QUOTES] Direct ← GEN 25:23 p.-

■ ROM 9:13 [QUOTES] Direct ← MAL 1:2-3 p.-

¹⁴What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Certainly not! ¹⁵For He says to Moses:

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

¹⁶So then, it does not depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy. ¹⁷For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: *"I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display My power in you, and that My name might be proclaimed in all the earth."* ¹⁸Therefore God has mercy on whom He wants to have mercy, and He hardens whom He wants to harden.

¹⁹One of you will say to me, "Then why does God still find fault? For who can resist His will?" ²⁰But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? Shall what is formed say to Him who formed it, *"Why did You make me like this?"* ²¹Does not the potter have the right to make from the same lump of clay one vessel for special occasions and another for common use?

²²What if God, intending to show His wrath and make His power known, bore with great patience the vessels of His wrath, prepared for destruction? ²³What if He did this to make the riches of His glory known to the vessels of His mercy, whom He prepared in advance for glory— ²⁴including us, whom He has called not only from the Jews, but also from the Gentiles?

²⁵As He says in Hosea:

"I will call them 'My People' who are not My people, and I will call her 'My Beloved' who is not My beloved."

²⁶and,

"It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them,

■ ROM 9:13 [NOTE] TWO VIEWS. Reformed or Calvinist: God chooses who will be saved before they are born, based on His mercy, not on anything they do, 9:11 and 9:16. Arminian or free will: Paul is quoting Malachi 1:2 to 3 about two nations, Israel and Edom, so God is choosing who carries the promise, not who goes to heaven, and anyone who believes is welcome, 10:13. Many on both sides read hated as a Hebrew way to say loved less, like Luke 14:26.

■ ROM 9:15 [QUOTES] Direct ← EX 33:19 p.-

■ ROM 9:17 [QUOTES] Direct ← EX 9:16 p.-

■ ROM 9:20 [QUOTES] Quotes ← IS 29:16; 45:9 p.-

■ ROM 9:25 [FULFILLS] God would say to Not My People, You are My people ← HOS 2:23 p.-

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES MESSIANIC FORESHADOW PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

***'You are not My people,
they will be called
sons of the living God.'***

27 Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:

***"Though the number of the Israelites is like the
sand of the sea,
only the remnant will be saved.***

28 For the Lord will carry out His sentence on
the earth
thoroughly and decisively."

29 It is just as Isaiah foretold:

***"Unless the Lord of Hosts had left us descen-
dants,
we would have become like Sodom,
we would have resembled Gomorrah."***

ISRAEL'S UNBELIEF

30 What then will we say? That the Gen-
tiles, who did not pursue righteousness,
have obtained it, a righteousness that is
by faith; **31** but Israel, who pursued a law of
righteousness, has not attained it. **32** Why
not? Because their pursuit was not by
faith, but as if it were by works. They
stumbled over the stumbling stone, **33** as it
is written:

***"See, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling
and a rock of offense;
and the one who believes in Him
will never be put to shame."***

10

CHAPTER 10 IN 30 SECONDS

Israel tried to earn being right with God and missed that Christ is the end of the law. Salvation is close: confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him. Everyone who calls on the Lord will be saved. But how will they hear without someone to tell them?

THE WORD BRINGS SALVATION // ISAIAH 65:1-16

1 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to
God for the Israelites is for their salvation.

2 For I testify about them that they are
zealous for God, but not on the basis of
knowledge. **3** Because they were ignorant

■ **ROM 9:26 [FULFILLS]** Those called Not My People would be called sons of the living God ← HOS 1:10 p.-

■ **ROM 9:27 [FULFILLS]** Only a remnant of Israel would re- turn ← IS 10:21-22 p.-

■ **ROM 9:27 [QUOTES]** Direct ← IS 10:22-23 p.-

■ **ROM 9:29 [QUOTES]** Direct ← IS 1:9 p.-

■ **ROM 9:33 [QUOTES]** Direct ← IS 8:14; 28:16 p.-

of God's righteousness and sought to es-
tablish their own, they did not submit to
God's righteousness. **4** For Christ is the
end of the law, to bring righteousness to
everyone who believes.

