

Overview of Romans 1-6

The Apostle Paul explains sin, repentance, obedience, justification and baptism

(Special Services #1)

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Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services. This is a special overview study of certain sections of the book of Romans that are very, very difficult to understand.

The Apostle Peter admitted in 2-Peter 3 that Paul wrote in his epistles some things that are 'difficult to understand.' That doesn't mean that we can't understand them. That means we have to apply ourselves so that we will be able to understand them and realize that the Word of God is spiritually discerned.

We know that in 2-Timothy 3:16:

"All Scripture is God breathed."

That ties in with we are 'to live by every Word of God.' Every Word of God, all Scripture, means each and every Scripture is God-breathed, or actually *God-spirited*. Jesus taught us that we need to understand the difficult things, especially when we get to the book of Romans.

God is Lawgiver; James 4:12:

"*But* there is *only* one Lawgiver..."

And we need to also understand when we're going into the book of Romans that the One Who became Jesus Christ was the One Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament. We also have to understand something very profound concerning the Word of God. It is *spiritually* understood.

We're going to look at some things and prepare the way for us to understand what we need to in the book of Romans. But we find something in John 6 very profound and very interesting that Jesus said:

John 6:63: "It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh profits nothing...."

The flesh is referred to in the book of Romans as carnal: fleshly or carnal. That means *human nature without the Spirit of God having only 'the spirit of man.'* This is one of the most important sentences in the entire Bible, and ties right in with 2-Tim 3:15-16:

"...the words that I speak to you..." (v 63).

Stop and think about this for a minute. Jesus was the Lord God of the Old Testament. Jesus said:

Deuteronomy 8:3 "...man does not live by bread alone; but by every *word* that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD does man live."

Luke 4:4: "...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God."

Jesus is speaking to His disciples and He is *God spiriting* these words:

John 6:63: "...The words that I speak to you, *they* are Spirit and *they* are Life."

In other words it is the living Word of God. What do you mean the living Word of God? It means *what you see in print is not the fullness of what you're reading, because it is spiritually discerned!* It is the Spirit that has motivated these words. Being spirit they continue always. Do you understand that? It's very important.

We've also covered the things that if you do not hear to obey and if you do not do what God says you cannot understand the Word of God. Why? *Because that is the spirit of carnality and a spirit of disobedience*, and no one understands the Word of God in a state of living in sin, in a spirit of rebellion. It doesn't matter:

- who you are
- where you are
- how important you are
- how unimportant you are
- whether you are male or female
- young or old

Makes no difference! ***The Words of God are always in action all the time, everywhere!***

Jesus said, v 64:

"But there are some of you who do not believe. For Jesus knew from the beginning those who were the ones who did not believe and who would betray Him. And He said for this reason I have said to you..." (vs 64-65).

I want you to understand this ***clearly***: *You're never going to understand God's way if you follow what the Protestants teach*, that the Law has been done away. Or that you only have to keep the two main commandments, love God and love your neighbor. If that's so, then God could've written on one piece of paper and sent that instead of the whole Bible!

There's a reason there's the whole Bible. It's *all* important. When you think about it, "...The words that I speak to you, *they* are Spirit and they are Life," *you must obey*.

John also wrote in 1-John 2:3:

"The one who says I know him and does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the Truth is not in him."

We will see in this overview of Romans that many in the Churches of God, and nearly all of Protestantism, 99.9%, do not understand. So, we're going to preface this with some spiritual Scriptures and principles that we need to apply. Now notice verse 65.

John 6:65: "And He said, 'For this reason, I have said to you, no one can come to Me unless it has been given to him from My Father.'"

God is the One Who does the drawing and the calling. We have to answer the call. Now you can read the parables of Matt. 13 about the sowing of the seed, which is the Word of God. Many hear and many do not produce fruit. The ones who produced the fruit are the ones:

- who *hear*
- who *do*
- who *practice*
- who *understand*
- who *bring forth fruit*: 30, 60 and 100-fold

Now come over here to John 14:6. Let's just put it in a little vernacular. Jesus is saying *God's way or no way!* Jesus is telling us, and God is telling us, *it is God's way or no way!*

John 14:6: "Jesus said to him I am the Way the Truth and the Life...

[not a way, not a truth, not a life]

...no one comes to the Father except through Me."

So, it is both Christ and the Father working with each individual. We understand that.

Let's look at some other Scriptures that we need to know. First of all we know that Christ did not do away with the Law.

Matthew 5:17—Jesus said:

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill"

—*to complete or make full.*

In the Old Testament everything was in the *letter* of the Law. In the New Testament it is in the *spirit* of the Law and the Word of God, because all the teachings are *God-spirited*. The end result is eternal life if we are faithful to the end.

What's in the Bible is more than just a religion for people to have so they can be good people in the society. It would be nice if they were all good people in the society. But that has nothing to do with salvation for eternal life. The Protestants and Catholics have it all wrong. We don't have immortal souls. That's another whole topic.

