

# 2021-2022 CMA Romans James Reference Materials

## Romans 1

- ¶ Romans 1:1 - Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God--  
Romans 1:2 - the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures  
Romans 1:3 - regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David,  
Romans 1:4 - and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Romans 1:5 - Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.  
Romans 1:6 - And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.  
¶ Romans 1:7 - To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Paul's Longing to Visit Rome

- ¶ Romans 1:8 - First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world.  
Romans 1:9 - God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you  
Romans 1:10 - in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.  
¶ Romans 1:11 - I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong--  
Romans 1:12 - that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.  
Romans 1:13 - I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.  
¶ Romans 1:14 - I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish.  
Romans 1:15 - That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.  
¶ Romans 1:16 - 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.  
Romans 1:17 - 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."

### God's Wrath Against Sinful Humanity

- ¶ Romans 1:18 - The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness,  
Romans 1:19 - since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.  
Romans 1:20 - For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.  
¶ Romans 1:21 - For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.  
Romans 1:22 - Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools  
Romans 1:23 - and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.  
¶ Romans 1:24 - Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.  
Romans 1:25 - They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator--who is forever praised. Amen.  
¶ Romans 1:26 - Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones.  
Romans 1:27 - In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.  
¶ Romans 1:28 - Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.

- Romans 1:29 - 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,
- Romans 1:30 - **slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful**; they invent ways of doing evil; they **disobey their parents**;
- Romans 1:31 - they have no **understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy**.
- Romans 1:32 - Although **they know God's righteous decree** that those who do **such things deserve death**, they not **only continue to do these very things but also approve** of those who practice them.

## Romans 2

### God's Righteous Judgment

- ¶ Romans 2:1 - **You, therefore, have no excuse, you** who pass judgment on **someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because** you who pass judgment do the same things.
- Romans 2:2 - Now **we** know that God's **judgment against** those who do such **things is based on truth**.
- Romans 2:3 - So when you, **a mere human being, pass** judgment on them and yet do the same **things, do you think you will escape God's** judgment?
- Romans 2:4 - **Or** do you **show contempt** for the **riches** of his **kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance**?
- ¶ Romans 2:5 - **But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself** for the day of God's **wrath, when his righteous judgment will be revealed**.
- Romans 2:6 - God "will **repay each person according** to what they **have done**."
- Romans 2:7 - To those **who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life**.
- Romans 2:8 - But for those who **are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger**.
- Romans 2:9 - There will **be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil: first** for the Jew, then for the Gentile;
- Romans 2:10 - **but glory, honor and peace for everyone** who does **good: first** for the Jew, then for the Gentile.
- Romans 2:11 - For **God does** not show **favoritism**.
- ¶ Romans 2:12 - 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.
- Romans 2:13 - For it is **not those who hear the law who are righteous** in God's **sight, but it is those who obey the law** who will be **declared** righteous.
- Romans 2:14 - (**Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even** though they do not have the law.
- Romans 2:15 - **They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.**)
- Romans 2:16 - **This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares**.

### The Jews and the Law

- ¶ Romans 2:17 - **Now you, if you call yourself a Jew; if you rely on the law and boast** in God;
- Romans 2:18 - if you **know his will and approve** of what **is superior because you are instructed by the law**;
- Romans 2:19 - if you **are convinced** that you are **a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark,**
- Romans 2:20 - **an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of little children, because you have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth--**
- Romans 2:21 - you, **then, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You who preach against stealing, do you steal?**
- Romans 2:22 - You who **say** that **people should** not commit **adultery, do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples?**
- Romans 2:23 - You **who boast** in the law, do **you dishonor God by breaking the law?**
- Romans 2:24 - As it is **written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because** of you."
- ¶ Romans 2:25 - **Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised**.
- Romans 2:26 - So then, if those who are not **circumcised keep the law's requirements, will they not be regarded** as though they **were circumcised?**

- Romans 2:27 - The one who is not **circumcised physically and yet obeys the law will condemn you who, even though you have the written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker.**
- ¶ Romans 2:28 - A person is not a Jew who is **one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical.**
- Romans 2:29 - **No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God.**

## Romans 3

### God's Faithfulness

- ¶ Romans 3:1 - **What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision?**
- Romans 3:2 - **Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God.**
- ¶ Romans 3:3 - What if **some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness?**
- Romans 3:4 - Not at all! **Let God be true, and every human being a liar. As it is written: "So that you may be proved right when you speak and prevail when you judge."**
- ¶ Romans 3:5 - But **if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say? That God is unjust in bringing his wrath on us? (I am using a human argument.)**
- Romans 3:6 - **Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world?**
- Romans 3:7 - **Someone might argue, "If my falsehood enhances God's truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?"**
- Romans 3:8 - Why not **say--as some slanderously claim that we say--"Let us do evil that good may result"? Their condemnation is just!**

### No One Is Righteous

- ¶ Romans 3:9 - What shall **we conclude then? Do we have any advantage? Not at all! For we have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin.**
- Romans 3:10 - As it is **written: "There is no one righteous, not even one;**
- Romans 3:11 - **there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God.**
- Romans 3:12 - **All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."**
- Romans 3:13 - **"Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit." "The poison of vipers is on their lips."**
- Romans 3:14 - **"Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness."**
- Romans 3:15 - **"Their feet are swift to shed blood;**
- Romans 3:16 - **ruin and misery mark their ways,**
- Romans 3:17 - **and the way of peace they do not know."**
- Romans 3:18 - **"There is no fear of God before their eyes."**
- ¶ Romans 3:19 - 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.**
- Romans 3:20 - **Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.**

