

# Romans: The Foundation of Our Faith

## Student Study Guide

### Part Three

\*Unless otherwise marked scripture is from the NKJV Bible.

The truly righteous: The true Jew

Romans 2:28-29

28For he is not a Jew who *is one* outwardly, nor *is* circumcision that which *is* outward in the flesh;

29but *he is* a Jew who *is one* inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise *is* not from men but from God.

Galatians 3:5-9

5Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, *does He do it* by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

6just as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

7Therefore know that *only* those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.

8And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, *saying*, In you all the nations shall be blessed.

9So then those who *are* of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

Abraham was the first Jew; he lived before the Law of Moses, he was a Gentile, from the city of Ur of the Chaldees and Abraham was judged righteous by God because of his faith.

According to the Apostle Paul, all who have faith in God like Abraham had, are the real sons and daughters of Abraham or the true Jew!

Jesus also taught this in:

John 8:39 NIV

Abraham is our father, they answered. If you were Abraham's children, said Jesus, then you would do what Abraham did.

Children are identified with their parents by their similar appearance and as they mature, it is their behavior and character that is the true identifier.

These spiritual truths and its concept are explained and illustrated in 3 books of the New Testament.

Habakkuk 2:4

Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.

Romans 1:17

For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Hebrews 10:38

The just shall live by faith; But if *anyone* draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.

The just	Romans
shall live	Galatians
by faith	Hebrews

Romans 2:29

but *he is* a Jew who *is one* inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise *is* not from men but from God.

The circumcision of the heart is only accomplished by the Spirit and not the letter. The True Jew has an inward condition of the heart that has been changed.

Knowing the will of God is not enough, we must obey and do His will.

If, you know the will of God and do not do the will of God, the knowing of His will, will become a burden to you and He will not increase your understanding. This is a loving act of God because He holds you responsible for what He has shown you. God is not wanting to place more responsibility on you that you can't bear the burden of.

Your outward behavior gains the approval and praises of men but the inward condition, relationship and worship of your circumcised heart gains the approval and praise of God.

You are to blend the two, the Spirit and the Word, together during worship; otherwise, your worship is lacking the structure of the Word or your worship is suppressing the freedom of the Spirit, both are considered quenching the Spirit of God.

The Good News, is that all stand before God originally in the same sin condition.

Romans 3:1-8 NIV

1What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision?

2Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God.

3What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness?

4Not 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.

5But 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.)

6Certainly not! If that were so, how could God judge the world?

7Someone might argue, If my falsehood enhances God's truthfulness and so increases his glory, why am I still condemned as a sinner?

8Why not say—as some slanderously claim that we say— Let us do evil that good may result? Their condemnation is just!

The faithful and just God.

The Jewish nation was given the privilege and responsibility of receiving the communication from God first; but Paul emphasis, is on what are you doing with your responsibility and communication from God as the true Jews.

Romans 3:3

Possessing power verses unbelief.

Just because you do not believe in God, does not mean that God ceases to exist.

Romans 3:4

God is the just and faithful One even if every man fails to believe in Him.

Romans 3:5-8

Paul responds to Jewish critics in Rome that state these two things:

1. Paul was afraid to come to Rome and present the Gospel of Jesus Christ there.
2. Paul is reported to be teaching that, the end justifies the means.

True: The grace of God comes upon sin.

True: Sin is necessary for grace to be imparted.

False conclusion: Sin is good, in that it brings about a higher good.

Paul does not even debate these points, instead he concludes that those who teach such things deserve their punishment.

Romans 3:9-12 NIV

9What 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.

10As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one;

11there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God.

12All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.

Romans 3:9

Contains the word ALL.

All people groups are without excuse for their wrongdoing against God and so are any individuals who think they can become righteous from their own system of beliefs or strict moral code.

Reason's: Has good ground to stand on to make a factual case.

Excuse's: Is something made up that usually only you believe.

Romans 3:13-18 NIV

13Their throats are open graves; their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips.

14Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.

15Their feet are swift to shed blood;  
16ruin and misery mark their ways,  
17and the way of peace they do not know.  
18There is no fear of God before their eyes.

Verses 13-18 describes the behavior and characteristics of all people.

Psalm 10:7 NIV

His mouth is full of lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue.

Isaiah 59:7 NIV

His mouth is full of lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue.

Psalm 36:1 NIV

I have a message from God in my heart concerning the sinfulness of the wicked:  
There is no fear of God before their eyes.

