

**Bible
Teachings
Series**

*A study of
how we are
forgiven by
faith in Jesus*



The Letter to the Romans

The Letter to the Romans

A study of how we are forgiven
by faith in Jesus



Multi-Language Productions

Bringing the Word to the World

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Level 1, Book 20



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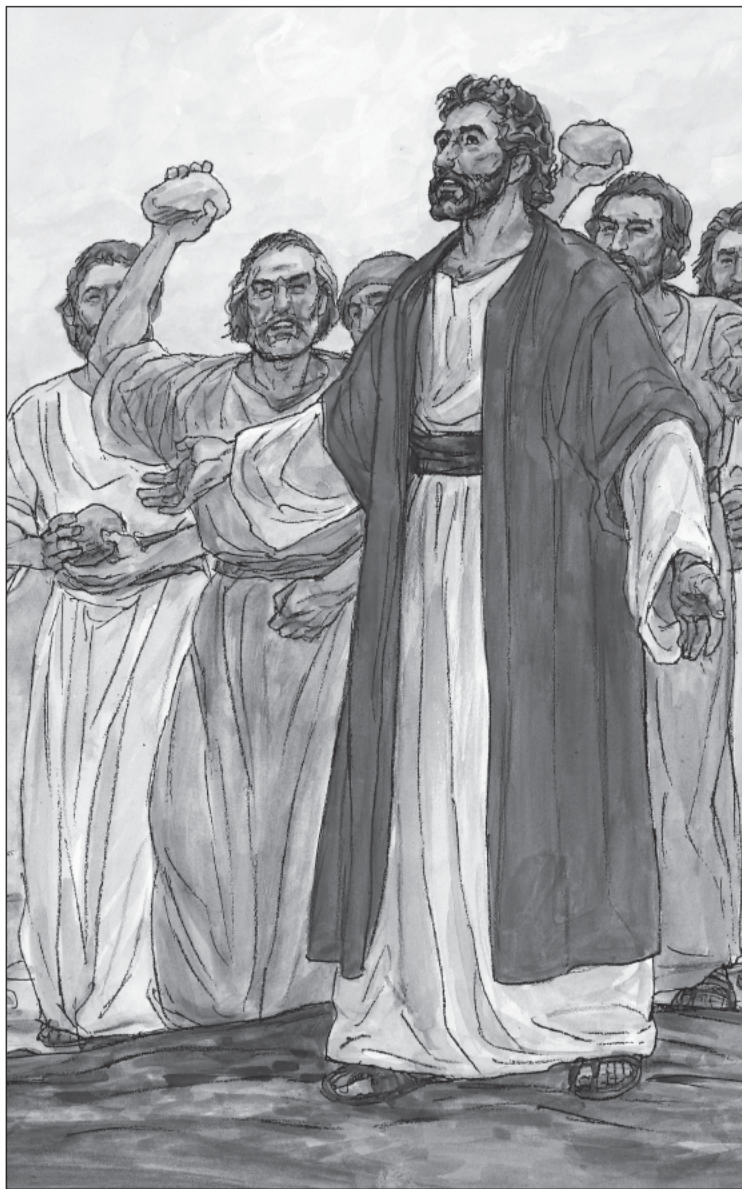
Getting Started

This book will teach you that you are not saved by your own good deeds but only by faith in Jesus Christ, your Savior. Each chapter begins with goals marked with a small star (*). These goals will tell you what you will learn in each chapter. Then you will read a few lines and answer some questions. At the end of each chapter there is a short test. The test questions cover only what you have read in the chapter and the questions you have answered.

When you finish answering a group of questions you will be given a page number where you can turn to check your answers. Check your answers before reading any further.

At the end of the book there is a final test. Before you answer the questions in this final test, go back and review the chapter tests. When you have completed the final test, you can either turn the test over to the person who gave you this book, or you can mail it to the address on the back cover of this book.

We pray that as you study the letter to the Romans and learn that you are forgiven and saved by your Lord and Jesus Christ, you will be strengthened in your belief that Jesus is the only way to go to heaven.



The stoning of Stephen.



Chapter One

Introduction to the Letter to the Romans

Read Romans 1:1 –17

Today, when we write a letter to someone, we usually place our name at the end of the letter. However, the apostle Paul tells us in the first words of this letter that he is the person writing this letter to the Roman Christians.

In this chapter we want to learn

- * Who the apostle Paul is,
- * The date and reason for writing this letter,
- * About the people to whom Paul is writing,
and
- * How righteousness comes from God.

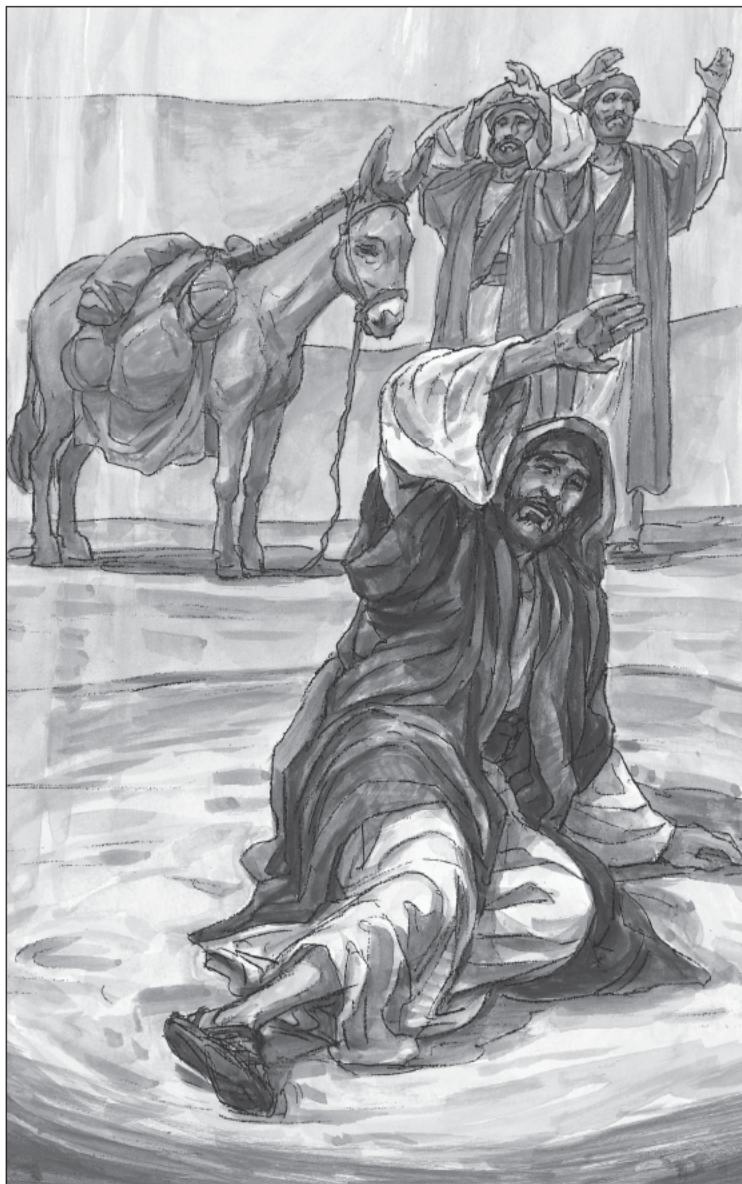
The apostle Paul, who wrote this letter to the Romans, was not always a friend and follower of Jesus Christ. In his early life he was an enemy of Jesus and the Christian church.

Paul was born as a Jew in the city of Tarsus in what is now the country of Turkey (Acts 21:39). However, Paul grew up in the city of Jerusalem where he was taught by a teacher named Gamaliel (Acts 22:3). He says he received a very thorough training in the law of the Old Testament. Early in his life he was a faithful Jew. He was also a Roman citizen (Acts 22:27).

In his early life the name by which he was known was Saul. Saul persecuted the church of Jesus Christ. His thirst for their blood began when he

watched the death of Stephen, the first Christian killed by the Jews of Jerusalem. Scripture tells us Saul approved of Stephen's death (Acts 7:58 – 8:1). Later Paul confesses that he persecuted the church of Jesus Christ. In 1 Timothy 1:13 he writes, "I used to speak evil things against Jesus. I tried to hurt his followers. I really pushed them around. But God showed me mercy anyway."

How did God show mercy to Saul? It happened when Saul was traveling to the city of Damascus to arrest Christians and to persecute the church in that city. Suddenly, as Saul traveled a bright light flashed in the sky. Saul fell to the ground. He heard a loud voice saying, "Saul! Saul! Why are you opposing me?" Blinded by the light, Saul listened as Jesus told him to wait in Damascus, and he would be told what to do. Three days later, with the help of a Christian named Ananias, Saul became a believer in Jesus Christ (Acts 9:1-31). Later Saul's name was changed to Paul (Acts 13:9). Now Paul became an apostle, a messenger specially chosen by Jesus, and as Paul said, "I serve Jesus Christ."



Saul on the road to Damascus.

1. In his early life Paul was an
of Jesus and the Christian church.
2. Paul was a Jew, but he was also a
citizen.
3. In his early life the name by which he was
known was .
4. Paul confessed that he the
church of Jesus Christ.
5. With the help of a Christian named Ananias
Saul became a in Jesus.
6. Paul, an apostle, was specially chosen by
.

Answers to these questions are found on page 15

Paul wrote many of the letters in the New Testament. Some letters he wrote to individuals, such as the letters to Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. Other letters were written to groups of Christians like the letters to the Galatians or the Ephesians and the one we are studying, the letter to the Romans.

Paul's letter to the Romans was written about the year 57 A.D. while Paul was in the city of Corinth.

He wanted to visit the Christians in the city of Rome. He hoped to share with the Roman Christians the “good news about God’s Son.”

In the first verses of chapter one of the letter to the Romans, Paul points out that Jesus belonged to King David’s family line. He says that Jesus also is the Son of God because, after being put to death on the cross, Jesus rose from the dead. “He is Jesus Christ, our Lord.”

