

Sermon Notes
Good News Church
Romans – Introduction
“The Righteous Will Live by Faith”
Drue Warner
9-13-26

INTRO VIDEO (3 min.)

AUTHOR – Paul (57 A.D.), probably written from Corinth during his third journey

- Letter writing started in 49 A.D. (1 Thessalonians), ended in 57 A.D. (Romans)
- Locations: Corinth, Ephesus, Macedonia, Rome

PURPOSE – Romans is the microscope that enables us to more deeply appreciate the Good News of what God has done for us. It’s like ***“looking under the hood.”***

- 1) **UNITY** - Paul’s primary purpose in writing the letter to Romans, was to build unity among the church of Rome, which consisted of Jews and Gentiles around the absolute truth of the gospel.
 - The Roman Emperor, Claudius, expelled the Jews from Rome in 49 A.D. After he died, they were allowed to return, but by that time, the Gentile Believers had been running the Church. Even though the Jewish Believers and Gentile Believers agreed on Jesus, they came from totally different perspectives as relates to customs, religious Laws, ceremonies, feasts, etc. So, Paul’s purpose was to unify the Church as one Body with Christ as the Head.
- 2) **INFLUENCE** - This was very important because Rome was the tip of the spear for the church throughout the modern world at that time.
 - **People who came to faith by reading Romans** - John Chrysostom (373 A.D.), St. Augustine (386 A.D.), Martin Luther (1505 A.D.), John Bunyon (1649), John Wesley (1738), Drue Warner (1995)
 - *John Chrysostom insisted on having Romans read to him once a week.*
- 3) **SUPPORT** - Paul was also seeking their support in his missionary travels to Spain. He hoped for Rome to be his new staging area, which was much closer than Jerusalem, in order to get to Spain.

THEMES

CH. 1-3 Depravity, Justice, and Grace

- *“The early chapters of Romans are designed to make you feel bad about yourself.”*
– Steve Brown (*Bad News before Good News*)

CH. 4-5 Faith – origins and impact

- O.T. Reflections > Abraham and Adam

CH. 6-7 Living in Grace – motivation, frustration, salvation

CH. 8 Living in the Power of the Spirit vs. Lust of the Flesh

CH. 9-11 Israel and the Church

CH. 12-5 Christian Living

CH. 16 Greetings

THEOLOGICAL TERMS (under the hood)

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| ▪ Adoption | ▪ Redemption |
| ▪ Condemnation | ▪ Righteousness |
| ▪ Justification | ▪ Salvation |
| ▪ Predestination | ▪ Sanctification |
| ▪ Propitiation | ▪ Glorification |

PRIMARY MESSAGE

“The righteous will live by faith.” – Romans 1:17

KEY VERSE

¹⁶ *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.”*¹⁷ *For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”* – Romans 1:16-17

ROMANS ROAD

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 1. Sin | 5. Life |
| 2. Death | 6. Freedom |
| 3. Loved | 7. Safety |
| 4. Faith | |

ROMANS ROAD

1. **SIN** - "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." – Romans 3:23
2. **DEATH** - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." – Romans 6:23
3. **LOVED** - "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." – Romans 5:8
4. **FAITH** - "If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." – Romans 10:9
5. **LIFE** - "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." – Romans 10:13
6. **FREEDOM** - "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." – Romans 8:1
7. **SAFETY** - For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 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." – Romans 8:38-39

FINAL THOUGHTS

The Good News of Romans is that sinners who **CANNOT earn, by works**, the righteousness that was lost, **CAN be declared by faith**, to be perfectly righteous, in Jesus Christ.

Because of Jesus, there is now therefore **no condemnation and no separation**.

And THAT'S Good News!