Lies Christians sometimes believe:

I have accepted the grace of God in my life, the Holy Spirit has done His best work in me and I am still defective and beyond repair or rehabilitation. I am just human!

Humans are the closest being in all creation to God Himself. Jesus Christ died for human beings because He thinks that we, human beings, are worth saving.

Brief outline of Romans, so far:

Romans 1:1 - 1:17

Introduction

Romans 1:18 - 3:20

The need of Salvation for every single person on earth.

Romans 3:21 - 5:21

The way of Salvation.

Romans 3:19-20

19Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.  
20Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:19

The law of Moses gives a diagnosis, but the law of Moses cannot cure.  
The Law of Moses speaks to those who are under the Law.

Paul broadened his use of the term Law to include much more than the Law of Moses. God has revealed Himself to every man, and that revelation, no matter how great and detailed or small and indirect, must be accepted and obeyed.

The Law speaks to the pagan, the heathen, and the barbarian, the self-righteous, moral man, and the religious man; the Jew.

Reason 1:

Every mouth be closed!

The truth of Romans will shut every mouth of excuse and opposition to God:

Every case is CLOSED!

I did not know.

I do not accept.

I do not have a Bible.

I do not have any faith.

I do not understand.

I cannot read the Bible without falling asleep.

I refuse to believe in your God.

An individual still has the choice to reject God's revelation of Salvation through Jesus Christ, but Paul has eliminated every sane objection, to the rejection of Jesus Christ as Savior. The only excuse that remains is extreme self-centered rebellion or insanity.

Reason 2:

Each individual is accountable.

A person is not accountable to you, but they are accountable to God.

Romans 3:20

The works of the Law of Moses, and good deeds done for others, cannot justify you before God.

The Law of Moses gives us a moral compass of what is right and what is wrong. Sin is defined in the Law of Moses.

I Timothy 1:8 NIV

We know that the law is good if one uses it properly.

Romans 3:20 Phillips Translation

It is the straight edge of the Law that shows us how crooked we are.

Jews and religious people have moral knowledge and still they chose evil deeds and bad behavior out of rebellion, not ignorance.

Even a small child, who has never been taught, knows the difference between telling the truth and telling a lie.

Each person in every culture and people group has been given a revelation of God and has made a choice as to whether to seek and obey that truth revealed to them, or to reject it.

Paul says that we are all guilty:

The barbarian, the pagan, and the heathen group, the good ethics and moral group, the religious and knowledgeable group that have heard the discernment of the Holy Spirit and choose a different way.

Ivan Turgenev, a Russian author and atheist admits:

I do not know what the heart of a bad man is like, but I do know what the heart of a good man is like, and it is terrible.

Biblical example:

Saul of Tarsus, was a good moral man who was religious and God saved him from that good moral life.

Romans 3:20 contains two important statements:

1. Full obedience and strict compliance to the Law of Moses will not bring the approval of God.
2. The Law of Moses brings sin to light, and teaches us that we have sinned.

Romans 3:24-28

24being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,  
25whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His  
26to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

27Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.

28Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

In the next few verses Paul gives four terms that will bring understanding concerning the mechanics of Salvation. These four terms do not contradict one another but work together as a team in the harmony explaining your Salvation.

Romans 3:24, 3:26, 3:28

Justification

In justification, God legally announces in the Supreme Court of Heaven that a man who was a sinner is now declared to be righteous and is conformed into the character of God. You are now clothed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

Romans 3:24

Redemption

The offering of Jesus Christ as a ransom to buy you back from sin.

This is your personal Exodus from Egypt; you have been delivered from the land of slavery and bondage to sin.

Deliverance from the penalty of sin under the Law of Moses.  
Deliverance from the power of sin over you. Sin, is no longer your master.  
Deliverance from the bondage relationship you had to Satan (Pharaoh).

You have been released to begin a new life of true freedom and liberty in God.

Romans 3:25

Propitiation

Propitiation meaning: Substitution

The provision of the mercy of God, permitting a substitute sacrifice to provide the payment due for your sins.

There are few people you know who would lend or give you bail money to get out of jail. How many people do you know who would take your place in jail and pay your fine, so you could go free? There is only One, Jesus Christ!

Romans 3:25

Remission

Remission meaning: Cancel or pardon.

This is only made possible by the Blood Sacrifice of Jesus Christ.  
For more detailed information read, Leviticus 1-16 and Hebrews 9.

There are ten occurrences of the word remission in the New Testament, and it is always used in regards to sins.