### Righteousness Through Faith

- ¶ Romans 3:21 - But **now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.**
- Romans 3:22 - **This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,**
- Romans 3:23 - **for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,**
- Romans 3:24 - **and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.**
- Romans 3:25 - **God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood--to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished--**
- Romans 3:26 - **he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.**
- ¶ Romans 3:27 - **Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith.**
- Romans 3:28 - **For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.**
- Romans 3:29 - **Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too,**

Romans 3:30 - **since there** is only one God, who **will justify the circumcised by** faith and the **uncircumcised through that same faith**.

Romans 3:31 - Do **we, then, nullify the law by this faith?** **Not** at all! **Rather, we uphold the law.**

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## Romans 4

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### Abraham Justified by Faith

- ¶ Romans 4:1 - What then shall we say that **Abraham, our forefather according** to the **flesh, discovered in this matter?**
- Romans 4:2 - **If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about--but not before God.**
- Romans 4:3 - What **does Scripture say?** "**Abraham** believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."
- ¶ Romans 4:4 - **Now** to the one **who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation.**
- Romans 4:5 - **However, to** the one who does **not work but trusts God** who **justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited** as righteousness.
- Romans 4:6 - **David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of** the one to whom **God credits righteousness apart from works:**
- ¶ Romans 4:7 - "**Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.**
- Romans 4:8 - Blessed is the one **whose sin** the Lord will **never count against them.**"
- ¶ Romans 4:9 - Is **this blessedness only for** the circumcised, **or also for** the uncircumcised? **We have been saying that Abraham's faith** was credited to him as righteousness.
- Romans 4:10 - **Under what circumstances was it credited? Was it after he** was circumcised, **or before? It was not after, but before!**
- Romans 4:11 - And **he received circumcision as a sign, 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** have not been **circumcised, in order that righteousness might be credited** to them.
- Romans 4:12 - And he **is then also** the father of the **circumcised who not only are circumcised but who also follow in the footsteps of** the faith that our father **Abraham had before he** was circumcised.
- ¶ Romans 4:13 - It was **not through** the law that **Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of** the **world, but through** the righteousness that comes by faith.
- Romans 4:14 - For if those **who depend on** the law are **heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless,**
- Romans 4:15 - **because the law brings wrath. And where** there is no **law there is no transgression.**
- ¶ Romans 4:16 - **Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all** Abraham's **offspring--not only to** those who **are of** the law but also to those who have the **faith of Abraham. He** is the father of us all.
- Romans 4:17 - As it is **written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed--the God who gives** life to the dead and **calls into being things that were not.**
- ¶ Romans 4:18 - Against **all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said** to him, "**So shall your offspring be.**"
- Romans 4:19 - **Without weakening in** his faith, **he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead--since he was about a hundred years old--and that Sarah's womb was also dead.**
- Romans 4:20 - **Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in** his faith and **gave glory to God,**
- Romans 4:21 - being **fully persuaded that God had power to do** what he **had promised.**
- Romans 4:22 - This is **why "it** was credited to him as righteousness."
- Romans 4:23 - **The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone,**
- Romans 4:24 - but also for us, to whom God **will credit righteousness--for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from** the dead.
- Romans 4:25 - He **was delivered over to death for our sins and was** raised to life for **our justification.**
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## Romans 5

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### Peace and Hope

- ¶ Romans 5:1 - **Therefore, since** we have been **justified through faith, we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- Romans 5:2 - through whom we **have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast** in the **hope of** the glory of God.
- Romans 5:3 - Not only so, but we **also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces** perseverance;

- Romans 5:4 - **perseverance, character; and character, hope.**
- Romans 5:5 - **And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.**
- ¶ Romans 5:6 - **You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.**
- Romans 5:7 - **Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.**
- Romans 5:8 - **But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**
- ¶ Romans 5:9 - **Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!**
- Romans 5:10 - **For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!**
- Romans 5:11 - **Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.**

## Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

- ¶ Romans 5:12 - **Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned--**
- ¶ Romans 5:13 - **To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law.**
- Romans 5:14 - **Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.**
- ¶ Romans 5:15 - **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, overflow to the many!**
- Romans 5:16 - **Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.**
- Romans 5:17 - **For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!**
- ¶ Romans 5:18 - **Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people.**
- Romans 5:19 - **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.**
- ¶ Romans 5:20 - **The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more,**
- Romans 5:21 - **so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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## Romans 6

### Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

- ¶ Romans 6:1 - **What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?**
- Romans 6:2 - **By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?**
- Romans 6:3 - **Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?**
- Romans 6:4 - **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 live a new life.**
- ¶ Romans 6:5 - **For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.**
- Romans 6:6 - **For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin--**
- Romans 6:7 - **because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.**
- ¶ Romans 6:8 - **Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.**
- Romans 6:9 - **For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.**
- Romans 6:10 - **The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.**
- ¶ Romans 6:11 - **In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.**
- Romans 6:12 - **Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.**

Romans 6:13 - Do **not offer any part** of yourself to **sin** as an **instrument** of **wickedness**, but **rather offer** yourselves to **God** as those who have **been brought from** death to life; and **offer every part** of yourself to him as an **instrument** of righteousness.

