



The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

Bible Course

Acts to Revelation

Lesson 9

Romans

Name: _____

Paul's epistle to the Romans is placed as the first Pauline epistle, not because of the priority of its date, but because of the superlative excellency of the epistle. Romans is one of the longest and fullest of all the epistles and written to those in the stately city of Rome. Chrysostom (see insert) would have this epistle read over to him twice a week.

Romans appears to be written in 56 A.D., from Corinth, while Paul made a short stay there on his way to Troas (Acts 10: 5,6) on his third and last missionary journey. He commendeth to the Romans, Phebe, a servant of the church at Cenchrea in Corinth (Romans 16), who was to bring this letter. He calls Gaius his *host*, or the man with whom he lodged (16:23), and Gaius was a Corinthian, not the same with Gaius of Derbe, mentioned in Acts 10. Paul was not able to go to Rome himself because he was now going up to Jerusalem, with the money that was given to the poor saints there; and of that he speaks, in Romans 15:26. The great mysteries addressed in this epistle are often difficult to understand (2 Peter 3:16). Romans, like several other epistles addresses first doctrinal issues (first eleven chapters), and then practical applications (last five chapters). The best way to understand the truths explained in the first part is to abide and abound in the practice of the duties prescribed in the latter part; for, if any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine (John 7:17). Adapted from Matthew Henry.

John Chrysostom (c. 347–407) [Archbishop](#) of [Constantinople](#), was an important [Early Church Father](#). He is known for his eloquence in [preaching](#) and [public speaking](#), his denunciation of [abuse of authority](#) by both ecclesiastical and political leaders.

The purpose of the letter to the Romans was to let the Christians there know that Paul hoped to see them at a later date (Acts 19:21, Rom. 15:24), to teach them the fundamentals of Christian doctrine, and provide applications to daily life. This letter to the Romans was used by God in the Protestant Reformation and gave the great teaching of “Justification by Faith Alone.” Romans also clearly explains misery, deliverance, and gratitude – from which the three main divisions of the Heidelberg Catechism have been derived.

1. Who wrote the book of Romans? _____
2. To whom was it written? _____
3. When was Romans written? _____

4. Who said he would have Romans read to him twice per week? _____

5. When Paul wrote Romans, he was soon going to Jerusalem with what?

6. What is the purpose of Romans? _____

Read Romans 1

After a brief introduction about his calling and desire to visit Rome, Paul gives a startling picture of man in his deplorable condition, who hath sinned everything away, and deserves eternal wrath. All men (any race, nationality, educational level, or degree of wealth) are sinners before God. All are hopelessly lost and can only be saved by the righteousness of God.

7. Paul leaves no question about whom he is writing... that this Jesus born of the seed of _____ (the Messiah) in his human nature, and yet declared to be the Son of _____ by His resurrection from the dead.

8. He commends the Romans because their _____ is spoken of throughout the whole world (Rom. 1: 8). Paul always made mention of the Romans in his _____. He longed to see them to impart some spiritual _____. He was ready to preach the gospel at Rome also because he was not _____ of the gospel of Christ, because it is the _____ of God to salvation. This gospel reveals the righteousness of God from faith to faith, for the _____ shall live by faith.

9. Romans 1: 17 is very famous in church history, because this is where the Reformation began in the heart to Martin Luther. Here Luther saw for the first time that God-righteousness was imputed to a sinful man. How could this be?

(Righteousness = doing what is right, just, upright, godly)

10. After Paul speaks about the power of the gospel, he turns to the guilt of mankind. When looking at the order of the Heidelberg Catechism, and then reading Romans,

you will notice where the Misery, Deliverance, and Gratitude divisions came from. This is where Paul begins. The wrath of God is revealed from _____ against all this ungodliness. The ungodly hold the truth in _____. What does this mean? It is a state of total depravity, being dishonest to God and men. While the debt and obligation to God and men is admitted in words, yet in practice it is denied.

11. The Gentiles (heathen) are unrighteous and need the righteousness from God. God is willing to reveal Himself and does so. The invisible things of God from the _____ are clearly seen... So clear it is that man is left without _____ (Romans 1: 20). This means God has given the light of nature, which is called general revelation.
12. But natural man does not want to be accountable to God. God has been revealed to all in creation. Thus, we all know God; we have been taught from an early age, who God is, but, by nature, we, “_____ him not as God, neither were _____.” We may wonder, how long will God put up with this stealing from His glory through a lack of thankfulness. God patiently bears with man as he goes deeper into sin.
13. Man professes to be wise (wiser than God), and changes the glory of the _____ God into an image made like to _____ man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things (Romans 1:23). Have we not seen this happen in our day? Animals take precedence over man, while God is put in the background. God patiently bears with them as they go deeper into sin.
14. At some point, God’s patience has an end. Sin will always have consequences. God then gives them up to _____, through the _____ of their own heart, to dishonor their _____ between themselves. They change the _____ of God into a _____, and worship and served the _____ more than the Creator. Doesn’t this happen in our own nation? After man does these things, God gives them up to _____ affections - women with women in sexual relationships (called lesbianism) and men with men in sexual relationships (gay, overall both are referred to as homosexuality). Paul says

this is against _____ that they _____ in lust for one another.

If we have affections for the same sex, and are not blinded by our own sin, (we know that it is against God's Word and are caught in sin's web), there are organizations who can help you. For those that think they are better (normal) because they only lust after those of the opposite sex, Jesus speaks in Matthew 5: 28-30 that this sin, unforgiven, also brings us to hell. Therefore we all need God's grace and forgiveness.

15. When God speaks against sin, and we are convicted by the Holy Spirit, we then submit to God's Word, confess our sins, and flee these sins. However, if we reject God's Word, we live and remain in sin. Those living in sin do not wish to retain God in their _____. They are then given over to a _____ mind. Being left by God is one of the most awful judgments. _____ Who was joined to idols and God left him? _____ (Hosea 4:17)?

16. If God speaks by judgments, be thankful, at least He is speaking. What kind of judgments does God bring on a nation to bring them back to His word and Himself? (See II Chron. 6: 24, 26, 28)

We know the judgments of God against such sins (they which commit such sins are worthy of _____), yet we as a nation not only do these things, but have _____ in them that do them (Romans 1:32)

The conscience of man dwells in the heart as an internal indicator of what is right and what is wrong, "a knowing within oneself." A continual stifling the conscience gradually makes its voice harder to hear and becomes a "seared" conscience. Be careful to avoid activities that bother your conscience!

17. What does Paul mean by the last verse (32)? _____

Evaluator: _____

Meditation: Psalter 140

God be merciful to me, on Thy grace I rest my plea;

Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now;

Wash me, make me pure within, cleanse, o cleanse me from my sin.