5 For concerning the righteousness that is
by the law, Moses writes: *"The man who
does these things will live by them."* **6** But the
righteousness that is by faith says: *"Do
not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into
heaven?'"* (that is, to bring Christ down) **7** or,
"Who will descend into the Abyss?" (that is, to
bring Christ up from the dead)."

8 But what does it say? *"The word is near
you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,"*
that is, the word of faith we are proclaim-
ing: **9** that if you confess with your mouth,
"Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart
that God raised Him from the dead, you
will be saved. **10** For with your heart you
believe and are justified, and with your
mouth you confess and are saved.

11 It is just as the Scripture says: *"Anyone
who believes in Him will never be put to
shame."* **12** For there is no difference be-
tween Jew and Greek: The same Lord is
Lord of all, and gives richly to all who call
on Him, **13** for, *"Everyone who calls on the
name of the Lord will be saved."*

14 How then can they call on the One in
whom they have not believed? And how
can they believe in the One of whom they
have not heard? And how can they hear
without someone to preach? **15** And how
can they preach unless they are sent? As
it is written: *"How beautiful are the feet of
those who bring good news!"*

■ **ROM 10:5 [QUOTES]** Direct ← LEV 18:5 p.-

■ **ROM 10:6 [FULFILLS]** The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart ← DT 30:12-14 · MEDIUM p.-

■ **ROM 10:9 [HEART]** If you confess Jesus is Lord and be- lieve in your heart God raised Him, you will be saved.

■ **ROM 10:9 [NOTABLE]** THE ROMANS ROAD, STOP 4 OF 5. Say it with your mouth and believe it in your heart: Je- sus is Lord, and God raised Him from the dead. Next stop, 10:13.

■ **ROM 10:9 [FULFILLS]** Salvation offered to all mankind through His name ← JOEL 2:32 p.-

■ **ROM 10:10 [HEART]** With the heart a person believes and is made right with God.

■ **ROM 10:11 [QUOTES]** Direct ← IS 28:16 p.-

■ **ROM 10:13 [NOTABLE]** THE ROMANS ROAD, STOP 5 OF 5. Everyone means everyone. No one is too far gone. The road ends with a promise: call on Him, and He will save you.

■ **ROM 10:13 [QUOTES]** Direct ← JOEL 2:32 p.-

■ **ROM 10:15 [FULFILLS]** He would publish good tidings ← IS 52:7 · MEDIUM p.-

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE

¹⁶ But not all of them welcomed the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?”¹⁷ Consequently, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

¹⁸ But I ask, did they not hear? Indeed they did:

“Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.”

¹⁹ I ask instead, did Israel not understand? First, Moses says:

*“I will make you jealous by those who are not a nation;
I will make you angry by a nation without understanding.”*

²⁰ And Isaiah boldly says:

*“I was found by those who did not seek Me;
I revealed Myself to those who did not ask for Me.”*

²¹ But as for Israel he says:

“All day long I have held out My hands to a disobedient and obstinate people.”

11

CHAPTER 11 IN 30 SECONDS

Has God rejected Israel? No way. A faithful few remain, like the seven thousand in Elijah's day. Gentiles are wild olive branches grafted into God's tree, so do not brag. Israel is hardened in part until the full number of Gentiles comes in, and then all Israel will be saved. Paul ends in pure praise.

A REMNANT CHOSEN BY GRACE

¹ I ask then, did God reject His people? Certainly not! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. ² God did not reject His people, whom He foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says about Elijah, how he appealed to God against Israel: ³ “Lord, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars. I am the only one left, and they are seeking my life as well?”