God brought Paul to faith in Jesus and made him an apostle, so that Paul would bring the message of the gospel to those who were not Jews (Gentiles). Now Paul prays that the believers in Rome might also receive God’s undeserved love and the peace that only God can give.

7. Paul wants to share the “
” about God’s Son.
8. In the first verses of chapter one Paul points out that Jesus is a true man because he was born of
family line.

9. Paul also reminds us that Jesus is the _____ of _____ because he rose from the dead.
10. Paul now wants to bring the message of the gospel to those who are not _____.

Answers to these questions are found on page 15

Who are these people of Rome to whom Paul is writing this letter? We cannot be sure how the worship group in Rome started. Perhaps some people from Rome were at the city of Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. That is when the apostle Peter preached to visitors in Jerusalem who came from all over Asia, Europe, and Africa, and 3,000 people were baptized. Some of those people may have returned to Rome to begin a Christian church in that city. It also may have happened that when persecution struck the church in other areas of the world, persecuted Christians moved to the city of Rome and established the worship group there.

We do know that the lives of the Christians in Rome were filled with joy because they believed in Jesus as their Savior. Paul writes in verse eight



Paul preaches the good news.

that “people all over the world are talking about your faith.” Paul wanted to visit them to share his faith in Jesus and to learn about their faith. Paul wanted to “preach the good news ... in Rome.”

The gospel warms the hearts of all people who are Christians. The good news about what Jesus did for us as the Son of Man and the Son of God fills our believing hearts and lives with joy. Believers are happy people because of the spiritual blessings that fill their lives.

The gospel of Christ also moves us as Christians to share our faith with others and to listen to God’s Word as it is preached to us by our worship leaders. The message of the gospel strengthens our faith to meet all the problems of our life here on earth. And the gospel encourages us to look forward to our life in heaven with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

11. The lives of the Christians in Rome were filled
with _____ because they
in _____ as their Savior.

12. Christians are _____ people because
of the _____ blessings that fill their lives.
13. Christians _____ their faith with
others.
14. It is the message of the _____ that
strengthens our faith.

Answers to these questions are found on page 15

In verse 16 of chapter one Paul reminds all Christians that we should not be ashamed of the good news (the gospel). This good news saves everyone who believes in Jesus. This good news is meant for both Jews and Gentiles, - those who are not Jews.

Jesus has done great things for us by living a perfect, sinless life and dying an innocent death to pay for our sins. Now, by faith, we are right with God. God does not look at our sins but rather looks at what Jesus has done for each one of us. We believe in Jesus because of the power of the Holy Spirit working through God's message to us in the Scriptures. We are saved by faith. That is the message the apostle Paul wants to share with the

Christians in Rome and with you. In the following chapters of Paul's letter to the Romans we will learn that, whether we are Jews or not Jews, we are saved by faith and forgiven by God.

15. The good news saves _____ who
believes in Jesus.

16. Because of what Jesus did for us, we, by
_____ are now right with God.

17. You are saved by _____ in Jesus.

Answers to these questions are found on page 15

Review of Chapter One

The apostle Paul was not always a believer in Jesus. Early in his life when he was called Saul, he persecuted the Christians, even killing them. But God had mercy on Saul. As he traveled to the city of Damascus, Jesus called out to Saul, stopped his persecution of Christians by temporarily blinding him, and then made him into his apostle to those who are not Jews.

Paul now wanted to bring the good news of Jesus the Savior to the people of Rome. God forwards this news to us also. Paul wrote this letter to the Roman Christians about the year 57 A.D. while he was in the city of Corinth. We cannot be sure how the congregation in Rome was started. It may have been started by people who were present at the Pentecost Festival in the city of Jerusalem. If so, they heard the apostle Peter preach and were baptized. Or the worship group may have been founded by Christians who were persecuted in other cities and moved to Rome.

Paul wanted to share the message of the gospel with the people of Rome. The faith of these Christians in Rome, Paul said, was known throughout the world. The gospel brings joy to the hearts of believers. Believers should not be ashamed of the message of the gospel but share it with others and listen to pastors and teachers who preach and teach about Jesus. The Holy Spirit uses the message of the gospel to bring us to faith in our Savior.

Answers to the questions in Chapter One:

1. enemy; 2. Roman; 3. Saul; 4. persecuted; 5. believer;
6. Jesus; 7. good news; 8. King David's; 9. Son, God;
10. Jews; 11. joy, believed, Jesus; 12. happy, spiritual;
13. share; 14. gospel; 15. everyone; 16. faith; 17. faith.

Chapter One Test

1. In his early life Paul was an _____
of Jesus and the Christian Church.
2. With the help of a Christian named Ananias,
Saul became a _____ in Jesus Christ.
3. Paul, an apostle, was specially chosen by _____.
4. Paul wants to share the _____
about God's Son.
5. Paul reminds us that Jesus is the _____ of
_____ because he rose from the dead.
6. Christians _____ their faith with others.
7. It is the message of the _____ that
strengthens our faith.
8. The good news saves _____ who
believe in Jesus.
9. Because of what Jesus did for us, we, by
_____ are right with God.
10. You are saved by _____ in Jesus.

Answers to these questions are found on page 137



Chapter Two

We Are All Sinners

Read Romans 1:18 to 3:20

Have you lied to someone? Have your children disobeyed you? Have you stolen someone else's property? If you have done any of these things, you know you have done something wrong. God calls these actions evil. They are sins. In this chapter the apostle Paul teaches us that sin is in everyone, and it separates us from God.

In this chapter we want to learn

- * That those who are not Jews (Gentiles) are sinners,
- * That those who rely on good works are sinners,
- * That those who are Jews are sinners, and
- * That all people are sinners.

In Romans 1:18 the apostle writes, "God shows his anger from heaven. It is against all the godless and evil things that people do. They are so evil that they say no to the truth."

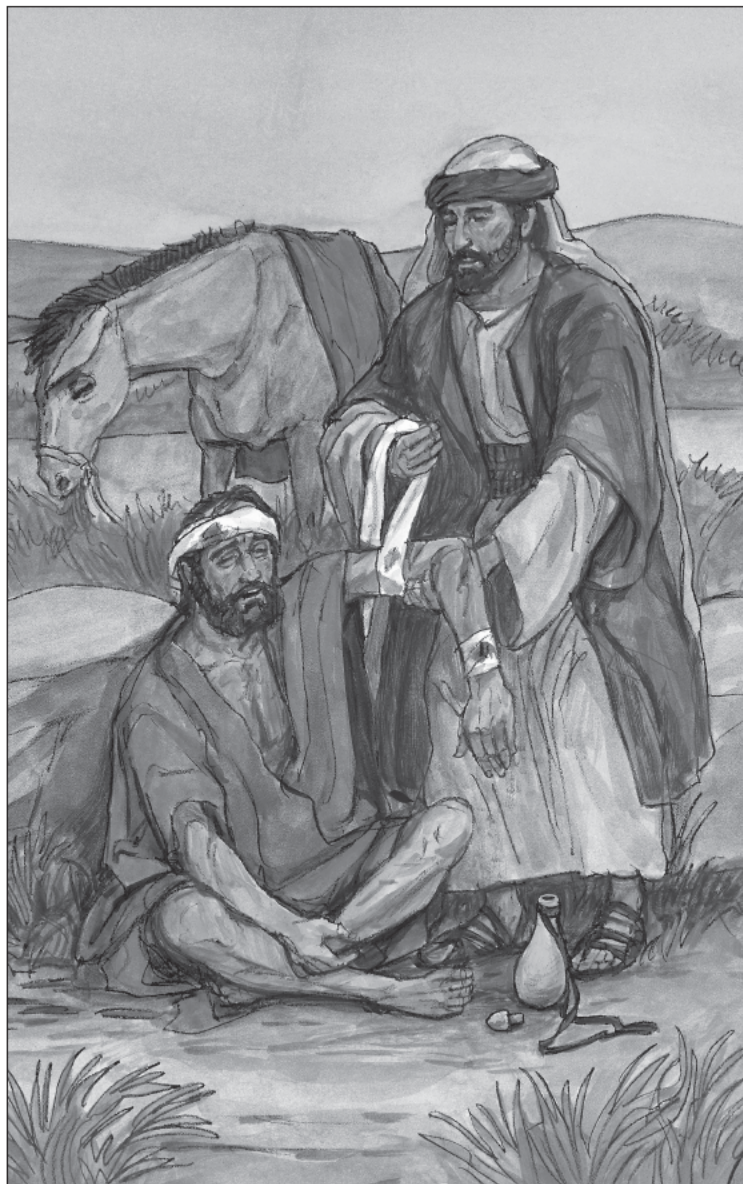
God tells us why he is angry with us. He hates it when people worship the things he has created, but they refuse to worship him, the Creator of everything.

The first sin is that many people do not worship the true God. We are reminded that we have a very powerful and good God when we look at his creation. We see the beauty of a sunset, the majesty of mountains, the birth of all

creatures, and we know there is someone much greater and more powerful than we are who has made all these things. Yet people worship the sun, animals, images of wood and stone and do not worship the One who has created all these things. They do not worship the almighty God. Paul writes, “They knew God. But they didn’t honor him as God. They didn’t thank him.”

If people do not have the true God guiding their lives, they become slaves of sin. Paul writes, “They polluted one another’s bodies by what they did.” When women have sex with other women and men have sex with other men, God condemns these actions. He says they are unnatural, shameful, and twisted. They are sinful.

Sins of murder, evil desires for things that belong to other people, and lying about people are also listed among the sins that God sees people commit.



The Good Samaritan helps the man who was hurt.

But there are also careless sins, sins that take place when we do NOT do the things we should do. Paul writes, “They are not loving and kind.” Read the story of the Good Samaritan written in the Gospel of Luke chapter 10:25-37. This story tells us of a man who was robbed and left half dead by the side of a road. A priest and a Levite walked near the man but did not help him. These two men are examples of those who “are not loving and kind.” They did not do what they should have done, that is, help the man who was robbed and hurt. The same is true of us when we do not do what we should do. We sin.