Romans 3:21-24

21But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,  
22even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;  
23for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,  
24being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

The righteousness of God.

Romans 3:21

But now! Righteousness from God is available to you from outside of the Law of Moses.

Our holy and just God has made a way for sinful, guilty man, to be made right before Him; there is hope for the hopeless and help for the helpless.

The righteousness of God is the ultimate miracle in our lives!

### Romans 3:21-22

The way you get right with God is through believing in Jesus Christ, God's designated acceptable substitute, and upon His faithfulness to satisfy the demands of God concerning sin.

We are all equally in need of God's pardon, we stand equally guilty, and we all have equal access to Salvation.

There are not multiple brands of Salvation:

Type 1: The heathen and barbarians who need a lot of grace.

Type 2: The good moral people who need some grace.

Type 3: The religious people who need a little grace.

God makes no distinction between rich and poor, between race or skin color, or male and female. There is only one type of Salvation, One-size-fits-all!

### Romans 3:23

Paul says, we have all falling short of the glory of God, because being clothed in His glory is His plan and intention for you.

The glory of God is the reflection of His very nature.

To fall short means to lack.

First Century Jewish writing entitled, The Life of Adam and Eve; references that the glory of God was Adam and Eve's clothing and protection, before their sin in the Garden of Eden.

### Justification

Justification, justice, and righteousness all come from the same Greek root word:

Justification is a gift, and it cannot be earned, it is the grace of God through the redemption of Jesus Christ.

### Romans 3:25-26 NKJV

25whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

26to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

### Romans 3:25

The Blood of Jesus demonstrates the righteousness of God. God is fair and will not make an exception for you regarding sin, God takes very seriously how far He will go to deal with sin.



II Corinthians 5:21

God made Jesus, who had no sin, to be sin for us; so that in Him we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

Romans 3:27-31

27Where *is* boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith.

28Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

29Or *is He* the God of the Jews only? *Is He* not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also,

30since *there is* one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.

31Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

The law of faith.

The Law of Faith is a humble path, it prevents you from gaining any credit toward your Salvation from good deeds or good motives; it is the path of trusting, believing, and faith.

Illustration:

If you were drowning in the ocean, and there was only one Lifeguard who could swim out to save you and He did, how much pride would you have in saying; I have decided to accept the help of this Lifeguard, what good judgment I have, I have made an intelligent choice in allowing myself to be rescued.

You would be humbled to know that a stranger and someone you considered to be your enemy, gave up His life for you so that you would be able to live. Your response would be; Sir, to merely say, Thank you, in the light of what you have done for me and for my family is insufficient. I owe You my life!

The first part of the Book of Romans is a dark and hopeless introduction that concludes with the phrase in Romans 3:19, all are guilty before God.

Romans 3:21 begins with a wonderful word, But, here is the beacon of hope in a world filled with sinful men.

Righteousness is posted to your account.

Counted: Romans 4:3, 4:5

Reckoned: Romans 4:4, 4:9, 4:10, 4:11

Impute: Romans 4:6, 4:8, 4:22, 4:23, 4:24

All three words, counted, reckoned, and imputed, are all the same word in the original Greek text: logizomai

Definition of logizomai: Numerical calculation; an accounting term. To put down, or to post to an account.

Justification is the statement by God declaring sinful man is, now righteous and acceptable; based upon the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ and man's belief in Him.

Paul deals with those coming out from Judaism:

The Jew views Gentiles like a dirty, hungry little boy at the window of a fine dining restaurant; the Jew thinks, of course the little dirty Gentile boy wants in to share in our Jewish goodness of God.

A Jew would view another Jew as a turncoat or trader to the Jewish people if they accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. The Christian Jew would be treated as an apostate who had totally abandoned his religion and belief.

To the first century Jew, the Gentile would be forced to become a convert to the Jewish faith in order to accept their Jewish Messiah who comes from the Jewish Scriptures.

First century critic said, that Paul had left the Old Testament Scriptural truth behind in his teachings and they could not accept a new doctrine because it had no Scriptural basis.

Paul needs to illustrate a person in the Old Testament, without using their good works, religion, or their obedience to the Law of Moses, in order to gain their Salvation. Not only does Paul find someone who received God's blessing and favor outside of the Law of Moses, he also found a Gentile, Abraham!

Romans 4:1-15

1What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh?

2For if Abraham was justified by works, he has *something* to boast about, but not before God.

3For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

4Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

5But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

6just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:

7Blessed *are those* whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

8Blessed *is the* man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.