■ ROM 10:15 [FULFILLS] One would come on the mountains bringing good news and proclaiming peace ← NAH 1:15 • MEDIUM p. –

■ ROM 10:16 [QUOTES] Direct ← IS 53:1 p. –

■ ROM 10:18 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 19:4 p. –

■ ROM 10:19 [FULFILLS] God would make Israel jealous through a people who were not a nation ← DT 32:21 p. –

■ ROM 10:20 [FULFILLS] God would be found by people who did not seek Him while Israel stayed stubborn ← IS 65:1–2 p. –

■ ROM 11:3 [QUOTES] Direct ← 1KI 19:10, 14 p. –

DEMONIC OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

⁴ And what was the divine reply to him? *“I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.”*

⁵ In the same way, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. ⁶ And if it is by grace, then it is no longer by works. Otherwise, grace would no longer be grace.

⁷ What then? What Israel was seeking, it failed to obtain, but the elect did. The others were hardened, ⁸ as it is written:

“God gave them a spirit of stupor, eyes that could not see, and ears that could not hear, to this very day.”

⁹ And David says:

“May their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution to them.”

¹⁰ May their eyes be darkened so they cannot see, and their backs be bent forever.”

THE INGRAFTING OF THE GENTILES

¹¹ I ask then, did they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery? Certainly not! However, because of their trespass, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel jealous. ¹² But if their trespass means riches for the world, and their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their fullness bring!

¹³ I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴ in the hope that I may provoke my own people to jealousy and save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? ¹⁶ If the first part of the dough is holy, so is the whole batch; if the root is holy, so are the branches.

¹⁷ Now if some branches have been broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others to share

■ ROM 11:4 [DEMONIC] God kept seven thousand who never bowed to Baal

■ ROM 11:4 [QUOTES] Direct ← 1KI 19:18 p. –

■ ROM 11:5 [FULFILLS] A holy remnant would remain like a stump ← IS 6:13 • MEDIUM p. –

■ ROM 11:8 [QUOTES] Direct ← DT 29:4; IS 29:10 p. –

■ ROM 11:9 [FULFILLS] Those who reject Him would be blinded and trapped ← PS 69:22–23 p. –

■ ROM 11:11 [FULFILLS] God would make Israel jealous through a people who were not a nation ← DT 32:21 p. –

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES | END TIMES PROPHECIES | OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

in the nourishment of the olive root, ¹⁸ do not boast over those branches. If you do, remember this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you.

¹⁹ You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in." ²⁰ That is correct: They were broken off because of unbelief, but you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but be afraid. ²¹ For if God did not spare the natural branches, He will certainly not spare you either.

²² Take notice, therefore, of the kindness and severity of God: severity to those who fell, but kindness to you, if you continue in His kindness. Otherwise you also will be cut off. ²³ And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. ²⁴ For if you were cut from a wild olive tree, and contrary to nature were grafted into one that is cultivated, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!

ALL ISRAEL WILL BE SAVED

²⁵ I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, so that you will not be conceited: A hardening in part has come to Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. ²⁶ And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

*"The Deliverer will come from Zion;
He will remove godlessness from Jacob."*

²⁷ And this is My covenant with them when I take away their sins."

²⁸ Regarding the gospel, they are enemies on your account; but regarding election, they are loved on account of the patriarchs. ²⁹ For God's gifts and His call are irrevocable.

³⁰ Just as you who formerly disobeyed God have now received mercy through their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now disobeyed, in order that they too may now receive mercy through the mercy shown to you. ³² For God has consigned

■ ROM 11:25 [PROPHECY] Blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved... 'The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob' → STILL TO COME

■ ROM 11:26 [FULFILLS] He would come to Zion as Redeemer ← IS 59:20 p.-

everyone to disobedience so that He may have mercy on everyone.

A HYMN OF PRAISE // ISAIAH 40:9-31

³³ O, the depth of the riches
of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are His judgments,
and untraceable His ways!