Romans 6:14 - For **sin shall no** longer **be your master**, **because** you are not under the law, but under grace.

## Slaves to Righteousness

¶ Romans 6:15 - What then? Shall **we sin because** we are not under the law but under **grace**? **By** no means!

Romans 6:16 - Don't you know that when **you offer** yourselves to **someone** as **obedient slaves**, **you** are slaves of the **one you obey--whether you** are slaves to **sin**, which leads to **death**, or to **obedience**, which leads to righteousness?

Romans 6:17 - **But thanks** be to God **that, though** you used to be slaves to sin, you **have come** to **obey from** your **heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance**.

Romans 6:18 - You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

¶ Romans 6:19 - **I am using an example from everyday life** because of **your human limitations**. **Just** as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to **impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness**, **so now offer** yourselves as slaves to **righteousness leading to** holiness.

Romans 6:20 - When you **were slaves** to sin, you **were free** from **the control of** righteousness.

Romans 6:21 - **What benefit did** you **reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed** of? **Those things result in** death!

Romans 6:22 - But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, **the benefit you reap leads to holiness**, and **the result is** eternal life.

Romans 6:23 - For the **wages of** sin is death, but the **gift** of God is eternal **life in** Christ Jesus our **Lord**.

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## Romans 7

### Released From the Law, Bound to Christ

¶ Romans 7:1 - Do you not **know, brothers** and **sisters--for I am speaking to those who know** the law--that the **law has authority over someone only as long as that person lives**?

Romans 7:2 - **For example, by law a married woman is bound to her husband** as long as **he is alive**, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law **that binds her to** him.

Romans 7:3 - So then, if she **has sexual relations with another man while her husband is still alive**, she is **called an adulteress**. But if her husband dies, she is released **from that law** and is **not an adulteress if she marries another** man.

¶ Romans 7:4 - **So, my brothers and sisters, 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** for God.

Romans 7:5 - **For when** we were in the **realm** of the **flesh**, **the sinful passions aroused by the law were** at work in us, so that **we bore fruit for death**.

Romans 7:6 - But **now, by dying to what once 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**.

### The Law and Sin

¶ Romans 7:7 - What shall we **say**, then? Is the **law sinful**? **Certainly not! Nevertheless**, I would not have known **what sin was had it not been for** the law. For I would not have known **what coveting really was if the law had not said**, "You shall not **covet**."

Romans 7:8 - But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the **commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting**. **For apart from the law, sin was dead**.

Romans 7:9 - **Once I was alive apart** from the law; but **when the commandment came, sin sprang to** life and **died**.

Romans 7:10 - **I found that the very commandment that was intended to bring life actually brought death**.

Romans 7:11 - For sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the **commandment, deceived me, and through the commandment put me** to death.

Romans 7:12 - So then, the law is holy, and the **commandment is holy, righteous and good**.

¶ Romans 7:13 - **Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! Nevertheless, in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it used what is good to bring about my death**, so that through the **commandment sin might become utterly sinful**.

¶ Romans 7:14 - We know that the law **is spiritual**; but I **am unspiritual, sold as** a slave to sin.

Romans 7:15 - I do not **understand what I do**. For what I want to do I do not do, but what **I hate I do**.

Romans 7:16 - And if I do what I do not want to do, **I agree that** the law is good.

Romans 7:17 - As it is, it is no longer I **myself who** do it, but it is sin living in me.

Romans 7:18 - For I know that **good itself does not dwell** in me, that is, in my sinful **nature**. For I have **the desire to do what is good**, but **I cannot carry it out**.

Romans 7:19 - For I do not do the **good I want to do**, but the **evil I do not want to do--this I keep on doing**.

Romans 7:20 - Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer **I who** do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

¶ Romans 7:21 - So **I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me**.

Romans 7:22 - For in **my inner being I delight in** God's law;

Romans 7:23 - but **I see another law at work in me, waging war against** the law of my mind **and making me a prisoner of** the law of **sin at work within me**.

Romans 7:24 - What a **wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject** to death?

Romans 7:25 - **Thanks** be to God, **who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!** So **then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin**.

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## Romans 8

### Life Through the Spirit

¶ Romans 8:1 - **Therefore, there is now no condemnation** for those who are in Christ Jesus,

Romans 8:2 - **because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free** from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:3 - For what the law **was powerless to do because it was weakened by** the **flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in** the flesh,

Romans 8:4 - in order that the **righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us**, who do **not live** according to the flesh **but according to** the Spirit.

¶ Romans 8:5 - Those who live according to the **flesh have** their minds set on what the **flesh desires; but those** who live in accordance with the **Spirit have** their minds set on what the **Spirit desires**.

Romans 8:6 - The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit **is life and peace**.

Romans 8:7 - The mind governed by the flesh **is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so**.

Romans 8:8 - Those who are in the realm of the **flesh cannot please God**.

¶ Romans 8:9 - **You, however, are** not in the realm of the flesh **but are** in the realm of the **Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you**. And if **anyone does** not have the Spirit of **Christ, they do not belong to Christ**.

Romans 8:10 - But **if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives** life because of **righteousness**.

Romans 8:11 - And if the Spirit of him who raised **Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you**.

¶ Romans 8:12 - **Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation--but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it**.

Romans 8:13 - For if you live according to the **flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live**.

