

**Welcome to**

**Journey  
through  
the Bible**

**Book by book  
Bible study**



**Romans: God's Good News  
for the World**



**Heart (essence) of the Gospel**

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. 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.” (1:16–17)

**Romans 7:1-25**

What is our relationship to the Law?

1. We not under the Law! 7:1-6  
The law no longer has authority over us
2. The law is not the enemy! 7:7-12  
The Law exposes, it does not cause sin
3. What does the Law do for us? 7:13-24  
The Law convicts me of my sin

Where does this leave me?

**I can't live for God in my own strength!**

I know that nothing good lives in me, that is in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?  
(7:18, 24)

Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!  
(7:25)

**There is no condemnation in Christ!**

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.  
(8:1–3a)

**We have a new resource, the Spirit!**

Those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. (8:5–8)

**We also have a new obligation!**

Therefore, we have an obligation—but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. ... because those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ... The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co—heirs with Christ, (8:12-17)

### **We have an advocate in heaven!**

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. 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.

(8:26–27)

### **We have a guaranteed future!**

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, ... And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. (8:28–30)

### **What is our reasonable response?**

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 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?

(8:31–32)

### **No one can charge or condemn us !**

Who will bring any charge against those God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. (8:33–34)

### **Nothing can separate us from Christ!**

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. I am convinced that neither death nor life ... will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (8:35–39)

### **Where does this leave Israel? Romans 9-11**

The place of Israel in God's plan  
9 Israel's past rejection & God's fairness  
10 Israel's present, a remnant being saved  
11 Israel's future, all Israel will be saved  
God bound all men under disobedience that He may have mercy on all!  
Doxology: In praise of God's mercy

### **Salvation comes by faith in Christ!**

If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. ... for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

(10:9–13)

### **We must proclaim the good news!**

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? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." (10:14–15)

**Doxology: God's unsearchable riches!**

Oh, the depth of the riches of both the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

Who has known the mind of the LORD?

Who has been His counselor?

Who has ever given to God that God should repay them?

For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.

Romans 11:33-36

**The believer's relation to God!**

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. 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. (12:1-2)

**Believer's relation to other believers!**

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. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. (12:3-5)

**Life management skills for believers!**

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. (12:9-13)

**The believer's relation to society!**

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. (12:14-18)

**The believer's relation to government!**

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. ... This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: if you owe taxes, pay taxes; if respect, then respect ... (13:1-7)

**Pay your debts, especially to love**

Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.

... Love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

(13:8-10)

**The time is now! The hour is urgent!**

The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 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. ... Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

(13:11-14)

### **Don't argue over doubtful issues!**

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak eats only vegetables. ...

One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. ...

Whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. (14:1-12)

### **Promote peace — Don't sow discord!**

"Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. ...

"Let us make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. ...

Whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. ...

Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up." (14:13-15:2)

### **Be Christ-like in your relationships!**

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Accept one another, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

(15:5-7)

### **May you live the overflowing life**

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. (15:13)

### **The Holy Spirit makes it possible**

### **Paul's passion is to proclaim Christ!**

I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. 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. ...

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. (15:19-20, 30)

### **Be alert! Live thoughtfully!**

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.

...

I rejoice because of you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. (16:17-19)

### **Paul's benedictory prayer for them!**

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, 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—to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

(16:25-27)

### **See you next year!**

**We resume with  
1 Corinthians  
January 10**