Let's see something very important here concerning the Word of God. This applies to a lot of people who have been in the Church a long, long time. Because we have to constantly be growing and overcoming and developing and understanding the Word of God, and yes, understanding the difficult Scriptures of Paul. We can, and that's what we're going to do.

Now let's see concerning Jesus Christ, Hebrews 5:7:

" Who in the days of His flesh..."

{note John 1:1-16. That tells all about Christ being God before He became flesh}

Verse 7: "Who, in the days of His flesh, offered up both prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears to Him Who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because *He* feared *God*."

Now stop and think about that for a minute. How does that compare to the way that the Protestants do by saying if you believe Jesus you're saved. That is a terribly false doctrine. Yes, you are to **believe** not just acknowledge, and believe means *you do everything that God has said*. Because **IF** *you believe it, you do it and you live it*.

Now notice He had overcome human nature because He undertook being in the flesh to have human nature.

Verse 8: "Although He was a Son, *yet*, He **learned obedience** from the things that He suffered."

Think about this verse, "...learned obedience..." He didn't look into the Word of God and tell His disciples, 'Oh well, don't worry about that just, you know, forget that. Just do the simple little things.' **No!**

Growing in grace and knowledge and overcoming means that we don't do just the simple things. It's like this bird that's a skimmer. It flies above the surface of the water and has a long bill and the lower bill is skimming the water for bugs, *a skimmer*.

- How deep may the water be? *Who knows!*
- How deep is the ocean?
- It goes down 20,000 feet, 30,000 feet?
- How deep is that?

Verse 9: "And having been **perfected**..."

That's what God wants to do with us, *to perfect us!* Not reach a static level, a static spiritual plateau, and we'll be satisfied with it. I wonder what that reminds you of?

"...He became *the* Author of eternal salvation to all those who **obey Him**" (v 9)

—***obey the Word of God!*** What are the three words most important in the Bible? ***Obey My voice!***
"The words that I speak to you they are Spirit and they are Life."

Hebrews 4:12: "For the Word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of both soul and spirit, *and* of both *the* joints and *the* marrow, and *is* able to discern **the thoughts and intents of the heart.**"

I want you to remember that Scripture, because this becomes important in really understanding the book of Romans.

Let's also understand that *you can't fool God anytime anywhere concerning anything!* No one can tell God what to do. Read Isaiah 40:12-31. He counts all nations—that's everybody, all nations on earth, every person who's ever lived—as a drop in a bucket, and vanity and less than vanity.

So, we don't want to get all lifted up in vanity, stupidity, selfishness, carnality, complacency and satisfaction that we have arrived! Listen, *nobody has arrived to anything until the resurrection!* Think of that. That's why he writes here.

Verse 13: "And there is not **a created thing** that is not manifest in His sight..."

This becomes very important because as Lawgiver, God not only gave the laws that we find in the Bible and His Word and the Truth and everything like that, but He gave all the laws of the entire universe and everything that is created. Everything runs by laws. We're going to see that's important.

"...but all things *are* naked and laid bare before the eyes of Him **to Whom we must give account**" (v 13).

That's important to bear in mind, because there is *a day of judgment* coming. What is He going to say to most of the Protestant preachers? They say, Lord, we did many wonderful things in your name, many wonderful works. Even cast out demons Lord.

- What will Jesus say? *Depart from Me you who work lawlessness!*
- How do they work lawlessness? *Through a false grace!*

They don't understand grace. You have to understand this, too. There are two things that through the years that the Churches of God have been delinquent in teaching:

- the love of God, love of neighbor, love of brethren and love of your enemy
- the grace of God

One of the largest Churches of God said love is 'outgoing concern' for people. That's like saying count to 100, but you finished when you have reached number three. *Not true!*

Remember that partial truth is worse than an outright lie. Because partial truth wrongly applied becomes a lie, but sounds true. You got to keep that in mind. But then it says we need to come before God, the other thing is grace of God. We're going to talk about the grace of God.

Now we have three in-depth studies on the grace of God:

- Grace of God in the Bible
- Commandment-Keeping and the Grace of God
- Grace Upon Grace

and one in-depth study on *The Love of God*. You can write in for them. It is our spiral-bound books with the sermons that you can study. Now listen let's understand that God has given His Word and we live in a time where we have God's Word available as never before.

- What are we doing?
- Are we studying?
- Are we growing?
- Are we preparing?
- Are we getting ready?

Getting ready for eternal life!

- What is it we're doing?
- How do we approach God?
- How much do we really understand?
- Do you think it's possible for anyone to understand everything in the Bible in this physical life? *Probably not!*

Here is why some things are hard to understand:

- you've got to work at it
- you have to dig for it
- God has to reveal it

We can understand it. But I think you going to be amazed when we get done with this review and study of Romans ending in Rom. 8, the first part.