¶ Romans 8:14 - For those who **are led by the Spirit of God are** the children of God.

Romans 8:15 - The Spirit you **received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."**

Romans 8:16 - The Spirit **himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children**.

Romans 8:17 - Now if we **are children, then we are heirs--heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory**.

### Present Suffering and Future Glory

¶ Romans 8:18 - **I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us**.

Romans 8:19 - For the **creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed**.

Romans 8:20 - For the **creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope**

Romans 8:21 - that the **creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God**.

¶ Romans 8:22 - We know that the **whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time**.

Romans 8:23 - Not **only so**, but **we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies**.

- Romans 8:24 - For in **this hope we were saved**. But hope that is **seen** is no hope at all. Who **hopes** for what they **already have**?
- Romans 8:25 - But if **we hope** for what we do **not yet have**, we wait for it **patiently**.
- ¶ Romans 8:26 - In the **same way**, the **Spirit helps us** in our **weakness**. We do not know what **we ought** to **pray for**, **but** the Spirit **himself intercedes** for us **through wordless groans**.
- Romans 8:27 - And he **who searches our hearts knows** the mind of the **Spirit**, **because** the **Spirit intercedes** for **God's people** in accordance with the will of God.
- ¶ Romans 8:28 - And we know **that in all things God works for** the **good** of those who love him, who have **been called according to his purpose**.
- Romans 8:29 - For **those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be **the firstborn among many brothers** and sisters.
- Romans 8:30 - And those **he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified**.

## More Than Conquerors

- ¶ Romans 8:31 - What, then, shall we **say in response to these things**? If **God is for us, who can be against us**?
- Romans 8:32 - He who did not **spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things**?
- Romans 8:33 - Who will **bring any charge against those whom God has chosen**? It is God who **justifies**.
- Romans 8:34 - **Who then** is the one **who condemns**? **No one. Christ Jesus who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us**.
- Romans 8:35 - **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?**
- Romans 8:36 - As it is **written**: "**For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered**."
- ¶ Romans 8:37 - **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us**.
- Romans 8:38 - For I **am convinced** that neither **death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,**
- Romans 8:39 - **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**.

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## Romans 9

### Paul's Anguish Over Israel

- ¶ Romans 9:1 - **I speak the truth in Christ--I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit--**
- Romans 9:2 - **I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart**.
- Romans 9:3 - For I **could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race,**
- Romans 9:4 - the people of **Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises**.
- Romans 9:5 - **Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen**.

### God's Sovereign Choice

- ¶ Romans 9:6 - It is **not as though God's word had failed**. For not all who are **descended from Israel are Israel**.
- Romans 9:7 - **Nor because they are his descendants are they all Abraham's children. On the contrary, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned."**
- Romans 9:8 - **In other words**, it is not the **children by physical descent who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as Abraham's offspring**.
- Romans 9:9 - For **this was how the promise was stated**: "**At the appointed time I will return, and Sarah will have a son**."
- ¶ Romans 9:10 - Not **only that, but Rebekah's children were conceived at the same time by our father Isaac**.
- Romans 9:11 - **Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad--in order that God's purpose in election might stand:**
- Romans 9:12 - not by **works but by him who calls--she was told, "The older will serve the younger"**.
- Romans 9:13 - Just as it is **written**: "**Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated**."
- ¶ Romans 9:14 - What then shall we say? Is **God unjust**? **Not at all!**

- Romans 9:15 - For he says **to Moses**, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have **compassion on** whom I have compassion."
- ¶ Romans 9:16 - It does **not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God's** mercy.
- Romans 9:17 - **For 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."
- Romans 9:18 - Therefore God **has mercy** on whom he wants to have mercy, and **he hardens whom** he wants to **harden**.
- ¶ Romans 9:19 - One of you will say to **me**: "**Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?**"
- Romans 9:20 - But who are you, a human **being, to talk back to God?** "**Shall what is formed say** to the one **who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'**"
- Romans 9:21 - Does not **the potter have** the **right to make out** of the **same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?**
- ¶ Romans 9:22 - What if **God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience** the objects of his **wrath--prepared for destruction?**
- Romans 9:23 - What if he did this to make the **riches** of his **glory known** to the objects of his **mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory--**
- Romans 9:24 - **even us, whom** he also **called, not only from the Jews but also from** the Gentiles?
- Romans 9:25 - As he says **in Hosea**: "I will **call them 'my people'** who are not my people; and I will **call her 'my loved one'** who is not my loved one,"
- ¶ Romans 9:26 - and, "In the **very place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' there they will be called 'children of the living God.'**"
- ¶ Romans 9:27 - **Isaiah cries out concerning Israel**: "**Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea, only the remnant will be saved.**
- Romans 9:28 - For the Lord **will carry out his sentence on earth with speed and finality.**"
- ¶ Romans 9:29 - It is just **as Isaiah said previously**: "**Unless the Lord Almighty had left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah.**"

## Israel's Unbelief

- ¶ Romans 9:30 - What then shall we say? That the Gentiles, who did **not pursue righteousness, have obtained it, a** righteousness that is by faith;
- Romans 9:31 - but the people of **Israel, who pursued the law as the way** of righteousness, have **not attained their goal**.
- Romans 9:32 - Why **not? Because they pursued it** not by faith but **as if it were by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone**.
- Romans 9:33 - As it is **written**: "**See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who believes in him will never be put to shame.**"