We are not Jews. We are Gentiles. Yet we know there is a God. Creation and our own conscience (that little voice inside us that tells us when we have done something wrong) tell us there is a God. Yet, by nature, we do not want to do what God tells us. Instead we lie, we cheat, we worship false gods, and we do not show love and kindness. We even ask other people to commit the same evil deeds that we do.

We, who are not Jews (Gentiles), do not get right with God by carrying out such sinful acts. Therefore, "God shows his anger from heaven. It is against all the godless and evil things people do." Do you see yourself pictured in these words? You should see that you have sinned against your God and deserve only God's anger.

1. God tells us why he is _____ with us.
2. The first sin is that we do not worship the _____ God.
3. Paul writes, "They polluted one another's _____ by what they did."
4. There are also sins that take place when we do not do the things we should do. Paul writes "They are not _____ and _____."
5. We are not _____ . We are _____ .
6. You need to confess and say, "I have _____ against God and deserve only God's _____."

Answers to these questions are found on page 33

Many people agree with what the apostle Paul wrote. God is angry with everyone who sins against him. However, these people also think that they can get right with God by doing what God wants them to do. Usually, such a person thinks he or she is better than other people. In chapter two the apostle Paul warns people who think they are better than others and that they are right with God. Be careful! Proud people who judge themselves to be better than other people are sinful also. Such a person who thinks he or she is better than other people might not repent of the sins he or she has committed. Therefore, that person is also condemned before God and deserves his anger. God tells us through the apostle Paul, "In your heart you are not sorry for your sins. You are storing up anger against yourself. The day of God's anger is coming."

The important thing for us to remember is that good works will not save us. A person who believes in Jesus will want to do good things, but not to be saved. We are saved only by the

grace, the undeserved mercy and love of God. A believer does good deeds to thank God for his mercy. A Christian knows that he or she is also a sinner.

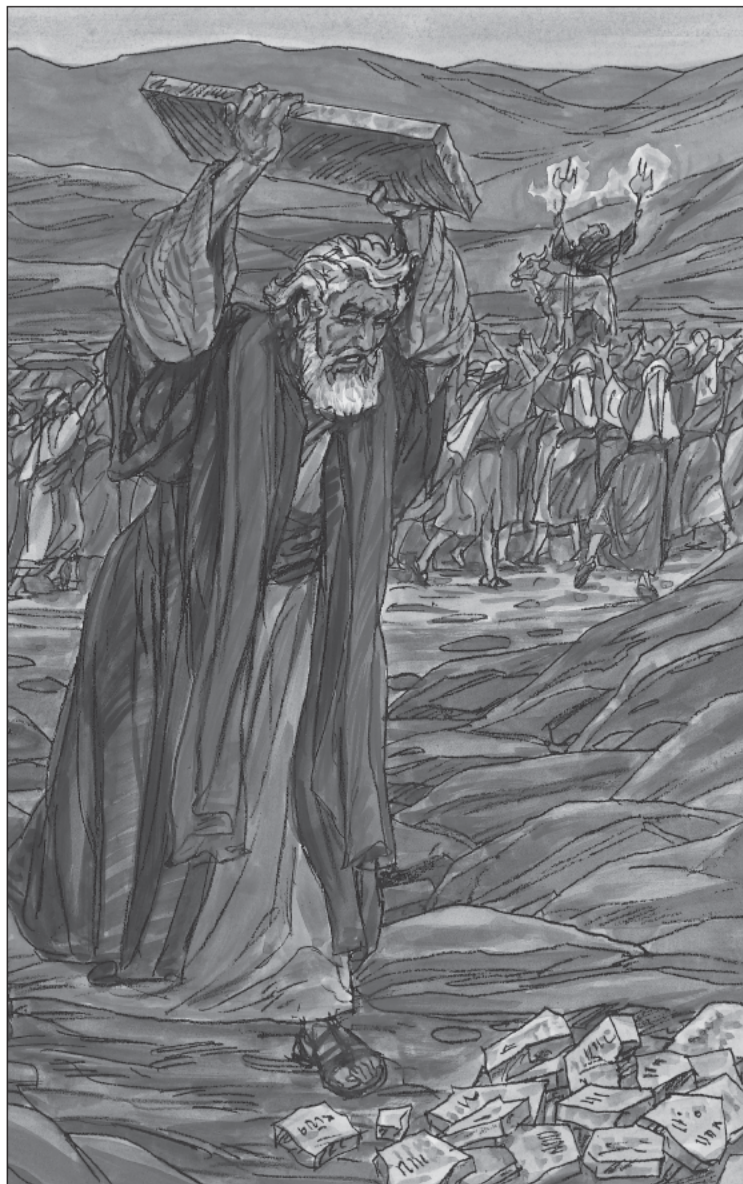
7. Many people agree that God is
with everyone who sins
against him.
8. These people think that they can get
with God by doing what God
wants them to do.
9. God tells us through the apostle Paul, "In
your heart you are not for
your sins."
10. The important thing for us to remember is
that will not
save us.
11. We are saved only by the of
God.

Answers to these questions are found on page 33

Beginning at verse 17 of chapter two, Paul continues by saying that God also considers the Jews to be sinners.

It seems that the Jews have an advantage over those who are not Jews. The Jews were the first to receive the law, the Ten Commandments, from God. During Old Testament times when Moses was leading God's chosen people from slavery in the country of Egypt to the Promised Land, God spoke to them from Mount Sinai. There he gave Moses the Ten Commandments on two tablets of stone. The Jews cherished the commandments. But they could not keep them perfectly as God wanted them to be kept.

Paul tells us about the Jews, "You preach against stealing. But you steal! You say that people should not commit adultery. But you commit adultery! You hate statues of gods. But you rob temples (places of worship). You brag about the law. But when you break it, you rob God of his honor!" Even though the Jews were



Moses smashes the commandments because the Jews sinned.

the first people to receive God's commandments in a written form, they could not and did not keep them. They sinned against God and deserved God's anger.

Another advantage the Jews had was circumcision. On the eighth day after his birth, every male Jew was circumcised according to God's command. This was a sign to the Jews that God promised to be their God and the Jews promised to be his people. Every Jew made a promise to keep God's law. But when he did not keep God's commands, he broke the promise and no longer deserved to be one of God's people.

Those who try to obey God's law because of their thankfulness for Jesus are true children of God whether they are circumcised or are not circumcised. Paul writes, "Many are not circumcised physically. But they obey the law. They will prove that you (Jews) are guilty. You are breaking the law, even though you have the written law and are circumcised."

The Jews cannot boast that they will be in heaven because they have God's law and circumcision. They are as sinful as everyone else in this world.

12. The Jews were the first to receive God's law, the _____ from God.

13. They (the Jews) _____ against God and deserved God's _____.

14. Another advantage of the Jews was the act of _____.

15. They (the Jews) are _____ like everyone else born in this world.

Answers to these questions are found on page 33

Whether we are Jews or people who hope to be saved by keeping the law or Gentiles, we are all sinners before God. The apostle reminds us of this in Romans 3:10-18 by writing out passages from the Old Testament where God says that everyone is a sinner. This is a summary of what Paul writes, "NO ONE is

right with God... ALL of them have turned away... They don't have ANY respect for God."

Here in the beginning of his letter, Paul has been bringing the message of God's law. What purpose does the law of God have? First of all, it is like a mirror. It shows everyone that we are sinners before God even though we try to be good each day. When we study the law, we learn that we should not love other things more than God, that we should not steal, speak badly about our friends and neighbors, or have evil desires to have something that belongs to others. Because God's law threatens us with punishment, it curbs our desire to commit such sins. Also, the law guides us in our daily lives as Christians so we do good things, not because we will gain favor with God, but because of God's love for us and our desire to thank God for being our Savior.

Paul reminds us, "It can't be said that anyone will be made right with God by obeying the law.



The Tax Collector and the Pharisee pray.

Not at all! The law makes us more aware of our sin.” Because we are all sinners, all of us should come before God in our private prayers and in our public worship confessing our sins and pleading for his mercy. Remember Jesus’ parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector? The Pharisee stood up and prayed about how good he was. The tax collector, on the other hand, did not look up to heaven but humbly asked, “God, have mercy on me. I am a sinner” (Luke 18:13).

Because of what we have learned, we need to repent of our sins and look to God for his mercy.

Review of Chapter Two

This section of the Apostle Paul’s letter to the Romans tells us that everyone born in this world is a sinner in the eyes of God and deserves to receive God’s anger. Paul uses three examples of people to show that everyone is a sinner.

First of all, he points out that those who are not Jews (Gentiles) sin. Many do not worship the true God. They fail to see the almighty power of God in all of creation. They worship the created things in the world, like the sun, animals, and statues made out of wood or stone. But they do not give honor to the One who created all these things. They do not worship the almighty God.

In the second example of sinners are the people who agree that God is angry with those who sin against him. They try to do good things. But then they say that they are better than other people. Actually, they are filled with the sin of pride. They fail to see that they also sin and that God is angry with them. They are not sorry for their sins.

The third group of people is the Jews. These people seem to have an advantage over other people. They were the first people to receive God's written law, the Ten Commandments. They were the people who received

circumcision, the sign of God's promise that he would be their God and they would be his people. But the Jews did not keep God's commands. They, too, are sinful.

Therefore, ALL people are sinners before God and deserve God's anger, as the writers of the Old Testament tell us when they say, "No one is right with God."

Answers to the questions in Chapter Two:

1. angry; 2. true; 3. bodies; 4. loving, kind; 5. Jews, Gentiles; 6. sinned, anger; 7. angry; 8. right; 9. sorry; 10. good works; 11. grace; 12. Ten Commandments; 13. sinned, anger; 14. circumcision; 15. sinners.

Chapter Two Test

1. God tells us why he is _____ with us.
2. We need to confess “I have _____ against God and deserve only God’s _____.”
3. Many people think they can get _____ with God by doing what God wants them to do.
4. The important thing to remember is that _____ will not save us.
5. We are saved only by the _____ of God.
6. The Jews were the first to receive the written law, the _____ from God.
7. Another advantage of the Jews was _____.
8. The Jews are _____ like everyone else born in this world.