Proverbs 25:2: "The glory of God *is* to conceal a thing..."

There are some things that are hidden. There are things that are secret. ***If*** you understand about the resurrection, Kingdom of God, what Christ is doing, how the world is deceived, you understand that secret.

Did you understand it before you were baptized and received the Holy Spirit? *No!* God has to give it. We seek it by seeking the will of God and He reveals it to us ***IF*** we *hunger and thirst* after the Word of God.

"...but the honor of kings *is* to search out a matter" (v 2).

Are we going to be kings and priests in the Millennium? *Of course!* That's why were to search it out.

Let's see how we are to approach this. Let's see how we are able to understand the Word of God. Would you say the Word of God is righteous? *Righteousness means everything connected with salvation, conversion and yieldedness to God!*

Matthew 5:6: "Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst after righteousness..."

You could magnify this out:

- the knowledge of righteousness
- the knowledge of Truth

- the righteousness of the Spirit of God
- our standing with God
- becoming spirit beings
- being in the Kingdom of God

Notice, the blessing, v 6:

"Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for **they shall be filled.**"

But we have to "**...hunger and thirst...**" for it.

Let's look at a few Psalms here and see and understand how we are to approach God. Here's how we need to approach God in the Word of God, every day. Also remember that what you do today—whether good, bad or indifferent—that's today. What are you going to do tomorrow? If you do really good today that's not stacking up points that you can carry over to tomorrow and say, well I did a lot of spiritual things yesterday, therefore, I don't have to do anything today. It doesn't work that way.

Here's the approach, Psalm 42:1:

"As the hart..."

[and that is the deer]

"...pants after the water brooks, so my soul pants after You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; when shall I come and appear before God?" (vs 1-2).

Is that hungering and thirsting after righteousness? *Without a doubt! Absolutely!*

Psa. 63 is one of my favorite psalms. This is the attitude we need to have. Everything I have read so far, constitutes the Word of God and *the promises*. Also remember, not all promises are 'goody two-shoes'. What do I mean by that? *There are warnings about not doing things you need to do!* That's as valid as the Scriptures that uplift you. This is what we are to do. This is how we are to approach Him.

Psalm 62:8: "Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah."

Psalm 63:1: "O God, You are my God, earnestly I will seek You!...."

Matthew 5:6: "Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."

Psalm 63:1: "My soul thirsts for You. My flesh longs for You, as in a dry and thirsty land where no water is, to see Your power and Your glory—as I have seen You in the sanctuary. Because Your **loving kindness...**

[and grace go hand-in-hand]

...is better than life, my lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You as long as I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips when I remember You upon my bed and meditate on You in the night watches. Because You have been my help, therefore, in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice" (vs 1-7).

All of this is the attitude that we need so that we can understand these difficult Scriptures in Romans. There are difficult ones in Galatians and there are difficult ones in the Hebrews.

Psalms 84:1: "How lovely are your tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!"

That's where we were going to be. Remember what it says in Rev. 21? *'Behold the tabernacle of God is with men! That is men and women made perfect. Spiritual beings.*

Verse 2: "My soul longs, yea, even faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God."

Here's what we're going to do, Psalm 119:18:

"Open my eyes so that I may behold wondrous things out of Your Law."

That is out of the Word of God. Everything is God-spirited and spirit.

This is the attitude we need to have things revealed to us. It doesn't come all at once. Just to read the words alone without the understanding of what they mean spiritually, we will never understand.

- you have to *love* God
- you have to *obey* God
- you have to *hunger and thirst* after righteousness
- you have to *desire the way* of God
- you have to *desire* the Word of God
- you have to *grow* in grace and knowledge
- you have to *understand* the difficult to understand Scriptures

This is something that is closed to the world. For the life of me I can't figure out why ministers in the Church of God go to the Protestants to ask them how they understand the Scriptures. Now, you think on that for a minute.

Like one man I talked to recently, that he read our beliefs and he said I see you don't believe in the Trinity. I said, 'No, the Bible doesn't teach it.' Well, that ended our conversation shortly thereafter. He was in the Presbyterian Church for 30 years. What did he learn? *Nothing!* What did he understand? *Nothing!* Here's why:

1-Corinthians 2:9: "But according as it is written, *'The eye has not seen, nor the ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.'*"

They believe the immortality of the soul. They believe in going to heaven that way. They believe that as soon as they say Jesus I believe in you forgive me my sins, and that their salvation is locked in, and everything is finished. No! That is carnal Christianity. That is a lie because it's taking partial Truth and making it the final of what they claim is what God wants.

Verse 10: "But God has revealed *them* to us by His Spirit..."

How do you understand things? When Jesus asked the disciples, 'Who do men say that I, the Son of man, am?' They said, 'Some say You're one of the prophets, some say You're Jeremiah, some say You're John the Baptist.' But Peter said, 'You are the Son of the living God.' Jesus said, 'Blessed are you Simon bar Jonah for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father Who is in heaven.'