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## Romans 10

- ¶ Romans 10:1 - **Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is** that **they may** be saved.
- Romans 10:2 - For **I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge**.
- Romans 10:3 - **Since** they did not **know** the righteousness of God **and sought to establish their own, they** did not **submit to God's** righteousness.
- Romans 10:4 - Christ is **the culmination of** the law **so** that there may **be righteousness** for everyone who believes.
- ¶ Romans 10:5 - **Moses writes this about** the righteousness that is by the law: "**The person who does these things will live by them.**"
- Romans 10:6 - 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**)
- Romans 10:7 - **"or 'Who will descend into the deep?'**" (**that is, to bring Christ up** from the dead).
- Romans 10:8 - But **what does it say?** "**The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,**" that is, the **message concerning faith that we proclaim**:
- Romans 10:9 - **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 10:10 - For it is with your heart that you believe and are **justified, and** it is with your **mouth that you profess your faith and are saved**.
- Romans 10:11 - **As Scripture says, 'Anyone** who believes in him will **never be put to shame.'**"
- Romans 10:12 - For there is no **difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord** is Lord of **all and richly blesses all who call on him,**

- Romans 10:13 - for, "Everyone who **calls on the name** of the Lord will be saved."
- ¶ Romans 10:14 - **How, then, can they call** on the **one they have not believed in**? **And** how can **they believe** in the one **of whom they have not heard**? **And** how can **they hear without someone preaching to them**?
- Romans 10:15 - And how **can anyone preach unless they are sent**? **As** it is **written**: "**How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!**"
- ¶ Romans 10:16 - But not all the **Israelites accepted the good news**. **For Isaiah says**, "**Lord, who has believed our message?**"
- Romans 10:17 - **Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ**.
- Romans 10:18 - But I ask: Did they not **hear**? **Of course they did**: "**Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world**."
- ¶ Romans 10:19 - **Again** I ask: **Did Israel not understand**? **First, Moses says**, "I will make **you envious by those who are not a nation**; I will make **you angry by a nation that has no understanding**."
- ¶ Romans 10:20 - **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**."
- ¶ Romans 10:21 - **But concerning Israel he says**, "**All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people**."

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## Romans 11

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### The Remnant of Israel

- ¶ Romans 11:1 - I **ask then: Did God reject his people**? **By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin**.
- Romans 11:2 - God did **not reject his people, whom he foreknew**. **Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah--how he appealed to God against Israel**:
- Romans 11:3 - "**Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me**"?
- Romans 11:4 - **And what was God's answer to him**? "**I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal**."
- Romans 11:5 - **So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace**.
- Romans 11:6 - And if by **grace, then it cannot be based on works**; if it were, **grace would no longer be grace**.
- ¶ Romans 11:7 - What **then**? What the people of **Israel sought so earnestly they did not obtain**. **The elect among them did, but the others were hardened**,
- Romans 11:8 - 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**."
- ¶ Romans 11:9 - **And David says**: "**May their table become a snare and a trap, a stumbling block and a retribution for them**."
- Romans 11:10 - May their **eyes be darkened so they cannot see, and their backs be bent forever**."

### Ingrafted Branches

- ¶ Romans 11:11 - Again I ask: Did **they stumble so as to fall beyond recovery**? **Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, salvation has come to the Gentiles to make Israel envious**.
- Romans 11:12 - But if their **transgression means riches for the world, and their loss means riches for the Gentiles, how much greater riches will their full inclusion bring!**
- ¶ Romans 11:13 - I **am talking to you Gentiles**. **Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I take pride in my ministry**
- Romans 11:14 - in the **hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them**.
- Romans 11:15 - For if **their rejection brought reconciliation to the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead**?
- Romans 11:16 - If **the part of the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches**.
- ¶ Romans 11:17 - If some of the **branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root**,
- Romans 11:18 - do **not consider yourself to be superior to those other branches**. If you do, **consider this**: You do **not support the root, but the root supports you**.
- Romans 11:19 - You will **say then**, "**Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in**."
- Romans 11:20 - **Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but tremble**.
- Romans 11:21 - For if God did not **spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either**.

- ¶ Romans 11:22 - Consider **therefore** the kindness and **sternness** of God: **sternness** to those **who fell**, but **kindness** to you, **provided** that you **continue** in his kindness. **Otherwise**, you **also** will be cut off.
- Romans 11:23 - And if they do **not persist** in unbelief, they will be grafted **in**, for God is **able** to graft them in again.
- Romans 11:24 - **After all**, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and **contrary** to nature were grafted into a **cultivated** olive tree, how much **more readily** will **these**, the natural branches, be grafted **into their own** olive tree!

## All Israel Will Be Saved

- ¶ Romans 11:25 - I do not **want** you to be **ignorant** of this **mystery**, **brothers** and **sisters**, so that you **may not** be **conceited**: **Israel** has experienced a **hardening** in part **until** the **full number** of the **Gentiles** has come in,
- Romans 11:26 - and in this **way** all **Israel** will be **saved**. As it is written: "**The deliverer** will come **from Zion**; he will **turn godlessness** away from **Jacob**."
- Romans 11:27 - **And this** is my **covenant** with them **when** I take away their **sins**."
- ¶ Romans 11:28 - As far as the **gospel** is **concerned**, they are **enemies** for your **sake**; but as far as **election** is **concerned**, they are **loved** on **account** of the **patriarchs**,
- Romans 11:29 - for **God's gifts** and his **call** are **irrevocable**.
- Romans 11:30 - **Just** as you who were **at one time** **disobedient** to God have now **received** **mercy** as a result of their **disobedience**,
- Romans 11:31 - so they **too** have now become **disobedient** in **order** that they too **may now** **receive** **mercy** as a result of God's mercy to you.
- Romans 11:32 - For God **has bound everyone** over to **disobedience** so that **he may have** mercy on **them all**.