Answers to these questions are found on page 137



Chapter Three

We Are Forgiven (Justified)

Read Romans 3:21 to Romans 8:39

In the opening chapters of Paul's letter to the Romans we have studied God's Word and learned we cannot save ourselves because we are sinners and deserve only God's anger.

Now we come to the part of Paul's letter that brings us very good news. We learn that we are justified, that is, forgiven by God. The

doctrine (teaching) of justification is the most important teaching of the Bible. It is good news for us.

A good definition of the word justification is that justification is an act of God through which God declares a sinner to be righteous and just because of Jesus Christ. This definition of the word justification reminds us of a court room. God is the judge, and we are the people who have broken the law, God's law. God, the judge, should say to us, "You are guilty. You are sentenced to suffer in hell for all eternity." But Jesus steps forward and tells God, the judge, "I will pay the punishment for these people." Because of Jesus, God lets us go free. And instead of being sentenced to an eternity in hell, we have the promise of eternal life in heaven. We will learn what this means in our lives as Paul teaches that:

- * We are justified or forgiven because of Jesus,
- * We are justified by faith, and

- * What this means for us:
 - a. We receive many spiritual gifts, and
 - b. We learn that it is the Holy Spirit who provides these gifts.

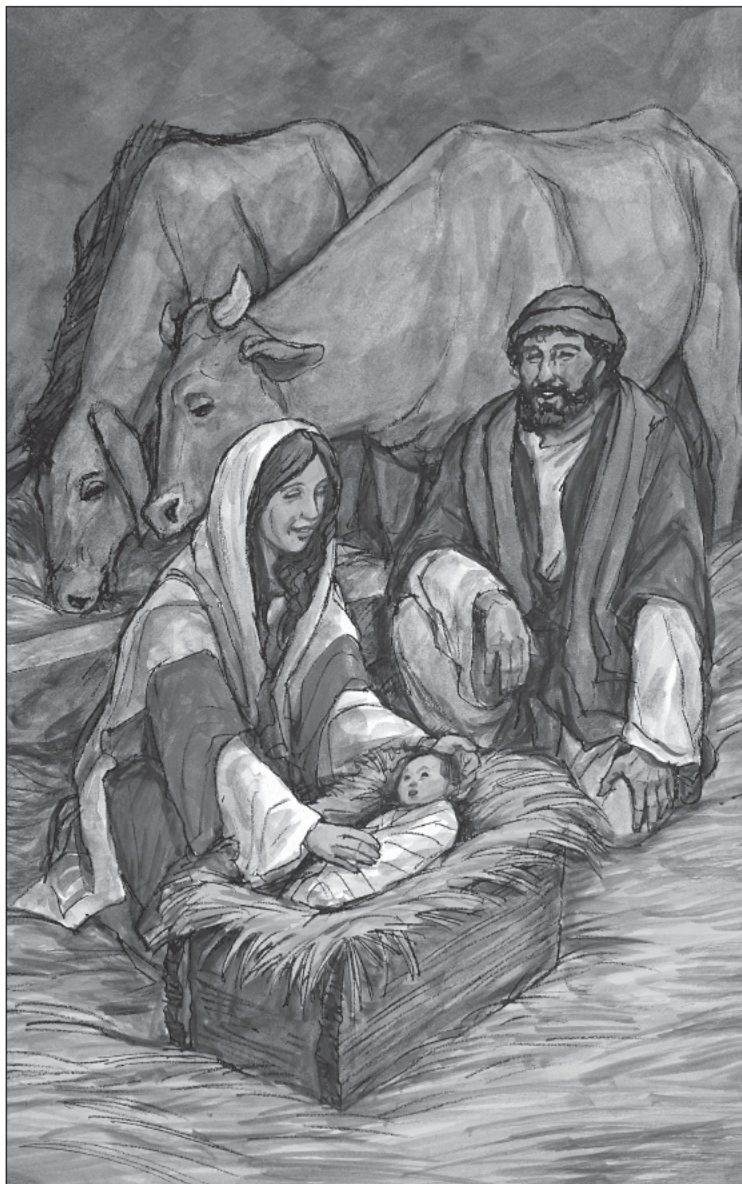
In Romans 3:21-22 the apostle clearly tells us how we are justified or forgiven, when he writes, “But now God has shown us how to become right with him. The Law and the Prophets give witness to this. It has nothing to do with obeying the law. We are made right with God by putting our faith in Jesus Christ. That happens to all who believe.”

These words of Paul are comforting for us sinners. We know we sin. Romans 3:23 reminds us, “Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God’s glory.” We know that God is angry with us because we sin. But now we learn our sins are forgiven. We do not deserve this love and mercy of God. Not only does Paul teach us how we are forgiven, but he reminds us that the entire Bible, including the Law and Prophets of the Old Testament,

teach us that we are forgiven. God forgives us, not because we have kept the law to earn our salvation, but through faith in Jesus Christ.

First of all, the apostle reminds us that it is only by the “grace” of God that we are made right with God (Romans 3:24). God’s grace is his love for us that we do not deserve. We are sinners; we cannot save ourselves. But God, in his love and mercy, saves us through Jesus Christ.

John 3:16 tells us how God saves us, “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.” God sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, into the world to save us. Even though Jesus was rich as God’s Son, he became poor for us. He was born in a stable and laid on the hay of a manger (read Luke 2:1-20). The Old Testament prophet Isaiah, 750 years before the birth of Jesus, said a Savior would be born (read Isaiah 9:6 and 7).

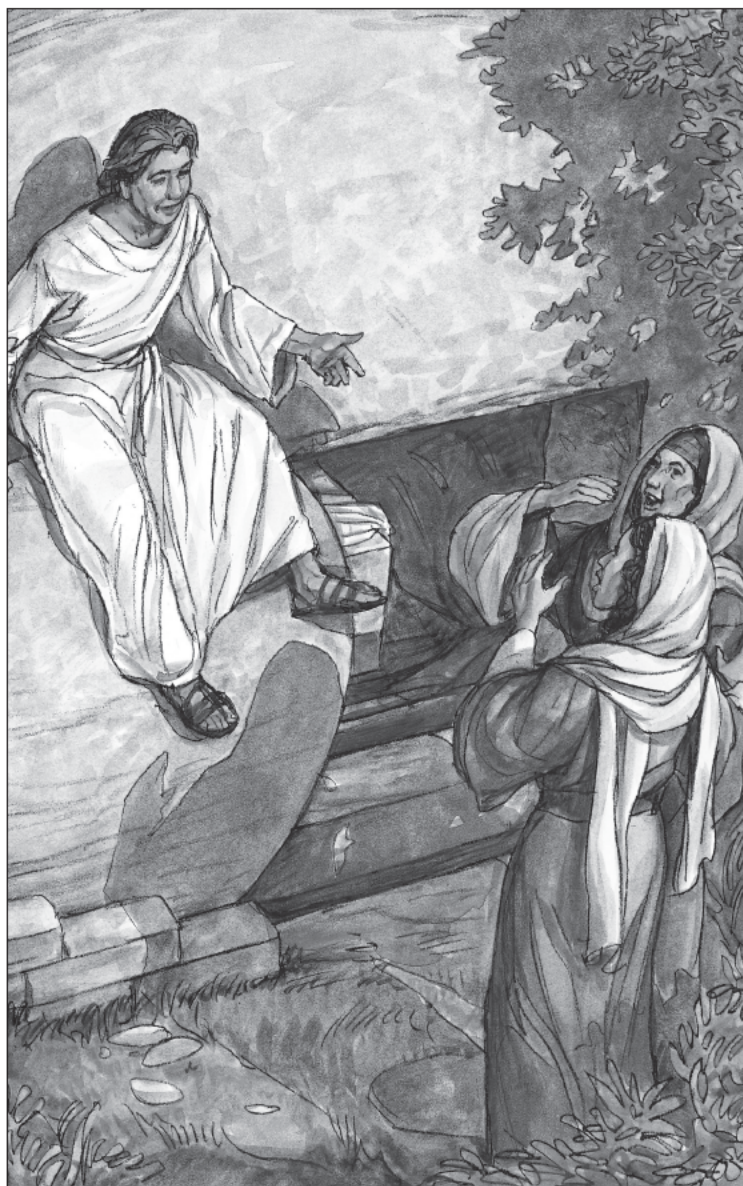


Jesus is born.

Jesus lived a perfect life. The Bible tells us he was without sin. In Hebrews 4:15 we learn that “we have a high priest (Jesus) who has been tempted in every way, just as we are. But he did not sin.” Jesus was born under the law of God to live a holy life and to die for everyone who breaks God’s law. In this way he set us free from death in hell. By living a holy life and dying for us he paid the ransom price to buy us back from the curse of the law (read Galatians 4:4 and 5).

This is also taught by the Old Testament prophets. Isaiah speaks about Jesus being punished for us (read Isaiah 53:4–8). On the third day after dying on the cross Jesus rose from the dead. Paul writes in Romans 4:25, “Jesus was handed over to die for our sins. He was raised up to life in order to make us right with God.”

God is satisfied with everything Jesus did for all of us, whether we are Jews or not Jews. We are all saved by Jesus Christ, and only by him.



An angel tells the women that Jesus has risen.

Jesus told his disciples in John chapter 14 verse 6, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” God declares all of us right with him because of Jesus our Savior.

1. We know God is _____ because we _____ .
2. We are forgiven not by keeping the law, but by _____ in Jesus Christ.
3. God’s grace is his _____ for us that we do not _____ .
4. Even though Jesus was _____ as God’s Son, he became _____ for us.
5. The Bible tells us he (Jesus) was without _____ .
6. He (Jesus) was punished for our sins when he took our place and died on the _____ for us.
7. “Jesus was raised up to _____ in order to make us _____ with God.”
8. God is _____ by what Jesus did for all of us.