Now then, this is how we understand the Bible. That's why obedience comes first. Then love and understanding develop from that obedience. Then hungering and thirsting after righteousness develops the understanding of the difficult Scriptures.

"...prepared for those who love Him..." (v 9).

First thing, love God 'with all your heart, mind, soul and being. This is the love of God that we keep His commandments and His commandments are not burdensome.' They are not difficult.

Verse 10: "But God has revealed *them* to us by His [Holy] Spirit..."

Remember what Jesus said. 'The words that I speak to you they are Spirit and they are Life.'

"...for the Spirit searches all things—even **the deep things** of God" (v 10).

Don't you think since we have the Bible here, the whole Bible, that ***if*** we follow what we have just covered that God will lead us to understand the deep things of His Word? Revealed them to us because we love Him? Because we desire to be in His kingdom? *But of course!* Will it come all at once? *No!*

Like I've said many times, I am still learning. In this what we're going to cover I'm still learning, too.

Verse 11: "For who among men understands the things of man except *by* the spirit of man, which *is* in him?..."

That's how the world is. They don't have the Spirit of God ***in*** them. Some of them may have the Spirit of God ***with*** them as God begins to lead them. ***If*** they will yield to God and answer the call, then they can be brought to repentance and baptism etc.

But many are called because few are chosen. Why are the few chosen? *Because few repent!* Jesus said, 'Don't cast your pearls before swine.' That's interesting. We're going to study some of the pearls God.

Verse 11: "In the same way also, the things of God no one understands except *by* the Spirit of God. Now, we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that *is* of God, so that we might know the things graciously given to us by God" (vs 11-12).

He wants us to know.

We'll go to the book of Romans, and we will study some very important and profound things.

We are just going to review Rom. 1-3 and then we'll get into some of the other things in 5-7.

- Rom. 1 shows the condition of the world rejecting God

Then God abandons them; an automatic law: *if you reject God He rejects you!* Now, you can come back to God upon repentance. God abandons them to their own lusts and He says it three times: *God abandons them!*

Rom. 2 talks about God leading a person to repentance through his grace (v 4). Then we find then we find those who do not obey. Just what we said.

Rom. 2:4: "Or do you despise the riches of His kindness and forbearance and long-suffering, not knowing that the graciousness of God leads you to repentance? But you, according to your own hardness and unrepentant heart, are storing up wrath for yourself against *the* day of wrath and revelation of God's righteous judgment" (vs 4-5).

See the difference, either repent or you suffer the consequences.

Verse 6: "Who will render to each one according to his own works: on the one hand, to those who with patient endurance in **good works**..." (vs 6-7)

—according to the laws of God, not self-taught good works.

"...are seeking glory and honor and immortality—eternal life" (v 7).

That's a summary what we have just covered.

Verse 8: "On the other hand, to those who are contentious and who disobey the Truth..."

What is the Truth?

- Your Word is Truth
- Your laws are Truth
- Your commandments are true
- Your statutes are true
- all Your precepts are true from the beginning

If you disobey the Truth,

"...but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish—upon every soul of man who works out evil, both of *the* Jew first, and of *the* Greek" (vs 8-9).

As we have covered already, the problem in the New Testament is true Christianity vs Judaism. That's why we have the motto: Restoring Original Christianity for Today. Not trying to repair Protestantism or Catholicism, but to restore it the way God wants.

To those who love God, notice;

v 10: "But glory and honor and peace to everyone who works good..."

What is good?

- the laws of God
- the commandments God
- the love of God
- the faith of God
- the belief of God
- those are spiritual works which need to be done

Read Rev. 2 and 3 and what Jesus said to each of the seven churches? 'I know your works.' We're going to be judged by our works. He said, 'the one who keeps My works to the end...' If we do the works of God, don't you think those are good? Isn't that what God wants us to do? *Yes indeed!*

Verse 11: "Because there is no respect of persons with God. For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law; and as many as have sinned within *the* Law shall be judged by *the* Law" (vs 11-12).

Verse 13 is very important, because this puts it together in the step-by-step manner that we find here in Rom. 2:

Verse 13: "Because the hearers of the Law..."

['ho nomos'; that means *all of God's laws* called 'the Law']

...*are* not just before God, but **the doers**...

[the verb 'poieo,' which means *to practice the Law*]

...shall be justified."

This tells us we are to keep the Law.

Notice the progression:

- Rom. 1—sin
- Rom. 2—repentance; division between believers and sinners

What is repentance? *To stop sinning and turn and go the other way and start keeping the laws of God!* That's required *before* you can be justified. Now we'll talk about justification in a minute, because this helps us to understand it even more. But the practicers, or "...the doers of the Law shall all be justified." The Law of God is so important!

Since God is no respecter of persons,

v 14: "For when *the* Gentiles, which do not have *the* Law..."

