

Title Page

A Word from the Publisher

Introduction

I. Romans: Its Influence and Importance

II. The Author of Romans

A. Paul's Jewish Background

B. Paul's Conversion to Christianity

C. Paul's Commission as the Apostle to the Gentiles

III. Time and Place of Writing

IV. Recipients of Romans: the Church in Rome

V. The Occasion of the Writing

VI. The Purpose of Romans

A. Romans is a Doctrinal Essay

B. Romans Was Occasioned by Paul's Immediate Needs

C. Romans Was Occasioned by Needs at Rome Itself

1. The Need for Jew-Gentile Unity

2. The Need for an Apostolic Foundation

3. The Need for Paul's Gospel

D. Conclusion

VII. The Theme of Romans

- A. Justification by Faith
- B. The Righteousness of God
- C. The Equality of Jews and Gentiles
- D. Sinners are Saved by Grace, Not Law

VIII. Outline of Romans 1–8

Prologue—1:1–17

Part One: the Impotence of Law as a Way of Salvation—1:18–3:20

Part Two: the All-Sufficiency of Grace as a Way of Salvation—3:21–5:21

Part Three: the All-Sufficiency of Grace Gives Victory Over Sin—6:1–8:39

Bibliography

- I. Commentaries
- II. Miscellaneous Books and Articles

Prologue

- I. 1:1–7—Epistolary Greeting
 - A. The Author Introduces Himself (1:1)
 - 1. A Slave of Christ Jesus
 - 2. Called to Be an Apostle
 - 3. Set Apart for the Gospel of God
 - B. The Gospel and the Old Testament (1:2)

C. The Subject of the Gospel is Jesus (1:3–4)

1. The Two Natures of Jesus
2. The Incarnation
3. Messiahship
4. The Two States of Jesus
5. The Resurrection of Jesus
6. The Son's Full Identity

D. Paul's Apostleship (1:5)

1. The Origin of Paul's Apostleship
2. The Character of Paul's Apostleship
3. The Focus of Paul's Apostleship
4. The Purpose of Paul's Apostleship
5. The Goal of Paul's Apostleship

E. The Recipients of Paul's Letter (1:6–7a)

F. The Blessing (1:7b)

II. 1:8–15—Personal Remarks

A. Paul's Prayers for the Romans (1:8–10)

B. Paul's Desires Regarding Rome (1:11–13)

C. Paul's Debt to the Romans (1:14–15)

III. 1:16–17—Transitional Statement

A. The Glory of the Gospel (1:16a)

B. The Power of the Gospel (1:16b)

C. The Scope of the Gospel (1:16c)

D. Faith and the Gospel (1:16c)

1. Faith is a Condition for Salvation

2. Faith is Not the Only Condition

E. The Heart of the Gospel (1:17a)

F. The Golden Text of the Gospel (1:17b)

Conclusion

Part One

The Impotence of Law as a Way of Salvation

I. 1:18–32—The Sinfulness of the Gentiles

A. Universal Knowledge of God and His Law (1:18–20)

B. Universal Rejection of the True God (1:21–25)

C. The Utter Depths of Gentile Depravity (1:26–32)

Conclusion

II. 2:1–3:8—The Sinfulness of the Jews

Introduction

1. Who is Being Addressed in 1:1–16?

2. Does Romans 2 Teach Justification by Works?

3. The Outline of This Section

4. The Style of Writing

A. Jews are Under the Wrath of God, No Less Than the Gentiles (2:1–5)

B. God Will Be Partial to No One in the Judgment (2:6–11)

C. Under Law, the Criterion of Judgment is Obedience Alone (2:12–16)

D. Jews Who Look to the Law for Salvation are Condemned by Their Own Disobedience (2:17–24)

E. True Jewishness is Identified Not by Circumcision But by the Inward State of the Heart (2:25–29)

F. Such Equal Treatment of Jews and Gentiles Does Not Nullify But Rather Magnifies God's Righteousness (3:1–8)

III. 3:9–20—Universal Sinfulness and Hopelessness Under Law

Part Two

The All-Sufficiency of Grace as a Way of Salvation

I. 3:21–31—Grace as Justification by Christ's Blood Through Faith

A. Righteousness Through Faith is Now Fully Revealed (3:21–23)

B. Sinners are Justified by the Blood of Christ (3:24–26)

C. Sinners are Justified by Faith Apart from Works of Law (3:27–28)

D. The Way of Grace is Available to All (3:29–30)

E. Grace Lets Law Do Its Proper Work (3:31)

II. 4:1–25—Abraham: Paradigm of Grace

A. Abraham Was Justified by Faith Apart from Works (4:1–5)

B. David Explains and Confirms Justification by Faith Apart from Works (4:6–8)

C. Membership in Abraham's Family is by Faith, Not by Circumcision (4:9–12)

D. The Inheritance Promised to Abraham Comes by Faith, Not by Law (4:13–17a)

E. Faith Means Giving Glory to God and Believing His Promises (4:17b–22)

F. Those Who Believe Like Abraham are Justified Like Abraham (4:23–25)

III. 5:1–21—Grace and Assurance

A. Assurance of Personal Salvation (5:1–11)

1. Justification by Faith is the Key to Assurance (5:1–2)
2. Tribulations of Believers Do Not Nullify Assurance (5:3–5)
3. Christ Died for Us While We Were Still Sinners (5:6–8)
4. Our Hope is Even More Secure Now that We are His Friends (5:9–11)

B. The All-Sufficiency of the Death of Christ (5:12–21)

1. One Sin of One Man (Adam) Brought Sin and Death to All (5:12–14)
2. Christ and His Sacrifice are Greater Than Adam and His Sin (5:15–17)
3. Christ's Cross Completely Cancels the Results of Adam's Sin (5:18–19)
4. Grace Triumphs Over Sin and Death (5:20–21)

Part Three

The All-Sufficiency of Grace Gives Victory Over Sin

Introduction

A. The Major Theme of This Section

B. The Doctrinal Content of This Section

1. Key Concepts
2. Anthropological Dualism: Body and Spirit
3. The Stages of the Spiritual Life

C. The Outline of This Section

I. 6:1–7:13—Objections to Grace Based on a Fear of Antinomianism

A. Does Grace Make Sin Irrelevant? No! (6:1–14)

B. Does Freedom from Law Mean We are Free to Sin? No!
(6:15–7:6)

1. We are Slaves to God (6:15–23)

2. We Obey God from Our Hearts (7:1–6)

C. Does Grace Mean that Law is Bad? No! (7:7–13)

II. 7:14–8:13—Grace Gives Victory Over Sin

A. The Christian Continues to Struggle Against Sin (7:14–25)

1. The Nature of the Struggle (7:14–20)

2. The Source of the Struggle (7:21–25)

B. Victory Over Sin Comes Through the Holy Spirit (8:1–13)

1. God Frees Us from Sin's Penalty and Power (8:1–4)

2. Sin and Death are Defeated in Us Through the Holy Spirit (8:5–13)

III. 8:14–39—The Assurance of Final and Total Victory Over the Fallen World

A. The Holy Spirit Marks Us as Sons and Heirs (8:14–17)

B. The Redeemed Cosmos is Our Inheritance (8:18–25)

C. God Promises to Bring His Family Through Earthly Trials
(8:26–30)

▪ D. God's Gracious Love Gives Us Unshakable Assurance
(8:31–39)