³⁴ "Who has known the mind of the Lord?
Or who has been His counselor?"

³⁵ "Who has first given to God,
that God should repay him?"

³⁶ For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

To Him be the glory forever! Amen.

12

CHAPTER 12 IN 30 SECONDS

Now Paul gets practical. Offer your whole self to God as a living sacrifice. Do not copy the world, but let God change the way you think. Use your gifts, love for real, bless those who persecute you, and do not take revenge. Overcome evil with good.

LIVING SACRIFICES // 1 CORINTHIANS 3:16-23; 1 CORINTHIANS 6:18-20

¹ Therefore I urge you, brothers, on account of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think of yourself with sober judgment, according to the measure of faith God has given you. ⁴ Just as each of us has one body with many members, and not all members have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we who are many are one body, and each member belongs to one another.

⁶ We have different gifts according to the grace given us. If one's gift is prophecy, let him use it in proportion to his faith; ⁷ if it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸ if it is encouraging, let him

■ ROM 11:34 [QUOTES] Direct ← IS 40:13; JOB 41:11 p.-

OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

encourage; if it is giving, let him give generously; if it is leading, let him lead with diligence; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

LOVE, ZEAL, HOPE, HOSPITALITY // JOHN 13:31–35; 1 JOHN 3:11–24

⁹ Love must be sincere. Detest what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Outdo yourselves in honoring one another.

¹¹ Do not let your zeal subside; keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, persistent in prayer.

¹³ Share with the saints who are in need. Practice hospitality.

FORGIVENESS // MATTHEW 18:21–35

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you. Bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but associate with the lowly. Do not be conceited.

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Carefully consider what is right in the eyes of everybody. ¹⁸ If it is possible on your part, live at peace with everyone.

¹⁹ Do not avenge yourselves, beloved, but leave room for God's wrath. For it is written: *"Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, says the Lord."*

²⁰ On the contrary,

*"If your enemy is hungry, feed him;
if he is thirsty, give him a drink.*

*For in so doing,
you will heap burning coals on his head."*

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

13

CHAPTER 13 IN 30 SECONDS

Submit to the governing authorities and pay your taxes, even your property tax. Owe nobody anything except love, because love fulfills the law. It is almost morning, so wake up. Put away partying and drunkenness and clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ.

SUBMISSION TO AUTHORITIES // 1 PETER 2:13–20

¹ Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which is from God. The authorities that exist have been appointed by God. ² Consequently, whoever resists authority is opposing what God has set in place, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you want to be unfraid of the one in authority? Then do what is right, and you will have his approval. ⁴ For he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not carry the sword in vain. He is God's servant, an agent of retribution to the wrongdoer.

⁵ Therefore it is necessary to submit to authority, not only to avoid punishment, but also as a matter of conscience. ⁶ This is also why you pay taxes. For the authorities are God's servants, who devote themselves to their work. ⁷ Pay everyone what you owe him: taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due.

LOVE FULFILLS THE LAW // LEVITICUS 19:9–18

⁸ Be indebted to no one, except to one another in love. For he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and any other commandments, are summed up in this one decree: "Love your neighbor as yourself."¹⁰ Love does no wrong to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

THE DAY IS NEAR

¹¹ And do this, understanding the occasion. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, for our salvation is

■ **ROM 13:1 [NOTE]** Paul wrote this while Nero was emperor. Christians obey the law, pay taxes and respect leaders, because God set up government to keep order. But when a ruler commands what God forbids, Peter and the apostles said, We must obey God rather than men, Acts 5:29. The Hebrew midwives, Exodus 1:17, and Daniel, Daniel 6:10, disobeyed and God honored them. So did Christians like Corrie ten Boom, who hid Jews from the Nazis.

