

## AN ELEMENTARY OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF ROMANS

- Jim Steel

### Article I. THE GOSPEL PRESENTED 1:1-17

---

#### **A. Preliminary Remarks 1-15**

1. The Writer Identified 1:1 – Who is Paul?
  - a. Paul - the man.
  - b. Paul - the servant.
  - c. Paul - the apostle.
  - d. Paul - the separated.
2. The Subject Identified – Who is Jesus?
  - a. He is the Son of God
  - b. His name is Jesus.
  - c. His title is Christ
  - d. He is Lord
3. The Gospel Identified 1:2-6
4. The Recipients Identified 1:7
5. Paul's Intentions Clarified 1:8-15
  - a. Healthy Hearts 8
    - 1.) Paul the Participant
    - 2.) Paul the Praise
  - b. Wholesome Prayers 9
    - 1.) It is good to pray.
    - 2.) It is good to focus your prayers on others.
    - 3.) It is good to tell others that you are praying for them.
    - 4.) It is good to mean it when we say we pray for others.
    - 5.) It is good to pray fervently and without ceasing.
    - 6.) It is good, when praying, to ask for specific things.
    - 7.) It is good to seek the will of God in our prayers.
  - c. Hindered Plans 11-13
    - 1.) Spiritual People Involve Plans - 10
    - 2.) Spiritual Plans Involve People - 11,12, 13b
      - a.) The Plan Expressed - "I long to see you"
      - b.) The Motives Impressed
        1. He wanted to care - 1: 11 (It was an unselfish ministry)
          - a. the goal . . . to impart a gift
          - b. the end . . . to establish the believer
        2. He wanted to share - 1: 12 (It was a reciprocal ministry)
          - a. the danger of receiving and not giving
          - b. the danger of giving and not receiving
        3. He wanted to bear - 1: 13 (It was Paul's divine obsession)
    - 3.) Spiritual People and their Plans operate with God's Permission 13
      - a.) Present duties may hinder future plans.

- b.) Plans may be hindered by physical obstacles and illness.
- c.) Our plans may be hindered by Satan himself.
- d.) Our plans may be hindered by the Holy Spirit.
- d. Heavy Debts 14
  - 1.) I am debtor 14
    - a.) What is owed?
    - b.) Who owes the debt?
    - c.) Why is the obligation placed upon us?
      - 1 The Judgment Seat of Christ constrains us.
      - 2 The plight of the lost constrains us.
      - 3 The beauty of the gospel constrains us.
      - 4 The love of Christ constrains us.
    - d.) To whom do we owe?
    - e.) Are we ready to pay our debts?
  - 2. I am ready 15
    - a.) Paul was ready
      - 1 See his intensity - "As much as is in me"
      - 2 See his spontaneity - "I am ready "
      - 3 See his priority - "To preach the gospel"
      - 4 See his consistency - "To you . . . also"
    - b.) Are we ready?
      - 1 There must be spiritual fire in our bones
      - 2 Our Elders must lead us through open doors
    - c.) I am not ashamed (1: 16)

## **B. The "Big Statement of Romans" 1:16-17**

- 1. Paul's Pride Declared
- 2. Paul's Pride Defended
  - a. He is proud because of what it is
    - 1. It is the gospel - glad tidings of good news.
    - 2. It is the gospel of God - not our gospel.
  - b. He is proud because of what it does
    - 1. It produces salvation
      - a.) Salvation from the guilt of sin
      - b.) Salvation from the power of sin
      - c.) Salvation from the pollution of sin
      - d.) Salvation from the penalty of sin
    - 2. It is energized by God
      - a.) It is the power of God with respect to its personality
      - b.) It is the power of God with respect to its authority
      - c.) It is the power of God with respect to its durability
      - d.) It is the power of God with respect to its capability
      - e.) It is the power of God with respect to its integrity
  - c. He is proud because of who it reaches
    - a.) This gospel is available to the Jews
    - b.) This gospel is available to you.

