

# Paul's Letter to the Romans; Part I

Fall 2016

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## Description

Romans is, almost without question, one of the most important books in the Christian Bible. In this letter the Apostle Paul systematically lays out his understanding of the gospel, particularly how through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God has fulfilled his plans and purposes of the world. Throughout Church history, fresh readings of Romans has led to widespread revival. It is our desire to understand how the cross of Jesus has become the climax of history and how that event ought to shape us as individuals and as the Church.

Part I will run over 13 weeks, from September 7th to November 30th. Join us on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm as we trace Paul's thought and think about how it informs us today. Participants should also purchase Fleming Rutledge's book *Not Ashamed of the Gospel*. For more information please contact Pastor David: [david@northview.sk.ca](mailto:david@northview.sk.ca).

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course participants should:

- Be able to trace the first part of Paul's argument for how the gospel of Jesus reveals the righteousness of God
- Understand how the gospel of Christ brings peace with God
- Have a better understanding or the role of the law in God's divine plan

## Weekly Schedule

WEEK	DATE	TEXT	NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL
Week 1	September 7, 2016	Romans 1:1-17	Not Ashamed of the Gospel (Romans 1:16), pg. 15
Week 2	September 14, 2016	Romans 1:18-32	The Power of Obedience (Romans 1:16), pg. 27
Week 3	September 21, 2016	Romans 2:1-16	Not Ashamed of Jesus (Romans 1:16), pg. 34
Week 4	September 28, 2016	Romans 2:17-29	There is No Distinction (Romans 1:18-3:31), pg. 50
Week 5	October 5, 2016	Romans 3:1-20	The Line Between Good and Evil (Romans 3:9), pg. 60
Week 6	October 12, 2016	Romans 3:21-31	But Now... (Romans 3:9), pg. 69
Week 7	October 19, 2016	Romans 4:1-12	Father and Mother of the Ungodly (Romans 4:1-5, 16-17), pg. 106
Week 8	October 26, 2016	Romans 4:13-25	The Great Reckoning (Romans 4:23), pg. 118
Week 9	November 2, 2016	Romans 5:1-21	To Die For (Romans 5:6-8), pg. 142

WEEK	DATE	TEXT	NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL
Week 10	November 9, 2016	Romans 6:1-14	Death Shall Have No Dominion (Romans 6:1-14), pg. 190
Week 11	November 16, 2016	Romans 6:15-23	Divine Love Meets the Strongest Animal (Romans 6:23), pg. 198
Week 12	November 23, 2016	Romans 7:1-13	Frodo and Free Will (Romans 7:15-20; 8:2), pg. 211
Week 13	November 30, 2016	Romans 7:14-25	The Condemned Man (Romans 7:21-8:6), pg. 221

## Participants

This class is operated on a drop in, drop out basis. Participants are not required to come to every class, simply as they desire or are able to. It would be helpful if participants brought a bible or a copy of the letter in order to follow along with the discussion. Participants may also benefit from bringing a means to take notes as there will be a lot of information. Finally, for those who want to go deeper and get more out of this course, it is recommended that they:

- Read through the letter in one sitting at least once per week. Reading out loud versus silently would also be a benefit in this area. This will give an increased familiarity with the letter and will help to capture the whole.
- Label the paragraphs. Following the schedule above, participants can label each paragraph as they appear in their bible. Labels should be concise (not a description or a summary of the paragraph) and specific (should describe only this paragraph and no other, i.e. not general). This can be done on your own or it can be handed to the facilitator to receive feedback.
- Read the letter in several versions. This will benefit because translating is always subjective. Different translations will bring out different words that translates the original Greek. By identifying the difference, participants will have a fuller appreciation for the range of meanings of the original language.
- Read a book or commentary on the letter.

This course is not a bible study, rather it is presented in course format as a Text and Interpretation: Romans, such as you might take at the Bible College or university level (though no papers, exams or grades!). As such, it is lecture based though we welcome questions through out the entire class. We have scheduled our time so that we spend an hour of working through the material and then have thirty minutes for questions and answers or general discussion.

At the end of the course participants will be asked to provide feedback on the course so we might adjust the format for future classes. If participants desire to give feedback as the course progresses or if they have question that come up outside of class time they are encouraged to email David at david@northview.sk.ca.