

ROMANS

TRANSFORMED!

MESSAGE: VBC TEACHING TEAM

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It's Been A Great Meal! Closing out Paul's letter to the Romans
The Book of Romans: Review & Use

INTRODUCTION: 1:1-15

THEME: **Rom. 1:16** *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

Why is the gospel necessary? (Romans 1:18-3:20)

KEY VERSE: **Rom. 1:18** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.*

How does the gospel "work"? (Romans 3:21-5:21)

Jesus' death & resurrection, God's grace, and our faith

KEY VERSE: **Rom. 4:25** *who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.*

How does the gospel change the way we live? (Romans 6:1-8:39)

KEY VERSE: **Rom. 6:1** *What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*

ROMANS 6:1-11

We have been united with Christ by being "immersed" into His death

3 *"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?"*

Because we are united with Christ through His death we have been set free from sin

5 *"...we have been united with him in a death like his..." 6 "We know that our old self was crucified with him..." 7 "...one who has died has been set free from sin"*

We get all the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection as if we died and rose with Him

4 *"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his."*

Paul's command to us is simply to believe these realities to be true

11 *"So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus"*

We must "consider" verse 11 to be a matter of fact, regardless of how we feel

Romans 8:14-31: Our new position in Christ gives us unmatched security and confidence.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? (v. 31)

1. Our Past: In Christ, we are adopted Children of God, sharing the life of Jesus (vv. 14-17)

*14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God... 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and **fellow heirs with Christ**, provided we **suffer with him** in order that we may also be **glorified with him**.*

2. Our Present: In extreme suffering, the Holy Spirit takes up our cause to produce good results (vv.26-30)

*26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness... 27 And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because **the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God**. 28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose... 29 to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

3. Our Future: we patiently endure suffering by remembering our inheritance (vv.23-25)

*23... we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 **For in this hope we were saved**. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? 25 **But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience**.*

[A sidebar: has God been faithful to ethnic Israel? (Romans 9:1-11:36)]

KEY VERSE: Rom. 11:29 *For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.*

Finally, what does this new life in Christ look like? (Romans 12:1-16:27)

KEY VERSE: Rom. 12:1 *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Ideas on how to remember key themes in Romans:

1. Establish one month a year for Romans refreshment.
2. Begin to memorize a short, but significant , portion from Romans.
3. Periodically practice "thinking through" Romans.
4. Determine the three most important ways God has used Romans in your life. How can you discipline yourself to keep them fresh? For example, find someone to ask you how you're doing with one of these important truths. Or, set up a time daily to remind yourself of one or more?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – see the VBC app

SONGS

"Yes and Amen" - Anthony Brown, Nate Moore, Chris McClarney

"It Is Well" - Horatio Gates Spafford, Kristene DiMarco, Philip Paul Bliss

"The Cross Has the Final Word" - Cody Carnes

"Give Me Faith" - Brian Houston

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$34,338.00
WEEKLY NEED: \$34,979.00

YTD GIVING: \$1,155,277.00
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$1,189,286.00