**A. The Reason for Gentile Guilt**

1. Sin Expressed
  - a. Knowledge Suppressed 1:18-20
    - The charge expressed
    - God's wrath
  - b. Knowledge Rejected 1:21-23
  - c. Knowledge Perverted 1:24 – 32
    - 1.) Terrible filthiness. 24
    - 2.) Unthinkable idolatry 25
    - 3.) Unspeakable vices 26 and 27
    - 4.) Absolute and Complete Depravity 27 – 32
  
2. Judgment Revealed 2:1-17
  - a. Its Abuse
    - 1.) They *shifted the blame*.
    - 2.) They *miscalculated* their odds. 3
    - 3.) They presumed on God's goodness. 4
  - b. Its Certainty
  - c. Its Demands
  - d. Its Impartiality
    - God's judgment is *impartial*.
    - God's judgment is *appropriate*.
      - God's judgment is *based on the facts*. 13.
      - God's judgment is based *on all the facts*. 16.
      - God's judgment is *according to the gospel*. 16.

**B. The Reason for Jewish Guilt**

1. False Assumptions... (Jewish Hypocrisy Exposed) 2:17-24
  - a. The Jews saw themselves as:
    - 1.) Possessors of the Truth 17
    - 2.) Protectors of the Truth 18
    - 3.) Providers of the Truth 19-20
      - b. In fact the Jews were disobedient to the truth.
        - 1.) The teacher was not a learner 21
    - 2.) The preacher ignored his own message 21
      - a.) Great contradictions (Stealing / Adultery / Sacrilege / Lawbreaking)
      - b.) Great consequences 24
  
2. Based on False Foundations... (Circumcision Misunderstood) 2:24 - 29
  - a. If...
    - 1.) The value of circumcision lies in the obedience of its owners, 24;  
and;
    - 2.) The value of circumcision is voided in the disobedience of its  
owners, v24;
  - b. Then...
    - 1.) The uncircumcised who are righteous shall be counted as  
circumcised, 26; and

- 2.) The uncircumcised who so fulfill the law may judge the circumcised who do not.
  - c. Because real *Jewishness* is inward, not outward. 28-29
3. Always Lead to False Conclusions, (We Cannot Reason With God) 3:1-8
- a. The truthfulness of God cannot be preempted by privilege 3:1-2
    - 1.) The Question: Was being Jewish and circumcised of no value? 1
    - 2.) The Answer: Jews were at great advantage because they had the truth. 2
  - 4. The truthfulness of God cannot be negated by unbelief 3:3-4
  - 5. The truthfulness of God cannot be obligated by patronization 3:5-7
  - 6. The truthfulness of God cannot be intimidated by propaganda 3:8

### C. The Reason for Universal Guilt

- 1. The Verdict Announced 3:9,10
  - a. We are all guilty 3:9
  - b. We are guilty of all 3:10
- 2. The Evidence Documented 3:11-18
  - a. Sins of character 11, 12
  - b. Sins of speech 13, 14
  - c. Sins of conduct 15 - 17
  - d. Sins of conscience 18
- 3. The Case is Closed 3:19-20

## Article III. JUSTIFICATION PROVIDED - 3:21-5:21

---

### A. The Concept of Justification by Faith 3:21-30

- 1. The *Provision* of Justification by Faith 3:21-30
  - a. Its Autonomy 3:21a
  - b. Its Authority 3:21b
  - c. Its Availability 3:22, 23
    - 1.) By faith in Jesus Christ 22a
    - 2.) Available to all men 22b
    - 3.) Required for all men 23
  - d. Its Attributes 24 - 30
    - 1.) It is free because it is by grace 24a
    - 2.) It is redemptive in its scope 24b
    - 3.) It is just because:
      - a.) It satisfies the *wrath* of God 3:25
      - b.) It vindicates the *integrity* of God 3:26
      - c.) It excludes the *boasting* of men 3:27
      - d.) It establishes, yet *supersedes* the law 3:28
      - e.) It demonstrates the *equity* of God 3:29-30
- 2. The *Primacy* of Justification by Faith - 4:1-15
  - a. It was the basis of Abraham's righteousness 4:1-5

- b. It was the basis of David's righteousness 4:6-8
- c. It preceded and validated the seal of circumcision 4:9-12
- d. It preceded the law 4:13-15

3. The *Purpose* of Justification by Faith 16:-24

- a. It was provided so that *grace* could be revealed 16a
- b. It was provided so that *all* the seed could obtain righteousness 16b-18
- c. It was credited to Abraham, (not earned) 19-22
  - 1.) The belief of Abraham and Sarah produced works, (19-21), but
  - 2.) The righteousness was credited, (not earned) 22.