■ **ROM 13:9 [QUOTES]** Direct ← EX 20:13–17; LEV 19:18 p.–

■ **ROM 12:19 [QUOTES]** Direct ← DT 32:35 p.–

■ **ROM 12:20 [QUOTES]** Direct ← PROV 25:21–22 p.–

OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day has drawn near. So let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

14

CHAPTER 14 IN 30 SECONDS

Some Christians eat only vegetables, and some eat anything. Some keep special days, and some treat every day the same. Paul says stop judging each other over things like this. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. But do not use your freedom to make a weaker brother stumble.

THE LAW OF LIBERTY // MATTHEW 7:1–6; LUKE 6:37–42

¹Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on his opinions. ²For one person has faith to eat all things, while another, who is weak, eats only vegetables. ³The one who eats everything must not belittle the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted him. ⁴Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person regards a certain day above the others, while someone else considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶He who observes a special day does so to the Lord; he who eats does so to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God.

⁷For none of us lives to himself alone, and none of us dies to himself alone. ⁸If we

live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. ⁹For this reason Christ died and returned to life, that He might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why, then, do you judge your brother? Or why do you belittle your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. ¹¹It is written:

*"As surely as I live,
says the Lord,
every knee will bow before Me;
every tongue will confess to God."*

¹²So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

THE LAW OF LOVE // EZEKIEL 14:1–11; 1 CORINTHIANS 8:1–13

¹³Therefore let us stop judging one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way.

¹⁴I am convinced and fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for him it is unclean. ¹⁵If your brother is distressed by what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother, for whom Christ died.

¹⁶Do not allow what you consider good, then, to be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸For whoever serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men.

¹⁹So then, let us pursue what leads to peace and to mutual edification. ²⁰Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to let his eating be a stumbling block.

²¹It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything to cause your brother to stumble.

²²Keep your belief about such matters between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by

■ **ROM 14:1 [NOTE] CHRISTIAN FREEDOM.** In Rome some believers ate only vegetables, kept special days or skipped wine, and others did not. On matters like these, Paul says stop judging each other, 14:3 and 14:10, and let each one be fully convinced in his own mind, 14:5. Nothing is unclean in itself, 14:14. Freedom has two limits: do not make a weaker brother stumble, 14:21, and do not go against your own conscience, 14:23.

■ **ROM 14:11 [QUOTES]** Direct ← IS 45:23; 49:18 p.–

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES MIRACLES OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW

what he approves. ²³ But the one who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that is not from faith is sin.

15

CHAPTER 15 IN 30 SECONDS

The strong should carry the weak, just as Christ did not please Himself. Jews and Gentiles should welcome each other and praise God together. Paul shares his travel plans: Jerusalem first with an offering for the poor, then Rome, then Spain. He asks them to pray for him.

ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER

¹ We who are strong ought to bear with the shortcomings of the weak and not to please ourselves. ² Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. ³ For even Christ did not please Himself, but as it is written: *“The insults of those who insult You have fallen on Me.”* ⁴ For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

⁵ Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement grant you harmony with one another in Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRIST THE SERVANT OF JEWS AND GENTILES

⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring glory to God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs, ⁹ so that the Gentiles may glorify God for His mercy. As it is written:

*“Therefore I will praise You among the Gentiles;
I will sing hymns to Your name.”*

¹⁰ Again, it says:

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people.”

¹¹ And again:

*“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and extol Him, all you peoples.”*

¹² And once more, Isaiah says:

*“The Root of Jesse will appear,
One who will arise to rule over the Gentiles;
in Him the Gentiles will put their hope.”*

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

PAUL THE MINISTER TO THE GENTILES

¹⁴ I myself am convinced, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, brimming with knowledge, and able to instruct one another. ¹⁵ However, I have written you a bold reminder on some points, because of the grace God has given me ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

¹⁷ Therefore I exult in Christ Jesus in my service to God. ¹⁸ I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obedience by word and deed, ¹⁹ by the power of signs and wonders, and by the power of the Spirit of God. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.