9. We are all saved by Jesus Christ, and
by him. God declares us all
with him for Jesus' sake.

Answers to these questions are found on page 67

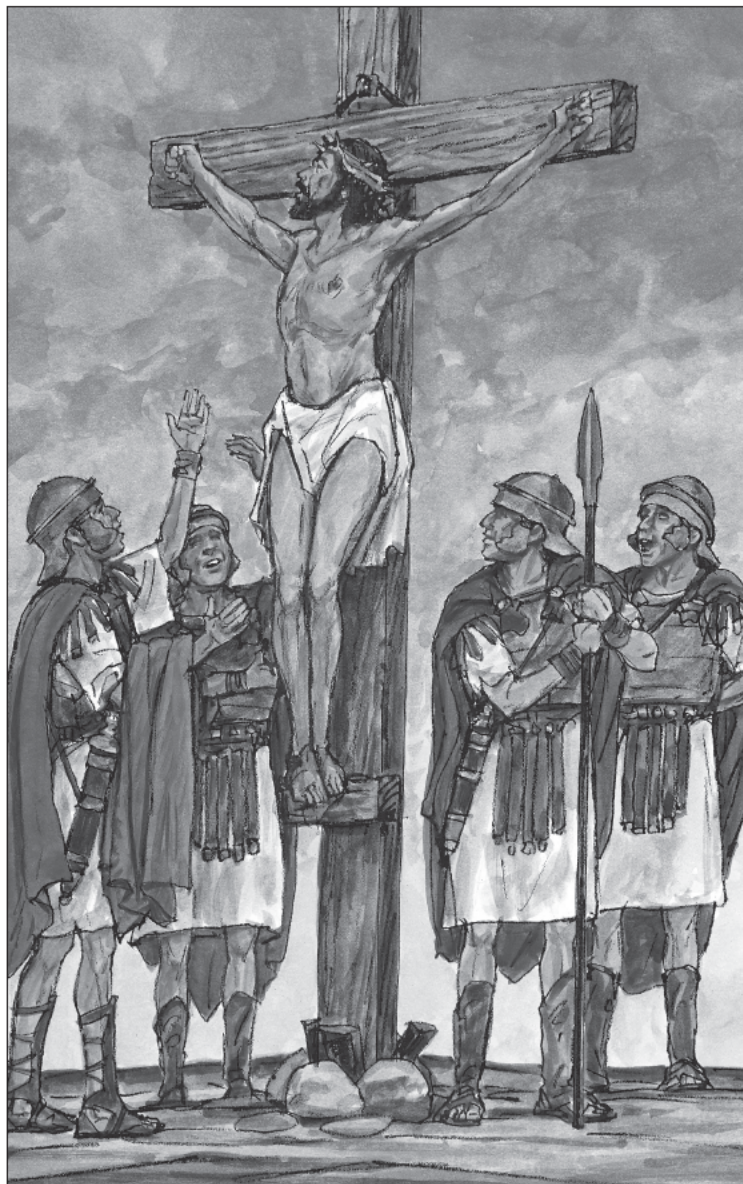
The apostle Paul now teaches us that the wonderful blessing of forgiveness of all of our sins comes to us through faith in Jesus Christ. Verses 27 and 28 of Romans chapter 3 point this out to us most clearly, "So who can brag? No one! Are people saved by obeying the law? Not at all! They are saved because of (through) their faith. We firmly believe that people are made right with God because of (through) their faith. They are not saved by obeying the law."

Are there people who think they are saved and made right with God by keeping God's commandments? Oh yes! Some people say that because they do not steal, or cheat, or speak evil words, God should be proud of them and reward them for what they have done. Some people say they are better than other people and brag about their better life. But

such thoughts and actions will not save them, as Paul clearly points out. We are saved only through faith in Jesus Christ.

When Jesus died on the cross, he cried out “It is finished.” He had once and for all time endured the punishment for the sins of all people in the world. That includes you. But you need to take hold of this forgiveness. What does that mean?

Imagine someone offering every person in your city or village a large gift of money. That money would not do any good unless the people take it and use it. The same is true of the forgiveness that God offers to all people. His forgiveness is not yours until you have it by faith. Ask God to give you faith in his forgiveness! It is God the Holy Spirit who uses the gospel to give you faith in Jesus Christ. Our entire salvation, even our faith, is a gift of God, not something we earn by ourselves.



Jesus dies on the cross for us.

A Christian receives God's gift of forgiveness and eternal life in heaven as a free gift by faith, by believing, in Jesus Christ as his or her Savior.

These two truths stand firmly on God's Word:

One - We are justified, forgiven and saved, only by what Jesus has done for us. He kept God's law perfectly and took the punishment that we deserve on himself, and

Two - We are justified, forgiven, and saved, only by God's gift of faith in Jesus and not by our own good works.

Does this mean that we no longer try to keep God's commandments? No. We want to show our love for what God has done for us. We want to do God's will in our lives and keep the commandments as best we can. We know that the best we do is not good enough to save us. That does not stop us. We rest our faith in Jesus Christ our Savior and ask God to help us to do his will.

10. Paul writes, "We firmly believe that people are made right with God because of (through) their ."

11. Paul also writes, "They are by obeying the law."

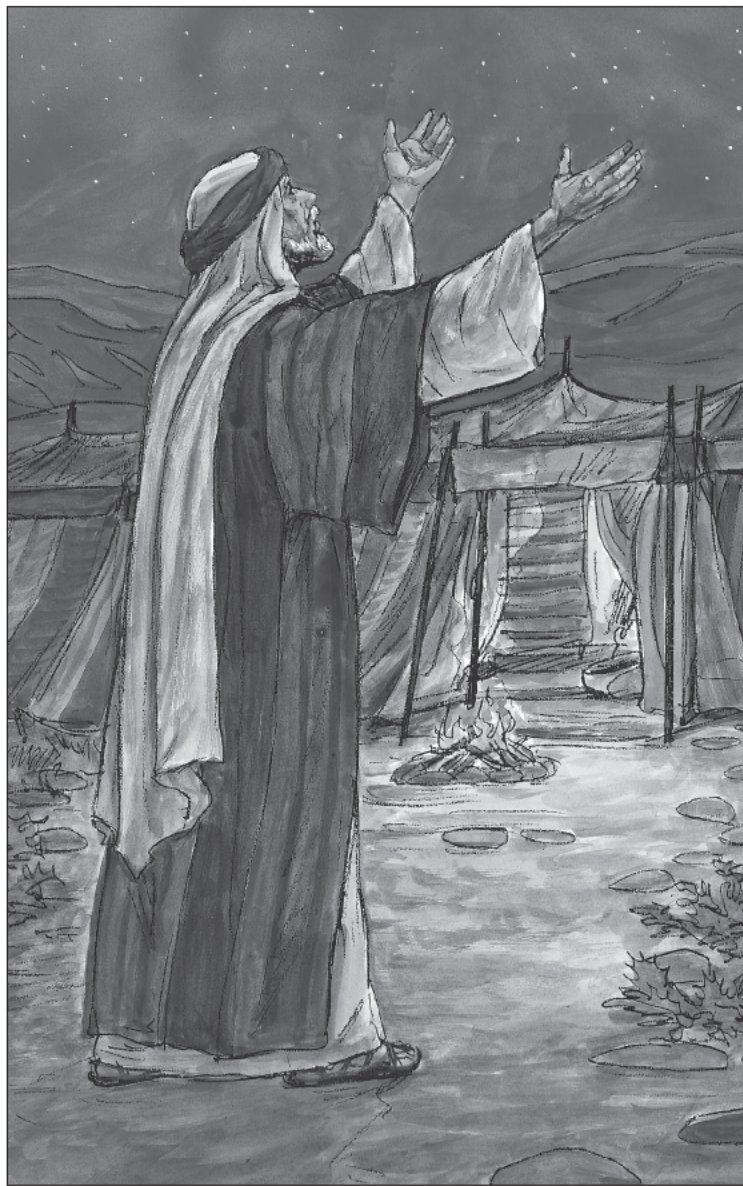
12. Your faith is also a of God.

13. Write out the two truths that stand firmly in God's Word:

One:

Two:

Answers to these questions can be found on page 67



Abraham counts the stars.

We have learned that we are justified, forgiven, and made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ. But what about the people who lived in Old Testament times before Jesus was born? How were they justified? In chapter four the apostle Paul speaks about the faith of Abraham and King David who lived during Old Testament times.

In Romans 4:2 the apostle asks, “Did he (Abraham) become right with God because of something he did?” Paul says, “What do we find in Scripture?” The Old Testament book of Genesis beginning at chapter 12 tells us about the life of Abraham. He lived more than 2,000 years before Jesus was born. In Romans 4:11 he is called the “father of all believers.” The Bible tells us that God accepted Abraham’s faith, “...and so his faith made him right with the Lord” (Genesis 15:6). Abraham was not saved by doing good deeds, but by faith. He believed the promise God gave to Adam and Eve that he would send a Savior. Paul goes on to write in Romans 4:16, “The promise is based on God’s grace (God’s undeserved love

and mercy). The promise comes by faith.” In other words, Abraham believed that God would send a Savior into the world. Abraham believed in the Savior (Jesus Christ) who would come in the future. We, as New Testament Christians, believe in the Savior (Jesus Christ) who has come.

The same is true of King David, who ruled the Jews during Old Testament times. He lived about 1,000 years before Jesus was born. In Romans 4:6-8 Paul quotes Psalm 32:1-2. In that psalm King David tells of the blessings that come to those whose sins are forgiven. Such people are blessed because “God makes these people right with himself. But they don’t have to do anything in return.” They are not saved by their good works, but by faith in the coming Savior that God promised to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3:15.

14. Abraham was not saved by doing good
 , but by .

15. Abraham believed that God would send a
 .

16. Abraham believed in a Savior who
come.

Answers to these questions can be found on page 67

We now learn what all of this means for us. Because we are justified or forgiven by faith in Jesus, our Savior, there are many blessings that come to us as believers. We learn about these blessings in Romans 5:1-2.

