

Romans

Schedule of Classes

Lesson	Date	Romans Text
1	8/2/2020	1:1-17
2	8/5/2020	1:1-2:29
3	8/9/2020	3:1-31
4	8/12/2020	4:1-5:11
5	8/16/2020	5:12-6:23
6	8/19/2020	7:1-25
7	8/23/2020	8:1-32
8	8/26/2020	9:1-33
9	8/30/2020	10:1-11:36
10	9/6/2020	12:1-21
11	9/9/2020	13:1-14
12	9/13/2020	14:1-23
13	9/16/2020	15:1-16:27

Questions adapted from Larry Brown's study of Romans, part 1 & 2. Full copy of his material is available here: http://embryhills.us/adult_class_material/romans/romans_part_1_and_2_larry_brown.pdf

Lesson 4: Examples of Justification

Romans 4:1-5:11

Paul has just explained the good news of God – His justice and His mercy all came together at the cross. The conclusion is that man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law (perfect law keeping). This justification is available to both the Jew and the Gentile. Paul will now illustrate justification by faith by using the life of Abraham. Abraham is the father of the Arab through Ishmael, the Jew through Isaac, and the Christian through Jesus. Paul wants to show that even Abraham was not justified by the flesh, the law or by works. If Abraham needed grace, then certainly others would too. Paul will also use David to show that righteousness is imputed through forgiveness rather than works (4:1-8).

In verses 9-16, Paul will further drive the point that Abraham was not justified by works. That he received no spiritual blessing through the flesh. Paul will raise the question and answer it so that this conclusion is not missed: Abraham was not justified on the basis of circumcision since this is a work of the flesh. Abraham was not counted righteous because of circumcision because he had not yet been circumcised when he was counted as righteous. Again and again it is stressed that he was spiritually blessed because of his faith in God's grace. (4:9-16). The point that Paul is making is that we too must be justified by faith and not by works. Justification by law and meritorious works is out because man has not kept God's law. He has sinned; all have sinned.

Paul will now turn from the matter of circumcision, to the promise of a child. In verses 1-12 we see that Abraham's justification was by faith. In verses 13-14 – the promise of inheritance was by faith. Now in verses 17-21 we are told that the birth of Isaac was also by faith. What has Abraham found according to the flesh (Vs 1)? Nothing! It is all by faith.

QUESTIONS:

1. How did Abraham attain righteousness?
2. How does David describe the righteousness which is imputed to man?
3. How is Abraham the father of the uncircumcised who possessed faith?
4. Based upon what, was the promise made to Abraham?
5. How did Abraham demonstrate his faith?
6. Why are we given the example of Abraham's faith?
7. What are some benefits we enjoy as a result of justification?
8. Why can Christians rejoice even in the middle of trials?
9. How did God demonstrate His love for us?
10. In addition to Jesus' death, what else is involved in our ultimate salvation?
11. What is your favorite verse in this section and why?