



INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

SINNERS ALL

HISTORICAL TIMELINE:

The letter to the Romans was probably written by Paul during his third missionary journey. The year was about 57 AD and Paul was likely in Corinth again. (See Acts 20:2-3) Having planted churches throughout Asia and Greece, he set his sights on going west, to Rome. It was there, in the heart of the empire, that he longed to preach. But he knew that first he must return to Jerusalem. Although Paul had not visited Rome himself, he knew that there was a fledgling Christian community in the city. Some believers had moved there for personal reasons and some local residents, having heard the gospel, had come to faith as well. Paul writes this letter to them in advance of his planned visit.

PASSAGE OVERVIEW

The letter to the Romans is one of the most outstanding pieces of literature ever written. It is an exquisite treatise. The first eleven chapters develop the gospel expansively, addressing man's sinful predicament and God's righteous provision for salvation. The attributes of God are on vivid display as the Spirit communicates how a just and righteous God can provide the free gift of salvation to sinners who are under judgment, without compromising justice.

The first three chapters begin with a succinct definition of the gospel (1:16-17). This is followed by an explanation of God's righteous response of wrath towards those who are unrighteous. Paul then explains how all men are sinners. The Gentiles, even without the law, have willfully rejected God and His righteous standards. The Jews, having the law, have failed to keep the law and are equally culpable before God.

All have sinned. All stand condemned. But God. God has provided a way through Jesus for justice to be maintained and executed, while at the same time, forgiveness and justification is provided to sinners who trust the work of Christ on their behalf.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK

Romans 1 - 3

HighlandPark
Baptist Church

Having been called by grace into peace, live in love. (6:23-24)

I. Live your calling. (ch. 4)

- A. The Calling – live worthy of it.
- B. Essential ingredients (4:1-7)
 - 1. Love – bearing with one another in love
 - 2. Peace – eagerly maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace
 - 3. Grace is given to equip us for the task. (4:7-16)
 - Participants:
 - Purpose:
 - Process:
- C. Put off and put on. (4:17-32)

We are actively dependent in this new way of living.

II. Love like Jesus. (5:1–6:9)

- A. Imitate God! How? (5:1-2)
 - Love that costs self.
- B. First step to walk in love is to remove idols. (5:3, 5, 10)
- C. Understand His will as He fills and controls you. (5:15–6:9)
 - 1. Be filled with the Spirit
 - 2. Relationships – love and respect

III. Stand strong – battle ready. (6:10-20)

Weapons are in, from, and through Christ

How does this apply to me?