## Doxology

- ¶ Romans 11:33 - **Oh**, the **depth** of the riches of the **wisdom** and **knowledge** of **God**! **How unsearchable** his **judgments**, and his **paths** beyond tracing out!
- Romans 11:34 - "Who **has known** the **mind** of the **Lord**? **Or** who has **been** his **counselor**?"
- Romans 11:35 - "Who **has ever** given to God, that **God** should **repay** them?"
- Romans 11:36 - **For from him** and **through** him and **for him** are all **things**. **To him** be the **glory** forever! **Amen**.

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## Romans 12

### A Living Sacrifice

- ¶ Romans 12:1 - **Therefore**, I **urge** you, **brothers** and **sisters**, in **view** of God's mercy, to **offer your bodies** as a **living sacrifice**, **holy** and **pleasing** to **God**--this is your **true** and **proper** **worship**.
- Romans 12:2 - Do **not conform** to the **pattern** of this **world**, but **be transformed** by the **renewing** of your **mind**. **Then** you will be **able to test** and **approve** what God's will is--his good, **pleasing** and **perfect** will.

### Humble Service in the Body of Christ

- ¶ Romans 12:3 - **For by** the grace **given me** I **say to every one** of you: Do not think of **yourself** **more highly** than you **ought**, but **rather** think of **yourself** with **sober judgment**, in accordance with the **faith** God has **distributed** to each of you.
- Romans 12:4 - For **just** as each of **us** has **one body** with **many members**, and **these members** do not all have the **same function**,
- Romans 12:5 - **so in Christ** we, **though many**, **form one body**, and each **member** **belongs** to all the **others**.
- Romans 12:6 - We **have different gifts**, **according** to the grace given to each of **us**. **If your gift** is **prophesying**, then **prophecy** in accordance with your faith;
- Romans 12:7 - if it is **serving**, then **serve**; if it is **teaching**, then **teach**;
- Romans 12:8 - if it is to **encourage**, then **give encouragement**; if it is **giving**, then **give generously**; if it is to **lead**, **do it diligently**; if it is to **show mercy**, **do it cheerfully**.

### Love in Action

- ¶ Romans 12:9 - **Love** **must** be **sincere**. **Hate** what is **evil**; **cling** to what is good.
- Romans 12:10 - **Be devoted** to one another in **love**. **Honor** one another **above yourselves**.
- Romans 12:11 - **Never** be **lacking** in **zeal**, but **keep your spiritual fervor**, **serving** the Lord.
- Romans 12:12 - **Be joyful** in **hope**, **patient** in **affliction**, **faithful** in **prayer**.

- Romans 12:13 - **Share** with the **Lord's** people who **are in need**. **Practice hospitality**.
- ¶ Romans 12:14 - **Bless those who persecute you**; **bless and do not curse**.
- Romans 12:15 - **Rejoice with** those **who rejoice**; **mourn with** those **who mourn**.
- Romans 12:16 - Live **in harmony with** one **another**. **Do not be proud**, but **be willing to associate with people of low position**. **Do not be conceited**.
- ¶ Romans 12:17 - **Do not repay anyone evil for evil**. **Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone**.
- Romans 12:18 - If it **is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone**.
- Romans 12:19 - **Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath**, for it is **written**: "**It is mine to avenge**; **I will repay**," **says the Lord**.
- Romans 12:20 - On the **contrary**: "**If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head**."
- ¶ Romans 12:21 - **Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good**.

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## Romans 13

### Submission to Governing Authorities

- ¶ Romans 13:1 - **Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God**.
- Romans 13:2 - **Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves**.
- Romans 13:3 - For **rulers hold no terror** for those who **do right, but for those who do wrong**. **Do you want to be free from fear** of the one in **authority**? **Then do what is right and you will be commended**.
- Romans 13:4 - For the one in authority **is God's servant for your good**. But if you do **wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason**. **They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer**.
- Romans 13:5 - **Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience**.
- ¶ Romans 13:6 - This is **also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing**.
- Romans 13:7 - **Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor**.

### Love Fulfills the Law

- ¶ Romans 13:8 - **Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law**.
- Romans 13:9 - **The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself"**.
- Romans 13:10 - **Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law**.

### The Day Is Near

- ¶ Romans 13:11 - **And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed**.
- Romans 13:12 - **The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light**.
- Romans 13:13 - **Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy**.
- Romans 13:14 - **Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh**.

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## Romans 14

### The Weak and the Strong

- ¶ Romans 14:1 - **Accept** the one whose faith is **weak, without quarreling over disputable matters**.
- Romans 14:2 - **One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables**.