God did not give the Law to all the nations of the world He gave it to Israel to take to the world and they didn't do it. But the Gentiles in living and their civilizations discovered that there were certain things that were necessary in order to survive:

- don't kill
- don't murder
- don't commit adultery
- don't lie
- don't steal
- don't cheat

Imperfect! Some of them kept a few, some kept more, but God recognizes it as living in the physical realm in the letter of the Law. If you have a society in the letter of the Law that is honest, it's a wonderful society compared to a society that has nothing but its thieves and robbers.

- Do thieves and robbers not suffer from what they are doing? *Yes!*
- Do not those who are not thieves and robbers, but are truthful and honest have of a better society?
- Do they not have a better relationship with one another?
- *Yes, because the laws of God are spiritual and act automatically!*

Verse 14: "For when *the* Gentiles, which do not have *the* Law practice... [*do*] ...by nature the things contained in the Law, these who do not have *the* Law are a law unto themselves; who show the work of the Law written in their own hearts..." (vs 14-15).

Now I want you to note carefully for future reference as well. You read Appendix Z: [Understanding Paul's Difficult to Understand Scriptures Concerning the Laws and Commandments of God \(The Holy Bible In It's Original Order, A Faithful Version; second edition—afaithfulversion.org\)](#)

Not only are we going to cover it here in this study, but now then you can go read it. That's why the Bible was put together the way it has been put together. This means *the works* or *the work of the Law*.

All right, that's the only place where the definite article 'the' for work and 'the' for Law is in the writings of Paul. Everywhere else where it says the work of the Law in the English, is a ***gross mistranslation and misinterpretation*** of what Paul wrote. There we are dealing with *works of law*, **not the** *works of the Law*. Hence, this is where the Protestants claim that you don't have to keep the Law, and they get all off. I want you to remember that.

- Is it a good thing then if you do the work of the Law?
- Is it a good thing to have only one God before you, the true God?
- Is a good thing to not have idols and statutes and worship them? *Yes!*
- Is it a good thing you don't take God's name in vain? *Yes!*

- Is it a good thing that you remember the Sabbath and keep it Holy? *Yes!*
- Is it a good thing that you honor your father and mother? *Yes it is!*
- Is a good thing that you don't murder? *Yes!*
- Is a good thing you don't commit adultery? *Yes!*
- Is it a good thing that you do not steal? *Yes!*
- Is a good thing that you don't lie and bear false witness? *Yes!*
- Is it a good thing that you don't lust? *Yes!*

Every one of the Ten Commandments are good, ***IF you obey***. There's a penalty ***IF*** you don't. That's what Paul is talking about here.

Verse 15: "Who show the work of the Law written in their own hearts, their consciences bearing witness, and their reasoning's also as they accuse or defend one another."

Now then, v 16 talks about the judgment of God. When is the judgment of God? *The finality for those who are converted, **the first resurrection!*** For those that God never called but did not commit the unpardonable sin.

Verse 16: "In a day when God shall judge the secrets of men..."

—second resurrection. For those who commit the unpardonable sin in the second part of the second resurrection to be resurrected to be cast into the Lake of Fire and burned up.

Rom. 3 becomes one of those chapters with certain verses in it that are hard to understand. Verses 10-18 shows that all of sin comes 'short of the glory of God,' *every one*. There are murderers, thieves, liars, cheats, adulterers and everything all combined there have become depraved.

Romans 3:16: "Destruction and misery *are* in their ways, and *the* way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes" (vs 16-18).

All have sinned and come short of the glory of God—period!

Now we're going to talk about justification because this is important. Why did Jesus Christ, who was God, come in the flesh and die for the sins of the world?

- He was Creator of all mankind
- He is the One Who gave 'the law of sin and death' to be within every human being
- He's the One Who did that because of the sin of Adam and Eve

He lived a perfect life though He had a human nature that He received from Mary, his mother. So, all you Catholics out there who think that there was the 'immaculate conception' with Mary and the assumption into heaven, you believe in a fairy tale. If you get mad if I say that, your priest is lying. Do you believe lies?

He had human nature and He had to carry it because as we will see, I'll project forward to the finish of where we're going, God condemned sin in the flesh of Jesus Christ. ***His death and His shed blood is the only sacrifice that can bring forgiveness of sin before God the Father in heaven above!***

Nothing else can forgive sin, and when sin is forgiven you are justified. That's why it says, 'the *doers* of the Law *shall be* justified.' You must first stop sinning and repent and accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as full payment for your sins.

- **no work**
- **no sacrifice**
- **no law**

can bring forgiveness of sin! The payment for sin must be paid, and Christ has already paid it. That's what you need to understand. That *does not* take away from the requirement of needing to keep the Laws of God.

Notice what Paul says here, because this is the question; Romans 3:31:

"Are we, then, abolishing *the* Law through faith? MAY IT NEVER BE!...."