²⁰ In this way I have aspired to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. ²¹ Rather, as it is written:

*“Those who were not told about Him will see,
and those who have not heard will understand.”*

²² That is why I have often been hindered from coming to you.

■ ROM 15:3 [FULFILLS] Zealous for His Father's house ← PS 69:9 p.~

■ ROM 15:9 [FULFILLS] The king would praise God among the nations ← 2SA 22:50 p.~

■ ROM 15:9 [FULFILLS] The king would praise God among the nations ← PS 18:49 p.~

■ ROM 15:10 [FULFILLS] The nations would rejoice with God's people and angels would worship Him ← DT 32:43 p.~

■ ROM 15:11 [QUOTES] Direct ← PS 117:1 p.~

■ ROM 15:12 [QUOTES] Direct ← IS 11:10 p.~

■ ROM 15:19 [MIRACLE] Paul's work among the Gentiles came with signs and wonders by the power of the Spirit

■ ROM 15:21 [FULFILLS] Nations startled by the message of the Servant ← IS 52:15 · MEDIUM p.~

NOTABLE

PAUL'S TRAVEL PLANS // 1 CORINTHIANS 16:5-9

²³ But now that there are no further opportunities for me in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to visit you, ²⁴ I hope to see you on my way to Spain. And after I have enjoyed your company for a while, you can equip me for my journey. ²⁵ Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem to serve the saints there. ²⁶ For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. ²⁷ They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual blessings, they are obligated to minister to them with material blessings. ²⁸ So after I have completed this service and have safely delivered this bounty to them, I will set off to Spain by way of you. ²⁹ I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ. ³⁰ Now I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. ³¹ Pray that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed. ³³ The God of peace be with all of you. Amen.

16

CHAPTER 16 IN 30 SECONDS

Paul says hello to about twenty six friends by name, starting with Phoebe, who likely carried the letter. Priscilla and Aquila are back in town. Watch out for people who cause divisions. Tertius, who wrote the letter down, slips in his own hello. It ends with a big praise to the only wise God.

PERSONAL GREETINGS AND LOVE

1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea. **2** Wel-

ROM 16:1 [NOTABLE] Paul trusted this letter to a woman. Phoebe most likely carried Romans to Rome. Paul calls her diakonos, the same Greek word used for deacons in 1

come her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her with anything she may need from you. For she has been a great help to many people, including me.

FIELD NOTES · ARCHAEOLOGY · CONFIDENCE: HIGH

CENCHREA: PHOEBE'S HARBOR

ROMANS 16:1 TO 2 · ACTS 18:18



The ancient harbor of Cenchrea today. Ruins of the old harbor tower stand on the left, and stones from the Roman harbor show above the water.

WHAT IT IS

The ruins of Cenchrea, the eastern harbor of Corinth, about 7 miles from the city. Ships from Asia and the eastern sea docked here. Phoebe served the church in Cenchrea, 16:1, and Paul sailed from here after keeping a vow, Acts 18:18.

HOW OLD IT IS

The town is far older than Paul, but most of the Roman harbor was built in the first century AD, after Julius Caesar rebuilt Corinth in 44 BC. That is the harbor Phoebe knew. A strong earthquake in the late 300s AD sank part of it into the sea.

WHERE AND WHEN FOUND

The site was never lost. Archaeologists from the University of Chicago and Indiana University dug here from 1963 to 1968, some of them as divers working underwater. Newer digs have continued since.

WHAT THEY FOUND

Stone piers, warehouses, shops and a temple, likely of the Egyptian goddess Isis. The Roman writer Apuleius, about AD 170, describes a festival of Isis at Cenchrea. Divers found crates of colored glass wall panels still waiting to be

Timothy 3:8. Some Bibles say servant and others say deacon.

ROM 16:1 [FIELD NOTES] See the Cenchrea Field Notes page.

END TIMES PROPHECIES

THE HEART

NOTABLE

put up when the earthquake hit. A church was built over part of the harbor later.