- Romans 14:3 - The one **who eats everything** must **not treat with contempt** the one who does **not**, and the one who does **not eat everything** must **not judge** the one who **does**, for God has **accepted them**.
- Romans 14:4 - Who are you to **judge someone else's servant**? To their own **master**, **servants stand or fall**. And they **will stand**, for the Lord is **able** to make **them stand**.
- ¶ Romans 14:5 - **One person considers one day more sacred than another**; **another considers every day alike**. **Each of them should** be **fully convinced in their own mind**.
- Romans 14:6 - **Whoever regards one day as special** does so to the **Lord**. **Whoever eats meat** does so to the **Lord**, for they give thanks to God; and **whoever abstains** does so to the Lord and **gives thanks** to God.
- Romans 14:7 - **For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone**.
- Romans 14:8 - If we **live, we live for the Lord**; and if we die, we die for the Lord. **So, whether we live or die, we belong** to the Lord.
- Romans 14:9 - For this **very reason**, **Christ died and returned to life** so that he **might** be the Lord **of both the dead and the living**.
- ¶ Romans 14:10 - You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? **Or why do you treat them with contempt**? For we **will all stand before God's judgment seat**.
- Romans 14:11 - It is **written**: "**As surely as I live**," **says the Lord**, **'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God'**."
- ¶ Romans 14:12 - **So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God**.
- ¶ Romans 14:13 - **Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister**.
- Romans 14:14 - I **am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean**.
- Romans 14:15 - If your brother or sister **is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died**.
- Romans 14:16 - Therefore do not **let what you know is good be spoken of as evil**.
- Romans 14:17 - For the **kingdom of God** is not a **matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit**,
- Romans 14:18 - because anyone **who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval**.
- ¶ Romans 14:19 - Let **us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification**.
- Romans 14:20 - Do **not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a person to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble**.
- Romans 14:21 - **It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall**.
- ¶ Romans 14:22 - **So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves**.
- Romans 14:23 - But **whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin**.

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## Romans 15

- ¶ Romans 15:1 - We who **are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves**.
- Romans 15:2 - Each of **us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up**.
- Romans 15:3 - **For even Christ did not please himself but**, as it is written: "**The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me**."
- Romans 15:4 - **For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us**, so that through **the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope**.
- ¶ Romans 15:5 - May the God who **gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had**,
- Romans 15:6 - **so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**.
- ¶ Romans 15:7 - **Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God**.
- Romans 15:8 - For **I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed**
- Romans 15:9 - **and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy**. As it is written: "**Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name**."
- ¶ Romans 15:10 - **Again, it says, "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people"**.
- ¶ Romans 15:11 - And **again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him"**.
- ¶ Romans 15:12 - And **again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope"**.
- ¶ Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope **fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit**.

## Paul the Minister to the Gentiles

- ¶ Romans 15:14 - I **myself am convinced**, my brothers and sisters, that **you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another**.
- Romans 15:15 - **Yet I have written you quite boldly on some points to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me**
- Romans 15:16 - to be **a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.**
- ¶ Romans 15:17 - Therefore **I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God.**
- Romans 15:18 - I will **not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done--**
- Romans 15:19 - by the power of **signs and wonders, through the power of the Spirit of God. So from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ.**
- Romans 15:20 - **It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.**
- Romans 15:21 - **Rather, as it is written: "Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand."**
- ¶ Romans 15:22 - This is **why I have often been hindered from coming to you.**

## Paul's Plan to Visit Rome

- ¶ Romans 15:23 - But now that there is **no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to visit you,**
- Romans 15:24 - **I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.**
- Romans 15:25 - **Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the Lord's people there.**
- Romans 15:26 - **For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the Lord's people in Jerusalem.**
- Romans 15:27 - They were pleased to do **it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings.**
- Romans 15:28 - **So after I have completed this task and have made sure that they have received this contribution, I will go to Spain and visit you on the way.**
- Romans 15:29 - I **know** that when **I come to you, I will come in the full measure of the blessing of Christ.**
- ¶ Romans 15:30 - I **urge** you, brothers and **sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.**
- Romans 15:31 - **Pray** that I may **be kept safe from the unbelievers in Judea and that the contribution I take to Jerusalem may be favorably received** by the Lord's people there,
- Romans 15:32 - so that I **may come to you with joy, by God's will, and in your company be refreshed.**
- Romans 15:33 - The God of **peace be with you all. Amen.**

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## Romans 16

### Personal Greetings

- ¶ Romans 16:1 - **I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae.**
- Romans 16:2 - I **ask** you to **receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me.**
- ¶ Romans 16:3 - **Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus.**
- Romans 16:4 - **They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them.**
- ¶ Romans 16:5 - **Greet also the church that meets at their house. Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia.**
- ¶ Romans 16:6 - **Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you.**
- ¶ Romans 16:7 - **Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Jews who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.**
- ¶ Romans 16:8 - **Greet Ampliatus, my dear friend in the Lord.**
- ¶ Romans 16:9 - **Greet Urbanus, our co-worker in Christ, and my dear friend Stachys.**
- ¶ Romans 16:10 - **Greet Apelles, whose fidelity to Christ has stood the test. Greet those who belong to the household of Aristobulus.**
- ¶ Romans 16:11 - **Greet Herodion, my fellow Jew. Greet those in the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord.**