4. The *Promise* of Justification by Faith 23-25

- a. It was not for Abraham's sake alone 23
- b. It was also provided for our benefit 24
- c. It must now be obtained through the risen Christ 24-25
  - 1.) Notice that our belief is in the One who raised up Jesus (the Father)
  - 2.) Notice that Christ was delivered for this specific purpose
  - 3.) Notice that Christ was raised as *proof* of our justification.

**B. The Certainty of Justification By Faith - Romans 5:1-11**

1. The Benefits of Justification By Faith 5:1-5

- a. A New Position
  - 1.) Peace with God 5:1
  - 2.) Access into Grace 5:2a
- b. A New Perspective
  - 1.) We rejoice in our new hope 5:2b
  - 2.) We rejoice in our tribulations 5:3
    - a.) We understand the *process* of tribulation 3b-4
    - b.) We understand the *product* of tribulation 5

**C. The Assurance which Justification By Faith provides us 5:6-11**

- 1. Consider how far God went while we were yet enemies: 6-9
  - a. In the timing of God's provision - 6
  - b. In the greatness of the One who provided our justification 6b
  - c. In the distance to which Christ stooped to reach us 6b -7
  - d. In the level to which His love extended 8
- 2. Consider how much more God cares for us now! 9-11
  - a. If God did so much for us *before* we were justified, consider how committed He is to us right now!

**D. The Answer which Justification By Faith provides for Adam's sin 12-21**

- 1. Adam infected the whole human race 12-14
- 2. Christ provided the cure for the whole race 15-21

**A. Justification by Faith – Its Abuse Does Not Negate It**

1. The Question Stated As It Relates to Grace 6:1-13
  - a. Its Doctrinal Answer 6:2
    - 1.) The argument 6:2b
    - 2.) The evidence 6:3-10
      - a.) Our union with Christ forbids its abuse 6:3-10
        1. Our union in death frees us from sin's penalty
        2. Our union in resurrection frees us from sin's power
      - 3.) The application 6:3:11-13
        - a.) We *reckon* ourselves as dead 11-12
        - b.) We *yield* ourselves as alive 13
  2. The Question Restated As It Relates to the Law 6:15 - 7:24
    - a. Its Personal Answer 6:15
      - 1.) The argument 6:16
        - a.) The first illustration - (the servant master relationship) 6:17-23
          - 1.) The illustration expressed 6:17, 18
          - 2.) The illustration explained 6:19-20
          - 3.) The evidence asserted 6:21-23
          - 4.) The conclusion reaffirmed 6:23
            - b.) The second illustration (the marriage relationship) 7:1-6
        - 2.) The illustration explained 6:19-20
        - 3.) The evidence asserted 6:21-23
        - 4.) The conclusion reaffirmed 6:23
          - b.) The second illustration (the marriage relationship) 7:1-6
      3. The purpose of the law revealed 7:1-24

**B. The Law Does Not Negate It**

1. The Question of Its Legal Authority 7:1-6
  - a. The Principle Stated 6
  - b. The Example Cited 2, 3
  - c. The Conclusion Asserted 4-6
2. The Question of Its Moral Integrity 7:7-12
  - a. The Principle Stated 7a
  - b. The Example Cited 7b-11
  - c. The Conclusion Asserted 12
3. The Question of its Present Influence 7:13-25
  - a. The Principle Stated 13a
  - b. The Example Cited 13b-24
  - c. The Conclusion Asserted 25 (and all of chapter eight)

**C. The Spirit Effects It! 8:1-4**

1. Freedom Declared! 1
2. The Spirit Replaces the Flesh 2
3. The Spirit Succeeds Where the Flesh Failed 3-4
4. The Revolution Explained 5- 17
  - a. The Failure of the Old Regime 5-8
    - 1.) The fleshly minded *mind* the flesh vs5
    - 2.) The spiritually minded *mind* the spirit 5
    - 3.) Flesh minding produces death 6
    - 4.) Spirit minding produces life and peace 6
    - 5.) The fleshly mind wars against God and cannot please Him 7-8
  - b. The Power of the New Regime 9-13

- 1.) Your position stated 9
- 2.) Your power revealed 10-11
- 3.) Your practice demanded 12-13

#### **D. Our Adoption Guarantees It! 8:14-16**

1. Adoption Means Sonship 8:14, 15

[Added notes which are not in outline of Romans text:

*Adoption - Its Use in History*

*Adoption - The Greek Word*

*Adoption - Its Roman Use*

*Adoption - Its Biblical Application*

*Adoption - Its Biblical Definition*

*Adoption - Its Testimony to God's Prenatal Love]*

2. Adoption - Means Participation 8:16-39
  - a. Adoption - Our Participation With Christ 8:16-25
  - b. Adoption teaches us who we are - 16
  - c. Adoption teaches us why we suffer - 17
  - d. Adoption teaches us why the creation suffers - 19- 22
  - e. Adoption teaches us to wait for its consummation 23- 25
3. Adoption - Our Participation With the Spirit 8:26-27
  - a. Adoption teaches us what the Holy Spirit does for us 26a
  - b. Adoption teaches us how the Holy Spirit does it 26b
  - c. Adoption teaches us why the Holy Spirit succeeds 27
4. Adoption - Our Participation With the Father 8:28-39
  - a. Adoption teaches us what the Father *purposes*. 28
  - b. Adoption teaches us how the Father *proceeds* 29, 30
    - 1.) The first step is *foreknowledge* 29
    - 2.) The second step is *predestination* 29
    - 3.) The third step is *calling* 30
    - 4.) The fourth step is *justification* 30
    - 5.) The final step is *glorification* 30
  - c. Adoption teaches us why the Father *protects* us 31-34
    - 1.) There is no greater defender 31
    - 2.) There is no greater defense 32
    - 3.) There are no rightful accusers 33, 34
  - d. Adoption teaches us what causes the father to *preserve* us 35-39

### **Article V. JUSTIFICATION DEFENDED - 9:1-11:36**

---

#### **A. Israel's Position Examined 9:1-33**

1. Israel's lost majority 9:1-3
2. Israel's great privileges 9:4-5
3. Israel's true minority 9:6-19
- a. The majority rejected -They are not all Israel. 9:6-8
  - 1.) The scriptures are not to be blamed 6
  - 2.) The principle of *promise* asserted 6-8
    - a.) They are not all of Israel who *are* Israel 6
    - b.) They are not all of Isaac who are Abraham's seed 7

- c.) The children of the promise (not the flesh) are counted for seed. 8
- 3.) The principle of *promise* illustrated
  - a.) Through the promise made to Sara 9
  - b.) Through the promise made concerning Rebecca's conception 10-13
    - 1. Rebecca's child (not Hagar's) was chosen, and; (Gen 21:12)
    - 2. Jacob was chosen over Isaac *before* their births; 11
    - 3. Therefore election is *not* based upon works 11-13

#### **B. Israel's God is Exonerated 9:14-24**

- 1. The question asserted - is God unrighteous? 14
- 2. The answer revealed - from the scriptures 15-18
  - a. God *claims* the right to select His objects of mercy and compassion 15
  - b. The decision is based upon God's mercy, *not* man's will 16
  - c. An example may be found in God's treatment of Pharaoh 17
  - d. God may choose to be *merciful* and He may choose to *harden*. 18
- 3. God's Purpose Defended 19-29
  - a. God's Authority Asserted 19-21
  - b. God's Glory Manifested 22-24
  - c. God's Program Culminated 25-29
    - 1.) As prophesied by Hosea 25-26
    - 2.) As prophesied by Isaiah 27-29

#### **C. Israel's Problem Recognized 1-10**

- 1. Israel's Great Need 1
- 2. Israel's Great Error 2-10
  - a. The wrong righteousness was sought 2-3
  - b. The righteousness of Christ and Moses contrasted
    - 1.) Christ's righteousness terminates Moses righteousness 4
  - a.) Moses righteousness was by works 5
  - b.) Christ's righteousness is by faith 6-10
    - 1. It does not need to be sought 6-8
    - 2. It is present and available by faith 9-10

#### **D. Israel's Solution Revealed 11-15**

- 1. The Offer Tendered 11-13
  - 2. The Offer Transmitted 14-15

#### **E. Israel's Response Recorded 16-21**

- 1. Not all have obeyed 16
  - a. Isaiah's acknowledgment 16
- 2. But all *are* accountable 17-21
  - a. The Word of God taught the way of faith vs17
  - b. The Word of God went to the ends of the world vs18
  - c. Moses testified of its rejection 19
  - d. Isaiah testified of its rejection 20-21

#### **F. Israel's Present Condition 1-24**

- 1. The Burning Question 1-2a
  - 2. The Believing Remnant 2b-6
- 3. The Blinded Remainder 7-24
  - a. God's purpose