—*don't let this thought come into your mind or even have it is a fleeting thing in your mind!*

"...Rather, we are establishing *the* Law" (v 31).

How does that establish the Law? *You have your sins forgiven!* You've been keeping the Law because you have repented and now your sins are forgiven through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through baptism, and you have continual access to the throne of God and the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the continuance of forgiveness of sin.

Rom. 4—I've covered all of this verse-by-verse, word-by-word in the sermon series in the *Epistles of Paul to the Romans*. So, if you want to go into that in-depth, and I recommend that you do, but this is going to be in addition to it.

Romans 4:15: "For the Law works out wrath..."

—automatically. You sin—lie, cheat, steal, murder, have idolatry, have other gods, worship Satan the devil—it brings *the wrath of God upon you automatically!*

Dishonor father and mother? How many teens lose their lives because when they get away from mother and father they go out and do things their friends do? They know—and you know and I know—because all of us who are adults know that we did things our parents said don't do.

Verse 15: For the Law works out wrath; because where no law is, *there is* no transgression"

—plain and simple. Do you understand that? So, for the Protestants to say that the Law is done away, so therefore, there's no sin, is the most stupid, inane, crazy thing that has ever been thought of.

Romans 5:1: "Therefore, having been justified by faith..."

—because we believe in the sacrifice of Christ.

- we believe it

- we accepted it
- we live by it
- we know that it happened
- we know that God did it

Were justified by faith. That is through is repentance and confession of sins (1-John 1).

"...justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (v 1).

That means we're no longer an enemy of God. 'The carnal mind is enmity against God, *enemy of God*, not subject to the Law of God neither indeed can be.'

- it doesn't have the understanding
- it doesn't have the Spirit
- it doesn't have the circumcision of the heart
- it doesn't have the wickedness of the mind being erased

Verse 2: "Through Whom we also have access by faith into this grace..."

—the grace of God covers everything about our Christian living. Sermon series:

- Grace of God in the Bible
- Commandment-Keeping and the Grace of God
- Grace upon Grace

We are going to expose another lie in Rom. 6 that the Protestants believe and foist upon people to try and justify their elimination of the Law of God.

"...by faith into this grace..." (v 2)

—a direct connection with God.

- He gives us His Spirit
- He gives us His love
- He gives us His understanding
- He opens our minds to understand the Word of God

Tremendous grace!

As an individual you and I, and everyone who has the Spirit of God and has been justified by faith, can get on our knees and pray directly to the Father in heaven above because ***the Father Himself loves us!*** That's what Jesus said.

Now you know why all this Protestantism is so off base. Isn't that something? We have the most important Scripture, ***through the Spirit of God the Father and Christ are dwelling within us!*** *That's grace upon grace!*

"...by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we ourselves boast in *the* hope of the glory of God. And not only *this*, but we also boast in tribulations, realizing that tribulation brings forth endurance" (vs 2-3).

And what did Jesus say? 'The one who endures to the end that one shall be saved.' So, we have to have endurance.

Verse 4: "And endurance *brings forth* character..."

—because you don't go with the easiest way. You go with the way of God. Jesus said, 'The way of the world is broad, and the way to life is narrow and difficult, and few be that find it.'

"...and character *brings forth* hope. And the hope *of God* never makes us ashamed because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts..." (vs 4-5)

—because the Holy Spirit is the *power* of God, not a person.

"...through the Holy Spirit, which has been given to us. For even when we were without strength, at the appointed time Christ died for *the* ungodly" (vs 5-6).

We're going to learn something very important here concerning human nature, concerning how we are. This is why *no work* can justify you before God.

Can an animal sacrifice justify you before God? *No, not spiritually!* When the temple stood only to the temple. Now that the temple is no longer there our justification is *spiritual*:

- with God
- before God
- through Christ
- in Christ

Verse 6: "For even when we were without strength, at the appointed time..."

{note book: *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah*}

"...Christ died for *the* ungodly. For rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, although perhaps someone might have the courage even to die for a good man. But God commends His own love to us" (vs 6-8).

- God loves us
- God loves you
- God loves all of those who have His Spirit

"...because, when we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more, therefore, having been justified now by His blood" (vs 8-9).

Not justified by *a* work of *a* law, or by *works of law*. Works of law can never justify. *Never!*

"...having been justified now by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His own Son..." (vs 9-10).

The peace that we have with God, remember how important that is. Every Epistle of Paul starts out with 'blessed be God the Father and Jesus Christ and His grace be upon you'—*everyone!* Through Whom we also have access by faith into this grace.

Verse 10: "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His own Son, much more *then*, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only *this*, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom we have now received the reconciliation" (vs 10-11).

Now then, here is why works of law can never forgive and justify you before God in heaven,

v 12: "Therefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and by means of sin *came* death..."

How did that come? *God pronounced the death sentence!* He said, 'dust you are and unto dust you'll return.'

"...and in this way death passed into all mankind...