- ¶ Romans 16:12 - Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those women who work hard in the Lord. Greet my dear friend Persis, another woman who has worked very hard in the Lord.
- ¶ Romans 16:13 - Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too.
- ¶ Romans 16:14 - Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the other brothers and sisters with them.
- ¶ Romans 16:15 - Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the Lord's people who are with them.
- ¶ Romans 16:16 - Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings.
- ¶ Romans 16:17 - I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.
- Romans 16:18 - For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.
- Romans 16:19 - Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I rejoice because of you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.
- ¶ Romans 16:20 - The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
- ¶ Romans 16:21 - Timothy, my co-worker, sends his greetings to you, as do Lucius, Jason and Sosipater, my fellow Jews.
- ¶ Romans 16:22 - I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord.
- ¶ Romans 16:23 - Gaius, whose hospitality I and the whole church here enjoy, sends you his greetings. Erastus, who is the city's director of public works, and our brother Quartus send you their greetings.
- ¶ Romans 16:25 - Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past,
- Romans 16:26 - but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith--
- Romans 16:27 - to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

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## James 1

- ¶ James 1:1 - James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings.

### Trials and Temptations

- ¶ James 1:2 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,
- James 1:3 - because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.
- James 1:4 - Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.
- James 1:5 - If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.
- James 1:6 - But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.
- James 1:7 - That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.
- James 1:8 - Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.
- ¶ James 1:9 - Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.
- James 1:10 - But the rich should take pride in their humiliation--since they will pass away like a wild flower.
- James 1:11 - For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.
- ¶ James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.
- ¶ James 1:13 - When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;
- James 1:14 - but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.
- James 1:15 - Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.
- ¶ James 1:16 - Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.
- James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.
- James 1:18 - He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

### Listening and Doing

- ¶ James 1:19 - My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,
- James 1:20 - because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.
- James 1:21 - Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.
- ¶ James 1:22 - Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.
- James 1:23 - Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror
- James 1:24 - and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.
- James 1:25 - But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it--not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it--they will be blessed in what they do.
- ¶ James 1:26 - Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.
- James 1:27 - Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

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## James 2

### Favoritism Forbidden

- ¶ James 2:1 - My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism.
- James 2:2 - Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in.
- James 2:3 - If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet,"
- James 2:4 - have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?
- ¶ James 2:5 - Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?
- James 2:6 - But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court?
- James 2:7 - Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?
- ¶ James 2:8 - If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right.
- James 2:9 - But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.
- James 2:10 - For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.
- James 2:11 - For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.
- ¶ James 2:12 - Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom,
- James 2:13 - because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

### Faith and Deeds

- ¶ James 2:14 - What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?
- James 2:15 - Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food.
- James 2:16 - If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?
- James 2:17 - In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.
- ¶ James 2:18 - But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.
- James 2:19 - You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that--and shudder.
- ¶ James 2:20 - You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless?
- James 2:21 - Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?
- James 2:22 - You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did.
- James 2:23 - And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend.
- James 2:24 - You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.

¶ James 2:25 - In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction?

James 2:26 - As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

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## James 3

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### Taming the Tongue

¶ James 3:1 - Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

James 3:2 - We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

¶ James 3:3 - When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal.

James 3:4 - Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.

James 3:5 - Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

James 3:6 - The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

¶ James 3:7 - All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind,

James 3:8 - but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

¶ James 3:9 - With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness.

James 3:10 - Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

James 3:11 - Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?

James 3:12 - My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

### Two Kinds of Wisdom

¶ James 3:13 - Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

James 3:14 - But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.

James 3:15 - Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

James 3:16 - For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¶ James 3:17 - But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

James 3:18 - Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

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## James 4

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### Submit Yourselves to God

¶ James 4:1 - What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?

James 4:2 - You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God.

James 4:3 - When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

¶ James 4:4 - You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

James 4:5 - Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?

James 4:6 - But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

¶ James 4:7 - Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:8 - Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

- James 4:9 - **Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.**
- James 4:10 - **Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.**
- ¶ James 4:11 - **Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.**
- James 4:12 - There is **only one Lawgiver and Judge**, the one who is **able to save and destroy**. But you--who are you to judge your **neighbor**?

## Boasting About Tomorrow

- ¶ James 4:13 - **Now listen**, you who **say**, "**Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.**"
- James 4:14 - Why, you do not **even know** what **will happen tomorrow**. What is **your life**? You are a **mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes**.
- James 4:15 - **Instead**, you ought to **say**, "**If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.**"
- James 4:16 - **As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.**
- James 4:17 - If **anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.**

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## James 5

### Warning to Rich Oppressors

- ¶ James 5:1 - **Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you.**
- James 5:2 - **Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes.**
- James 5:3 - **Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days.**
- James 5:4 - **Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty.**
- James 5:5 - You **have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter.**
- James 5:6 - You **have condemned and murdered the innocent one**, who was **not opposing you**.

### Patience in Suffering

- ¶ James 5:7 - Be **patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.**
- James 5:8 - **You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.**
- James 5:9 - **Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!**
- ¶ James 5:10 - Brothers and **sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.**
- James 5:11 - As you **know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.**
- ¶ James 5:12 - **Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear--not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple "Yes" or "No." Otherwise you will be condemned.**

### The Prayer of Faith

- ¶ James 5:13 - Is anyone among you **in trouble**? **Let them pray. Is anyone happy**? **Let them sing songs of praise.**
- James 5:14 - Is anyone among **you sick**? **Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.**
- James 5:15 - And the **prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.**
- James 5:16 - **Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.**
- ¶ James 5:17 - **Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.**
- James 5:18 - **Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.**
- ¶ James 5:19 - My brothers and sisters, if one of you **should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back,**

James 5:20 - remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.