WHERE IT IS TODAY

At the shore by the village of Kechries, Greece. You can walk the ruins and see the old harbor stones under the clear water. The glass panels are in the museum at Isthmia.

WHAT IT CONFIRMS

Cenchrea was a busy port full of sailors, traders and temples to other gods. A church grew right there, and one of its leaders was a woman named Phoebe. Paul trusted her to carry the most important letter he ever wrote.

WHAT IT DOES NOT PROVE

Nothing found names Phoebe or the church of her day. The church building found here was built hundreds of years after her.

³ Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, ⁴ who have risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. ⁵ Greet also the church that meets at their house.

Greet my beloved Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia.

⁶ Greet Mary, who has worked very hard for you.

⁷ Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow countrymen and fellow prisoners. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.

⁸ Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord.

⁹ Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys.

¹⁰ Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the household of Aristobulus.

■ **ROM 16:3 [FIELD NOTES]** Claudius had thrown Priscilla and Aquila out of Rome, Acts 18:2. Now they are back. See the Claudius Field Notes page in Acts, p.-.

■ **ROM 16:7 [NOTABLE]** Junia was a woman, and Paul counts her and Andronicus outstanding among the apostles. About AD 390 the great preacher John Chrysostom praised her for it. Apostle here likely means a sent out missionary, like Barnabas in Acts 14:14. For centuries many Bibles changed her to Junias, a man's name never found in ancient writing. The other view reads it as well known to the apostles.

¹¹ Greet Herodion, my fellow countryman.

Greet those from the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord.

¹² Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, women who have worked hard in the Lord.

Greet my beloved Persis, who has worked very hard in the Lord.

¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me as well.

¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers with them.

¹⁵ Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the saints with them.

¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss.

All the churches of Christ send you greetings.

AVOID DIVISIONS // TITUS 3:9-11

¹⁷ Now I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who create divisions and obstacles that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Turn away from them. ¹⁸ For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

¹⁹ Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I rejoice over you. But I want you to be wise about what is good and innocent about what is evil.

²⁰ The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

GREETINGS FROM PAUL'S FELLOW WORKERS // COLOSSIANS 4:7-14

²¹ Timothy, my fellow worker, sends you greetings, as do Lucius, Jason, and Sostater, my fellow countrymen.

²² I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord.

■ **ROM 16:18 [HEART]** Smooth talkers deceive the hearts of the naive.

■ **ROM 16:20 [PROPHECY]** God would soon crush Satan under the believers' feet → STILL TO COME - MEDIUM

■ **ROM 16:22 [NOTE]** Paul usually spoke his letters out loud while a helper wrote them down. Here the helper, Tertius, slips in his own hello. Paul often wrote the last lines in his own hand, 1 Corinthians 16:21 and Galatians 6:11.

ARCHAEOLOGY

²³ Gaius, who has hosted me and all the church, sends you greetings.

Erastus, the city treasurer, sends you greetings, as does our brother Quartus.²⁴

[May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.]

DOXOLOGY // JUDE 1:24–25

²⁵ Now to Him who is able to strengthen you by my gospel and by the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery concealed for ages past ²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the writings of the prophets by the command of the eternal God, in order to lead all nations to the obedience that comes from faith— ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

■ **ROM 16:23 [ARCHAEOLOGY]** Paving stone inscription naming an Erastus who paid for the pavement as aedile, a city official

■ **ROM 16:23 [FIELD NOTES]** A stone pavement in Corinth names an Erastus. See The Erastus Inscription Field Notes page in Acts, p. --.

■ **ROM 16:24 [TEXT]** Verse 24 is in brackets because the oldest manuscripts do not have it. It repeats the blessing at the end of verse 20.

■ **ROM 16:25 [TEXT]** These last three verses move around in the old copies. Papyrus 46, the oldest, puts them after 15:33. Many later copies put them after 14:23, and a few have them in both places. Most modern Bibles print them here at the end.