[it became very part of our genes]

...and it is for this reason that all of sinned" (v 12).

If you are a fleshly human being, which we all are, and subject to death, which we all are, we all sin because human nature is sinful. We'll see a little later Paul calls that *the law of sin and death*.

Romans 6:1: "What then shall we say? Shall we continue was sin..."

What is sin? *Sin is the transgression of the Law!* Sin is lawlessness sin is also trying to impose upon God *man's way and man's thoughts* of what God is trying to tell us.

"...Shall we continue in sin so that grace may abound? MAY IT NEVER BE!....

[then he talks about baptism]:

...We who **died to sin**..." (vs 1-2).

Keep that in mind "...died to sin..." We no longer live in sin.

"...how shall we live any longer there in?....

we can't do it]

...Or are you ignorant that we, as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" (vs 2-3).

Conjoined to his death!

Now we enter the New Covenant and there has to be the covenant sacrifice. The covenant sacrifice of God was *Jesus Christ and His shed blood*. The covenant sacrifice for each one of us is *the symbolic death in the watery grave of baptism*. So, we show forth our death by the operation of baptism.

Let's read this because we need to really understand what it's saying;

v 4: "Therefore, we were buried with Him through the baptism into **the death**...

[the covenant death]

...so that, just as Christ was raised from *the* dead by the glory of the Father, in the same way, we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been conjoined together in the likeness of His death, so also shall we be *in the likeness* of His resurrection" (vs 4-5)

—*at the first resurrection!*

There is no such thing as being born again now as the Protestants believe. Here is the test. If someone says, 'I'm born again.' You say, 'Oh wonderful, walk through the wall without disturbing one single thing with it.' *Why I can't do that*. 'Well, you're not born again.'

Jesus was the firstborn of Mary in the flesh. He was the firstborn from the dead among those who are going to be spirit beings. ***You are not born again until the resurrection!***

Verse 6: "Knowing this, that our old man was co-crucified with *Him*..."

How could that be? Who put the genes in Adam and Eve? Those genes come down to us. ***God did! The One Who became Jesus Christ!*** So, as Creator of all human beings when you accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and his shed blood for the forgiveness of sin and are buried in that watery grave of baptism, which is your symbolic death to be conjoined to the death of Jesus Christ, now you're to no longer live in sin.

Verse 6: "Knowing this, that our old man was co-crucified with *Him* in order that the body of sin might be destroyed..."

Keep that in mind, because when you are baptized God does not remove *the law of sin and death* from you. ***It's a circumcision of the heart and the mind***, with the power of the Holy Spirit so that you can overcome those things within, and ***spiritually*** overcome them. We'll see that's what this is all about. "...that the body of sin might be destroyed..." Not done all at once.

"...so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin" (v 6).

You can overcome sin with the power of the Holy Spirit of God with the Laws of God written in your heart and in your mind, and through prayer, repentance, yielding to God, and studying the Word of God. This is how we overcome day-by-day, Sabbath-by-Sabbath, month-by-month, year-by-year.

Verse 7: "Because the one who is died *to* sin...

[that's what we died to]

...has been justified from sin."

We're not to be enslaved we have died to sin we are not to be living any longer in it.

Verse 8: "Now, if we died together with Christ, we believe we shall also live with Him....

[at the resurrection]

...knowing that Christ, having been raised from *the* dead, dies no more; death no longer has any dominion over Him. For when He died, He died unto sin once for all; but in that He lives, He lives unto God" (vs 8-10).

Verses 11-15 are key; very important!

Verse 11: "In the same way also, you should indeed reckon yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God through Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore, do not let sin rule in your mortal body by obeying it in the lusts thereof" (vs 11-12).

This tells us a couple of very important things. Once we are baptized we still have 'the law of sin and death' in us but God wants us to use his Holy Spirit through repentance and the Word of God to overcome sin, and ***don't let it rule!*** Go back and read 1-John 1 again; 'if we say we don't sin we are deceiving ourselves. If we confess our sins He is righteous and just to forgive us our sins.' He was writing to Christians and including himself, the Apostle John. *Don't obey the lust!*

Verse 13: "Likewise, do not yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin...

[the temptations are there]

...rather yield yourselves to God as those who are alive from *the* dead...

[that death is through baptism]

...and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God."

Remember how we covered about *hungering and thirsting after righteousness*. Remember how we read how David was yearning and panting and longing for God to see Him how zealous he was for that. *Yes!*

Verse 14: "For sin shall not rule over you because you are not under law, but under grace."

Protestants go to this and say if you are under grace you're not under law. They don't know what it is to be under law. Now were going to cover that in part two: *Meanings of "Law" in Romans 7*. Under law has nothing to do with keeping the commandments of God as a means of justifying for eternal life. Under law has to do with *your standing* with God.

Verse 15: "What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace? MAY IT NEVER BE!"