- 1.) To blind the rebellious 7-10
  - a.) Isaiah's declaration (Isaiah 29:10) 8
- b.) David's declaration (Psalm 69:22, 23) 9,10
  - 2.) To bring salvation to the Gentiles 11a
  - 3.) To provoke Israel to jealousy 11b - 12
- b. Paul's participation
  - 1.) The affirmation 13-16
  - 2.) The analogy (the olive tree) 17-21
  - 3.) The admonition 22-24

#### **G. Israel's Future Salvation 25-32**

1. Israel's blindness is short-lived 25
  - a. It will end when the fullness of the Gentiles comes in.
    2. Israel's salvation is sure 26
  - a. Isaiah asserts it. (Isaiah 59:20) 26
  - b. God's covenant insists on it 27
  - c. God's plan requires it 28-32
    3. God's Wisdom is supreme 33-36

---

### **Article VI. JUSTIFICATION EXPERIENCED - 12:1-16:27**

---

#### **A. Living Sacrifices 12:1-21**

1. In Service Toward God 1-2
  - a. Your Presentation 1
  - b. Your Prohibition 2a
  - c. Your Provision 2b
2. In Service Toward the Body of Christ 3-8
  - a. Your Position
    - 1.) Personal Estimation 3
    - 2.) Proper Differentiation 4
    - 3.) Perfect Integration 5
  - b. Your Performance
    - 1.) Recognize your role 6a
    - 2.) Realize your duty 6b-8
- a.) Prophecy 6
- b.) Ministry 7
- c.) Teaching 7b
- d.) Exhortation 8
- e.) Giving 8
- f.) Ruling 8
- g.) Showing mercy 8
3. In Service Toward All Men 9-16
 

The Sacrificial Servant. . .

  - Communicates his love with sincerity 9
  - Clings to the good 9
  - Cares for the brethren 10
  - Consecrates his spirit 11
  - Continues constant in testing 12

- Considers saints in need 13
- Controls himself in conflict 14
- Commiserates with his companions 15
- Condescends to the commonplace 16
- Constrains his responses 17
- Commends his integrity 17
- Commits to peace 18
- Ceases from anger 19
- Conquers evil with good 20-21

### **B. Loving Servants 13:1-14**

1. Submitting to Authority 1-7
  - a. Authority Delegated 1-2
  - b. Authority Defended 3-4
  - c. Authority Demanded 5-7
2. Settling Our Debt of Love 8-10
  - a. Love Effects the Law
  - b. Love Elevates our Neighbor
3. Sensing the Urgency of the Hour 11-14
  - a. It is High Time 11a
  - b. It is the End Time 11b
  - c. It is Daytime 12-14

### **C. Nurturing Servants 14:1-15:7**

1. Accept Weaker Brethren 14:1-3
  - a. Disregard his arguments 1
  - b. Discern his need 2
2. Correct Weaker Brethren 14:4-12
  - a. Correct Him In Attitude - concerning his humility 4
  - b. Correct Him In Philosophy - concerning his conscience 5
  - c. Correct Him In Motive - concerning his purpose 6
  - d. Correct Him In Accountability - concerning his Christ 7-12
3. Protect Weaker Brethren 14:13-18
  - a. A new criterion 13
  - b. A new standard 14
  - c. A new goal 15-18
4. Perfect Weaker Brethren 14:19-23
  - a. The purpose is peace 19
  - b. The priority is people 20
  - c. The privilege is to abstain 21
  - d. The proof is a clear conscience 21-23
5. Please Weaker Brethren 15:1-7
  - a. Elevate the weak
    - 1.) Carry his infirmity 1
    - 2.) Cater to his need 1
  - b. Emulate the Savior 3-7
    - 1.) His example was sacrificial 3a
    - 2.) His example was scriptural 3b-4
    - 3.) His Father will enable 5-7

### **D. A Leading Servant – Paul’s Ministry 15:8-33**

Concerning his ministry, we see that it was:

1. A Prophetic Ministry 8-12
  2. A Personal Ministry 13-14
  3. A Priestly Ministry 15-16
  4. A Powerful Ministry 17-19
  5. A Planned Ministry 20-29
- a. It was an *aggressive* plan 20
  - b. It was a *biblical* plan 21
  - c. It was a flexible plan 22-23
  - d. It was a *purposeful* plan 24-28
  - e. It was an *affirming* plan 29
- F. A Prayerful Ministry 30-33**
1. Why we pray 30a
  2. How we pray 30b
  3. What we pray 31-33