The first blessing is peace with God. When we are born, we are sinful enemies of God. During our lives we continue to sin against God. God is angry with us because of our sin. But because of Jesus, God is merciful and forgives our sins. Once we were enemies of God, as Paul says in chapter 5 verse 10. But God has made us his friends through what Jesus has done for us (read 2 Corinthians 5:18-19). We are now at peace with God. This peace is not merely a good feeling in our hearts. It is the peace that God gives us by forgiving all of our sins. Such peace with God fills our hearts with joy.

Think of it! When we were sinners, Jesus died for us. This shows us the love God has for all of us. He sent his only Son into the world to bring us back to him. We are now God's children by faith in Jesus.

In the last part of chapter 5, in verses 12 to 21, the apostle Paul tells us that sin entered into the world by one man. That one man was Adam. Adam was the man created by God at the beginning of the world. God told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil found in the middle of the Garden of Eden. If he ate of that tree, he would surely die. Adam permitted Eve to eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Adam also ate fruit from that tree. Adam disobeyed God, and, as a result, Adam's sinful nature is now inherited by every person born in this world. The sin of Adam brought death into our world. However, by another man, Jesus, our sins have been forgiven. Although our body dies at the end of our life, our soul continues to live,

and our body will rise from death. Now by the grace of God we who are believers in Jesus have the gift of eternal life in heaven (Romans 5:21). This is an everlasting blessing that God gives to us.

17. The first blessing spoken of by Paul is
with God.

18. When we were born in this world, we were
the of God.

19. But now, because of , God
is and forgives our sins.

20. Such peace with God fills our hearts with
.

21. We are now God's by faith
in Jesus.

22. Adam disobeyed God and Adam's sinful
nature is now by every
person born in this world.

23. That sin of Adam brought
into our world.

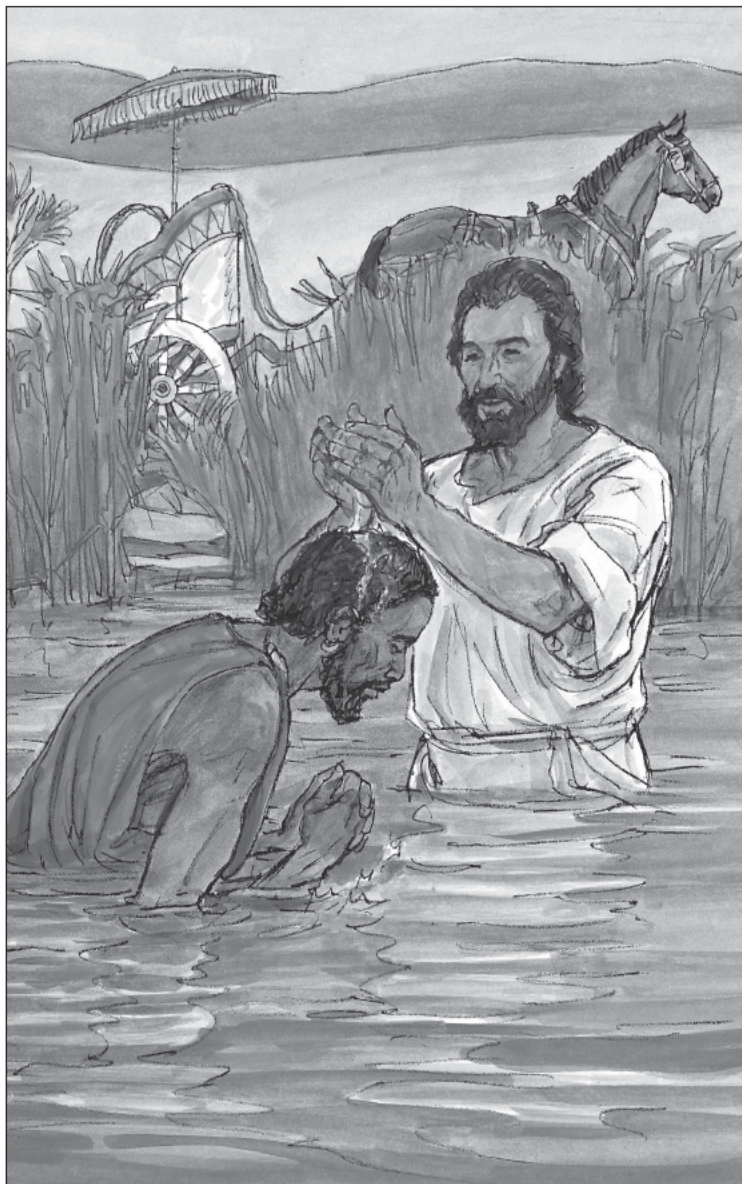
24. By another man, , our sins
are forgiven.

25. We who are believers in Jesus have
in heaven.

Answers to these questions can be found on page 67

Now God talks about the result of these blessings of peace, joy, and life. These blessings change us and our lives on earth. If Jesus has kept the commandments for us, can we continue to sin without repenting and still be forgiven by God? Let's study chapter six to find the answer to this question. The answer is found in verses 12 and 13. These verses tell us "don't let sin rule your body,...give yourselves to God."

You give yourself to God in Baptism. In the opening words of chapter 6 we are reminded that our baptism is like Jesus' death and his rising from the dead. As Jesus kept God's law for us and died for our sins, so now by faith in him we are not ruled by the commandments or by sin. "We have been set free from sin... God's grace has set you free." Jesus rose from the dead to live forever. So also we, through



Philip baptizes the Ethiopian Eunuch.

baptism, enter a new, Christian life that lasts forever. It begins here on earth, and it will continue without end when we go to heaven.

God's blessing for believers is that he has set us free from the control of sin and free from sin's punishment. As Christians, we now want to serve God, who loves us. We no longer want to serve our sinful nature. Paul writes, "You can be slaves of sin. Then you will die. Or you can be slaves who obey God. Then you will live a godly life" (Romans 6:16). As believing children of God, we do God's will and keep his commandments, not because they will save us, but out of love for what Jesus did for us. This leads to "holy living. And the end result is eternal life."

In Romans chapter 7 the apostle Paul compares our Christian life to marriage. Marriage is the life-long joining of a man and a woman. If one of the marriage partners dies, whether the man or the woman, the other person is free to marry again. Similarly, we, by

Baptism, are dead to sin, and now we are free to live for Jesus. We are warned, however, that the breaking of a marriage by a man or woman is a sin against God's commandment. We should not commit adultery. Marriage is a blessing of God. A Christian husband and wife will show their love to each other. They will respect and help each other.

Chapter 7 goes on to speak of the struggle we have with sinful desires to get something that belongs to someone else. This may be our neighbor's wife, or property. We should be satisfied and thankful for everything God gives us. But sin shows itself many times in our lives. It is only with the help of the Holy Spirit that we can overcome our sinful desires and live a life that is pleasing to God. This is what Paul teaches us in Chapter 8.

26. You give yourself to God in _____ .
27. We, through baptism, enter a new, a _____ life that lasts forever.

28. As Christians, we want to
God who loves us and not our
nature.
29. As believing children of God, we do God's
will and keep his not
because they will save us, but out of
for what Jesus did for us.

Answers to these questions can be found on page 67

All the blessings we enjoy are gifts of a gracious God who justifies us. These gifts come to us through the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our hearts. In Romans 8:1-2 Paul writes, "Those who belong to Christ Jesus are no longer under God's sentence (of eternal death). I am now controlled by the law of the Holy Spirit. That law gives me life because of what Jesus Christ has done. It has set me free from the law of sin that brings death." Later Paul writes in verse 4, "The Holy Spirit now controls the way we live."

The Bible tells us about God the Father and his work of creation. He continues to take care of

the world and us. The Bible also tells us about Jesus Christ and all he has done to save us from sin, the fear of death, and the power of the devil. Now in Romans 8 we learn many things about the third person of our triune God, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God together with God the Father and God the Son. It is the Holy Spirit who brings us to faith, who keeps us in the faith, and who causes us to live a Christian life.

We, as Christians, should not live under the control of our sinful nature. Rather we want to live under the control of the Holy Spirit and what he wants in our lives. "The way a sinful person thinks leads to death. But the mind controlled by the Spirit brings life and peace." Paul tells believers, "The Holy Spirit controls you. The Spirit of God lives in you."

It is the Holy Spirit who blesses us with spiritual and eternal life. He brings peace to our lives when we know our sins are forgiven. "Those who are led by the Spirit of God are

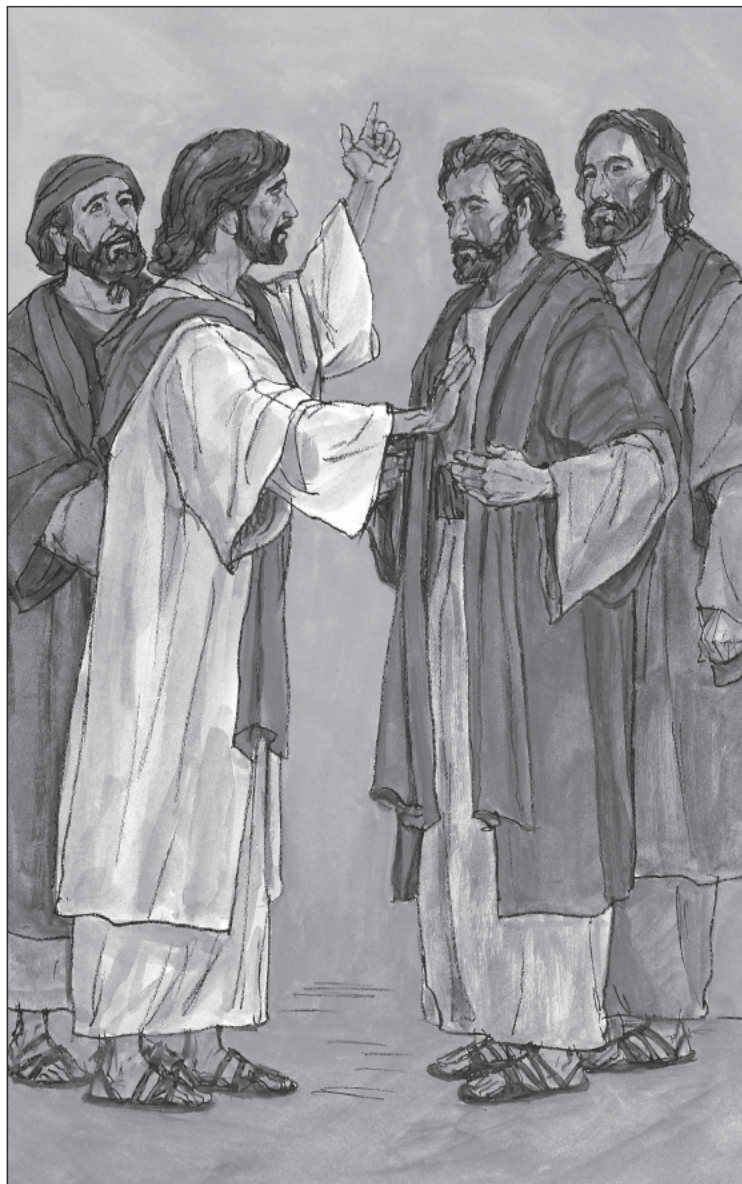
children of God.” Believers are truly blessed by the Holy Spirit. We have peace and joy; we are God’s children, and by faith in Jesus we call God our Father (Romans 8:15). This is what Jesus teaches us to do in the Lord’s Prayer when we say, “Father in heaven.”