What is sin? *Transgression of the Law!* Shall we sin? *No!* You shall not transgress the Law because you're under grace. 'Under law' means something entirely different. Let's see what it is to be under grace. How do we fight and resist sin? *We do that through the Spirit of God in the righteousness of God and spiritually keeping the commandments of God,* which we will see in Rom. 7, Paul explains it in great detail.

Verse 15: "What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace? MAY IT NEVER BE!"

This means *don't let this thought even come into existence!*

Verse 16: "Don't you realize that to whom you yield yourselves *as* servants to obey, you are servants of the one you obey, whether *it is* of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?"

Obedience! What do you obey? *'Man shall not live by bread alone but by every Word of God!* Jesus said, 'Why do you call Me "Lord, Lord" and do not the things that I practice? I do the things that please God, and I do what He commanded Me to do and I say what He commanded Me to say.' Remember all the writings of the apostles are God-spirited. *Obedience unto righteousness!*

Verse 17: "But thanks *be* to God, that you were *the* servants of sin, but you have obeyed from *the* heart that form of doctrine which was delivered to you."

What we just covered: justification through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Repentance and baptism and receiving of the Holy Spirit of God.

Verse 18: "And having been delivered from sin..."

You've been delivered from your past sin. As you grow, change, overcome and repent every day you're not yielding to sin.

"...you became *the* servants of righteousness. I speak from a human point of view because of the weakness of your flesh; for just as you *once* yielded your members in bondage to uncleanness, and to lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now yield your members in bondage to righteousness unto sanctification" (vs 18-19).

There it is!

- we are to live God's way
- we are to walk in God's commandments
- we are to walk in His Truth
- we are to walk in His love
- we are to walk by faith
- we are to walk by hope
- we are to live in the love of God and God the Father and Jesus Christ living in us

Verse 20: "For when you were *the* servants of sin, you were free from righteousness."

Ezekiel 18:27: "Again, when...

[IF]

...the wicked turns away from his wickedness...

[his sins; *repents*]

...that he has committed and does that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive"

—will not be mentioned to him.

Verse 26: "When a righteous one turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity...

[sins]

...and dies because of it; for his iniquity that he has done, he shall die"

—all the righteousness that he has done shall not be accounted to him. It won't be counted!

So, if you have your sins forgiven and you go back into the world—live into the world, live in sin, follow the ways of Satan the devil—you *are beginning the path toward the unpardonable sin*. Now you can come back as purview the prodigal son coming back to the father.

Romans 6:21: Therefore, what fruit did you have then in the *things* of which you are now ashamed? For the end result of those things *is* death. But now *that* you have been delivered from sin and have become servants of God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and the end result *is* eternal life. For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord" (vs 21-23).

So, we'll pick this up in Rom. 7 and finish that one, because this becomes very important. Now remember, Paul writes this in progressive fashion:

- Rom. 1—sin
- Rom. 2—repentance and obedience
- Rom. 3—the sacrifice of Christ and His shed blood to justify you before God
- Rom. 4—you are reckoned righteous as Abraham was because you believe God and do the things that He did
- Rom. 5—you have the Holy Spirit of God you could overcome the law of sin and death
- Rom. 6—concerning baptism we just read it

In part two, Rom. 7, and you will see how all of this fits together, flowing in order to explain the most difficult things that Paul has written right here in the Scriptures. ***These are the deep things of God, that through the Spirit of God we can understand!***

Scriptural References:

- 2-Timothy 3:16
- James 4:12
- John 6:63
- Deuteronomy 8:3
- Luke 4:4
- John 6:63-65
- 1 John 2:3
- John 6:65
- John 14:6
- Matthew 5:17
- Hebrews 5:7-0
- Hebrews 4:12-13
- Proverbs 25:2
- Matthew 5:6
- Psalm 42:1-2
- Psalm 62:8
- Psalm 63:1
- Matthew 5:6
- Psalm 63:1-7
- Psalm 84:1-2
- Psalm 119:18
- 1 Corinthians 2:9-12
- Romans 2:4-16
- Romans 3:16-18, 31
- Romans 4:15
- Romans 5:1-12
- Romans 6:1-20
- Ezekiel 18:27, 26
- Romans 6:21-23

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- 2 Peter 3
- Matthew 13
- John 1:1-16
- Isaiah 40:12-31
- Revelation 21
- Romans 1
- Revelation 2; 3
- Romans 3:10-18
- 1 John 1

Also referenced:

Sermon Series:

- *Grace of God in the Bible*
- *Commandment-Keeping and the Grace of God*
- *Grace Upon Grace*
- *Love of God*
- *Epistles of Paul to the Romans*

Appendix Z: Understanding Paul's Difficult to Understand Scriptures Concerning the Laws and Commandments of God (*The Holy Bible In Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*; second edition—afaithfulversion.org)

Book: *The Appointed Times of Jesus the Messiah* by Fred R. Coulter

FRC:po/bo

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