9Does this blessedness then *come* upon the circumcised *only*, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness.

10How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised.

11And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which *he had while still* uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who

believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also,  
12and the father of circumcision to those who not only *are* of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham *had while still* uncircumcised.  
13For the promise that he would be the heir of the world *was* not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.  
14For if those who are of the law *are* heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect,  
15because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law *there is* no transgression.

Romans 4:1-8

Not by works.

Genesis 15:6 NKJV

And he (Abraham) believed in the Lord; and he (The Lord) counted it to him (Abraham) for righteousness.

Romans 4:9-12

Not by rite or ritual. The circumcision of Abraham came after he had received God's righteousness. Abraham's circumcision was only a sign of the active Covenant.

Romans 4:13-15

Not by law. The promise of the Covenant is to Abraham and his descendants and comes by faith. Faith offspring!

Galatians 3:7 NIV

Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham.

Romans 4:16-25

My faith is like the faith of Abraham.

Romans 4:17

Characteristics of Abraham's faith:

1. Focus: Your eyes are on God, and not on the impossible problem.
2. God of Life: Abraham believes that God can raise the dead. Specifically, Jesus Christ.
3. God of Miracles: Abraham believes God can, and will, bring into being that which does not now exist.

God's manifestation may take time, don't lose heart in the waiting, God is always working on your behalf. When God gives you a Word and it resonates in your heart, do not doubt, instead be full of hope; God may

be lining up other people to come into our path to help bring about His plans for you.

In Joshua, Chapter 5, God speaks of future events, “as a gift, I give you the victory over Jericho!” This statement was made the night before Israel marched against Jericho, now go and watch the manifestation of your victory!

Romans 4:18 NASB

In hope against hope Abraham believed.

Abraham hoped that he would be the father of many nations by Isaac, just as God had promised!

Abraham also hoped in the character and judgment of God in Genesis 22:2 AMP, “Sacrifice your only son, the one you love, the son of promise, the son of laughter, give Isaac unto Me.”

When you are faced with hopes that seem to be contradictory, do exactly what Abraham did, trust and believe in God.

Romans 4:20

Abraham staggered not at the promise. Fourteen years of waiting made the faith of Abraham strong not weak.

Paul is asking you to trade in your small god for the God of Abraham, who can bring into existence things that are not.

Believe in God, by having the exact same faith Abraham had!

F	Forsaking
A	All
I	I
T	Trust
H	Him

Justification, is right standing before God, and is a result of faith.

Romans 4:1-8

Justification is not from works.

Romans 4:9-12

Justification is not from religion or observances.

Romans 4:13-15

Justification is not from the Law of Moses or the obedience to rules.

Romans 4:13

Abraham did not obey the Law of Moses, but though justification he was still given the promise.

The Law of Moses came 420 years after Abraham.

Justification is available to all men and it is not exclusive to any special group of people.

Romans 4:16

All justification comes as a result of faith.

Romans 4:24

God will accept you by faith just as He accepted the faith of Abraham.

Romans 4:25

You receive justification through the sacrificial work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

R. Kent Hughes, Righteousness From Heaven,

For once hopelessly lost sinners who received through faith the righteousness of God and now stand justified before Him. The true believer was once under wrath, but then was saved by faith, and now, he exults with great joy.

Romans 5:1-5

1Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;

4and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

5Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, we have peace with God.

Romans 5:1

Therefore or, as a result.

Therefore, is a connective word Paul uses to transition from chapter four, to what he is about to unveil in his next portion of writing.

Paul was a devout Orthodox Jew who had converted to Christianity.

There is no distinction between Jews or Gentiles, Paul says we are all Christians.

R. Kent Hughes, Righteousness From Heaven,

We rejoice - We are jubilant and shouting about it.

Peace with God is not a feeling or an emotion, the moment God accepts you, He possesses you to be in His peace!

Philippians 4:7 NKJV

and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Romans 5:2

Through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:3-5

Paul is referring to Romans Chapter 1, not being ashamed of the Gospel.

The ability to live under pressure and abide in His presence produces endurance and good character. When you trust patiently in God, He will bring you through the testing process of tribulation and give you hope.

The process of baring fruit: Tribulation - Patience - Experience - Hope

Romans 5:1

Peace with God.

Romans 5:2

Access to this grace in which we stand.

Access, means literally gaining an introduction for an audience with the King, by having a Friend in the court.

Romans 5:2

Rejoicing in the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:3

Rejoicing in tribulation because we know what tribulation will produce!