We also “have the Holy Spirit as the promise of future blessing.” In our present life we may have many problems that trouble us. People may laugh at us because we are Christians. People may even harm us because we are Christians. But we know that on the Last Day God will raise our bodies from the grave and reunite our bodies with our souls and take us to heaven. There in heaven we will be in the presence of God. God will wipe away all tears from our eyes. We will sing praises to him. We will be reunited with our loved ones who die believing in Jesus Christ. These are only a few of the future blessings we will experience because of the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

Beside all this, Paul reminds us in chapter eight verses 26 and 27 that the Holy Spirit prays for us when we don't know how to pray or what to pray for. What a wonderful blessing he gives us.

When we are weak, the Holy Spirit prays for us and helps us. Paul writes. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him." We may be unhappy and discouraged because of trials and troubles in our Christian lives. We may ask, "Why is God doing this to me? I love God but experience many problems in my life." We do not know why God permits troubles to come in our lives, but we do know that God loves us and that he sends these problems for our good. Someone has said that God may send us sickness so that, lying on our bed, we look up to God with our eyes and remember to pray to him who helps us in every need. God chose believers to be his own before the world was created. He has justified us now, and he will take us, his children, to heaven to live with him forever.

We can be sure that God loves us and is on our side. God gave his only Son to save us and forgive all our sins. Having given us such a great blessing, will he not also give us all other blessings that we need? (Romans 8:31). Paul asks, "Who can separate us from Christ's love?" (Romans 8:35). All the troubles of this life cannot separate a believer from the true God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our salvation is certain because it does not rely on our good works. Paul writes in verse 38 and 39, "I am absolutely sure not even death or life can separate us from God's love. Not even angels or demons, the present or the future, or any powers can do that. Not even the highest places or the lowest or anything else in all creation can do that. Nothing at all can ever separate us from God's love because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done." We give thanks to God the Father who chose us to be his children. We give thanks to Jesus Christ who died and rose again so we are justified, forgiven by God. And we give thanks to the



Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit who has given us faith in Jesus and keeps us in that faith.

Our salvation and the promise of life in heaven is certain because it does not rely on our good works but on what God did for us by sending Jesus to be our Savior. And through the work of the Holy Spirit, we enjoy peace with God as the children of God. For all this we give thanks to God.

30. It is the Holy Spirit who brings us to _____, who keeps us in the _____ and who causes us to live a _____.

31. We, as Christians, should not live under the control of our _____ nature.

32. We want to live under the control of the

33. In our present life we have many
that trouble us.

34. In heaven God will wipe away all
from our eyes.

35. When we are weak, the Holy Spirit
for us.

36. Our salvation is because it
does not rely on our good works.

Answers to these questions can be found on page 67

Review of Chapter Three

The doctrine, or teaching, that we are justified, or our sins are forgiven, by faith in Jesus Christ is the main teaching of the Holy Scriptures. It is only because of God's grace, or undeserved love and mercy, that we are the forgiven children of God.

God in his love sent his only Son, Jesus, to keep the law for us and to be punished by death on a cross for the sins we commit. God was satisfied with what Jesus did for us. This is clear because Jesus rose from the dead on the third day after being crucified. And this assures us that we are justified.

What Jesus did for us in providing us with the forgiveness of our sins belongs to us by faith. Our faith is also a gift of God. So our salvation is not something we earn, but it is a gift of God. People of the Old Testament, like Abraham and King David were saved by their faith in the Savior who would come into the world. We are saved by the Savior Jesus who has come into the world.

Faith in everything Jesus did for us brings peace and joy to our hearts. Sin and death entered into the world when our first parents, Adam and Eve, disobeyed God's command and ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Now everyone born in the world inherits the sinfulness of Adam. But Jesus, the second Adam, died in our place. Now our inherited sin and the sins we commit in our lives are forgiven. We are justified before God, our Father. We will enjoy eternal life in heaven.

As forgiven children of God, we want to do God's will in all parts of our life including our

married life. We want to overcome our desires for things that do not belong to us.

All the blessings of a believer come through the work of God the Holy Spirit who brings us to faith, keeps us in faith, and causes us to live a Christian life. In our present life we might have many problems that trouble us. It is the Holy Spirit who prays for us and helps us in our need. Even troubles that come to us are meant for our good. Nothing can separate us from God's love. Therefore, our salvation is certain. We are justified. For all this we thank God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Answers to the questions in Chapter Three:

1. angry, sin; 2. faith; 3. love, deserve; 4. rich, poor; 5. sin; 6. cross; 7. life, right; 8. satisfied; 9. only, right; 10. faith; 11. not saved; 12. gift; 13. We are justified, forgiven and saved, only by what Jesus has done for us by keeping God's law perfectly and taking our punishment on himself. We are justified, forgiven and saved, only by God's gift of faith in Jesus and not by our own good works. 14. deeds, faith; 15. Savior; 16. would; 17. peace; 18. enemies; 19. Jesus, merciful; 20. joy; 21. children; 22. inherited; 23. death; 24. Jesus; 25. eternal life; 26. Baptism; 27. Christian; 28. serve, sinful; 29. commandments, love; 30. faith, faith, Christian life; 31. sinful; 32. Holy Spirit; 33. problems; 34. tears; 35. prays; 36. certain.

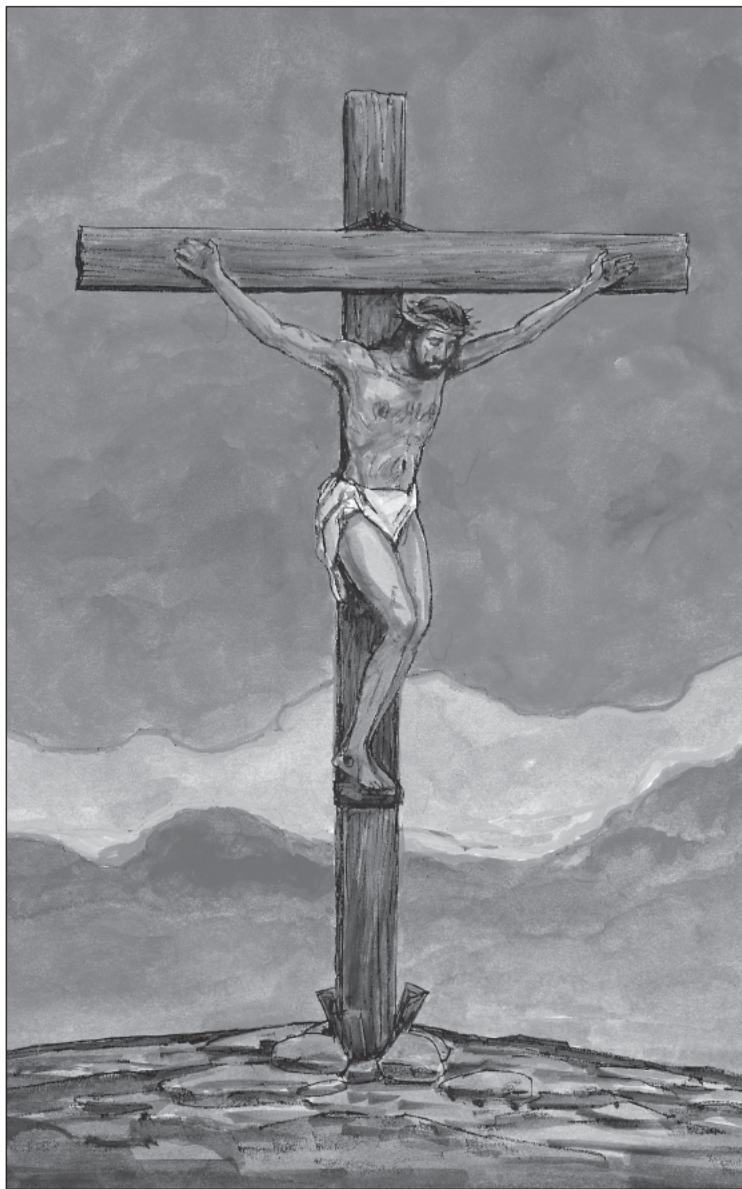
Chapter Three Test

1. We are forgiven, not by keeping the law, but
by _____ in Jesus Christ.
2. The Bible tells us that Jesus was without
_____.
3. Jesus was punished for our sins when he
took our place and died on the
_____ for us.
4. Your faith is also a _____ of God.
5. Abraham believed that God would send a
_____.
_____.
6. Peace with God fills our hearts with
_____.
7. We are now God's _____ by faith
in Jesus.
8. We who are believers in Jesus have
_____ in heaven.
9. As believing children of God we do God's
will and keep his _____ not
because they will save us, but out of
_____ for what Jesus has done for us.

10. It is the Holy Spirit who brings us to
 , who keeps us in the
 and who causes us to live a
 life.

11. Our salvation is _____ because it
does not rely on our good works.

Answers to these questions will be found on page 137



God makes a plan to save us.



Chapter Four

God Wants All People to Believe in Jesus

Read Romans 9:1 – 11:36

Paul's letter to the Romans was meant for both Jews and those who are not Jews. God, through Paul, very clearly teaches us in the previous chapters of this letter to the Romans that all people are justified. And each person receives the gift of forgiveness by faith in Jesus Christ. But not all people believe in Jesus. Some people reject Jesus as their Savior while others, by the power of the Holy Spirit, accept Jesus as their Savior, and their

hearts are filled with joy in believing. Mark 16:16 reminds us, “Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who does not believe will be punished.” In the next chapters of Romans God teaches us:

- * Many people do not believe God’s promise of forgiveness
- * Many people, because of God’s grace, do believe they are justified, forgiven.

In chapters 9, 10, and 11 of the letter to the Romans the apostle Paul describes the way most Jewish people resist God’s plan of salvation. He also contrasts what the Jews think of the gospel with the thoughts of those who are not Jews.

Paul’s heart is filled with sorrow. In the opening verses of chapter 9 he says, “My sadness never ends. I am so concerned about my people (the Jews), who are members of my own race.” The Jews had many blessings from God that those who were not Jews did not

have. They were God's chosen people. God said he would be their God, and they would be his people. The promise of a Savior came through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They received the Ten Commandments through Moses. Those commandments were written by the finger of God on two tablets of stone. Also, the promised Savior came through the family line of King David.

Yet most of the Jews did not believe Jesus. The Pharisees tried to trick Jesus when they asked him if they should pay taxes to Caesar. They accused Jesus and his disciples of breaking God's law by working on the Sabbath Day. Jesus taught his Jewish followers in the city of Capernaum that he is the bread of life that came down from heaven (John 6:30-58). Jesus' followers said "This is a hard teaching." From that time on many of his followers turned away from Jesus. They no longer followed him. Even today many Jewish people are still looking for the promised Savior. They do not believe Jesus is their Savior.

In the Apostle Paul's ministry he often went first to the Jews' place of worship to speak to them about Jesus. But in most instances the Jews threw him out of their worship places and even out of their cities. They did not believe what Paul taught them about Jesus. Most Jews did not believe Jesus could be their Savior.

There are also many people who are not Jews who do not believe God's Word. They do not believe in Jesus as their Savior from sin. They trust in their own good works. They worship false gods made out of wood and stone. They worship their ancestors. They do not receive God's gift of forgiveness.

If people stubbornly refuse to believe the gospel of Jesus, God may turn away from them and offer the gospel to others. Paul tells us, "It doesn't depend on what we want or do. It depends on God's mercy.... God says in Hosea, "I will call those who are not my people, 'my people.'" We who are Gentile believers are those people. He has chosen us. Most, if not

all, of us are not Jews. Yet, God has shown mercy to us. He has given us faith in Jesus, forgiveness, and eternal life.

Paul goes on to say in chapter 9 verses 30 through 32, “What should we say then? Those who aren’t Jews did not look for a way to be right with God. But they found it by having faith. Israel (the Jews) did look for a law that could make them right with God. But they didn’t find it. Why not? Because they didn’t look for it by faith. They tried to get it by working for it.”

Those who are not Jews did not look for God. It was God who looked for them. And they are justified through faith in Jesus as their Savior. But the Jews lost their favored status with God because they rejected Jesus.

Again, throughout Paul’s letter to the Romans, God teaches us that we are saved by faith, by faith in Jesus Christ, and not by the good works we try to do in our lives. We are saved

by the grace of God. We are lost if we refuse to believe God and try to save ourselves.

1. Many of the Jews did not believe in Jesus.
2. Even today the Jewish people are still looking for the Jewish Savior.
3. Even today there are many people who do not believe God's promises.
4. Throughout Paul's letter to the Romans, God teaches us that we are saved by grace, by faith in Jesus, and not by the good works we try to do in our lives.
5. We are saved by the grace of God.
6. We are lost if we try to

Answers to these questions are found on page 85

The Apostle Paul goes on in chapter 10 to contrast the reaction of the Jews and those who are not Jews to God's plan to save all people in this world.

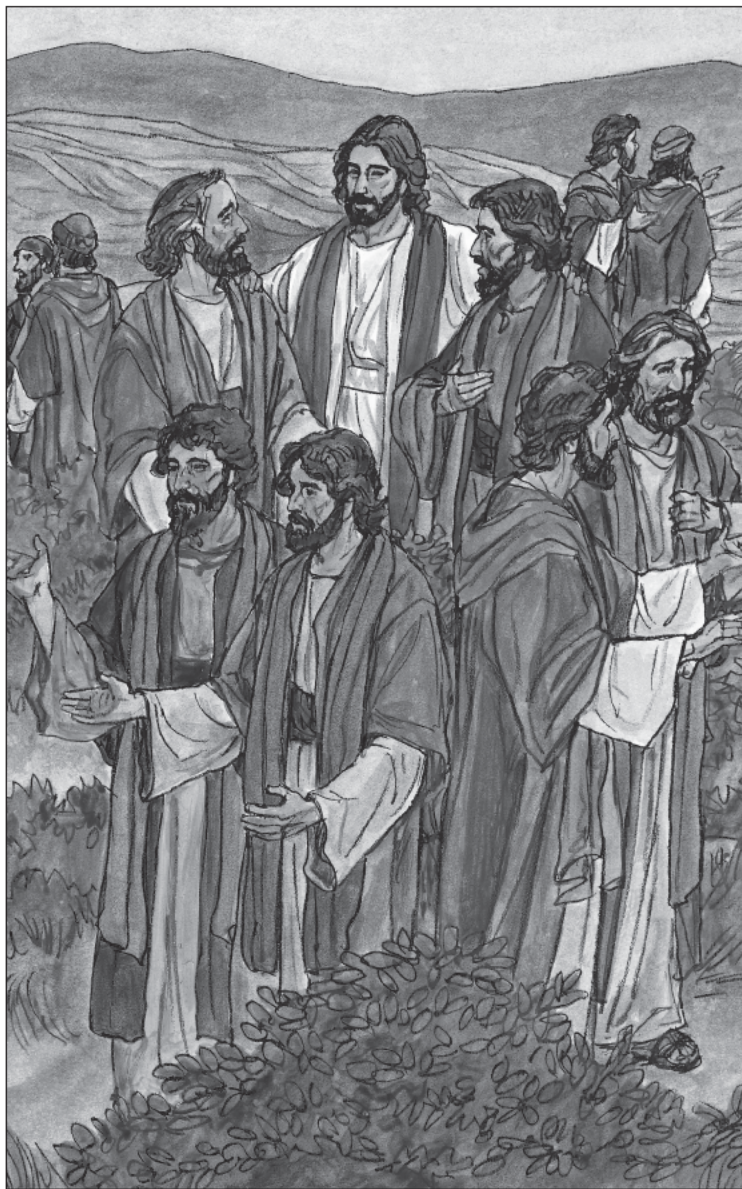
In the opening words of this chapter, Paul says that he wants his people, the people of Israel, the Jews, to be saved. As verse three tells us, the Jews “tried to get right with God in their own way. They didn’t do it in God’s way.” They wanted to get right with God by keeping the law. But sinful people cannot save themselves by keeping the law. Romans 3:12 says that people of every race are sinful. “They have all become worthless. No one does anything good, no one at all.” If the Jews, or anyone else, wish to be saved by keeping the law, they must keep the law perfectly. Jesus teaches us this when he says, “Be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:48). We are not perfect. We sin. It was Jesus who came into the world to live a perfect life for us and to make us right with God.

We are not saved by keeping the law. But we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ who kept the law for us. In Romans 10:8-10 the apostle Paul urges us to believe what God’s Word has told us about Jesus. “The word is near you.... You

must put your faith in it. Say with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord.' Believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead. Then you will be saved. With your heart you believe and are made right with God.

With your mouth you say that Jesus is Lord. And so you are saved." The Holy Spirit uses God's Word, the Holy Bible, to bring us to faith. Therefore, we read God's Word, study it, and share it with others who do not know Jesus as their Savior. Verses 14 and 15 remind us there are people who need to hear about Jesus. You may know of someone who does not know Jesus. If others are going to hear about Jesus, we need to tell them ourselves, or we must send teachers and worship leaders to tell the wonderful news that God sent his only Son, Jesus, to live and die for us. "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." "... faith comes from hearing the message. And the message that is heard is the word of Christ."

The prophet Moses, King David, and the prophet Isaiah all point out that those who are



Jesus sends out his disciples and us.

Jews have heard the message of the gospel. But most of them rejected it. Today that message has come to you who are not Jews. As it is written by King David in the psalms, "Their voice has gone out into the whole world. Their words have gone out from one end of the world to the other."

As a result, you have come to know the good news about your Savior and how God has saved you. Through the preaching and teaching of God's Word you have come to believe in Jesus. Thank God for the mercy and love he has for you.

7. Sinful people cannot save themselves by keeping the _____.

8. We are not _____ . We

9. We are saved by _____ in Jesus Christ.

10. The Holy Spirit uses God's Word, the _____ to bring you to faith.

11. Thank God for the _____ and
_____ he has for you.

Answers to these questions are found on page 85

As we begin our study of chapter 11 of Paul's letter to the Romans, he asks an important question. Did God give up on saving the Jews? The answer is, "No!" Paul uses two examples:

1. If God gave up on saving Jewish people, then Paul himself, who is a Jew, would not be saved.
2. In the days of the Old Testament when Elijah was a prophet, he thought he was the only person who still believed in God. But God reminded Elijah that there were still 7,000 Jews who did not worship the false god named Baal.

Paul tells us that God chooses people to be saved. That includes both those who are Jews and those who are not Jews. There will always be people who believe in Jesus and are saved. "They have been chosen by God's grace. And

if they are chosen by grace, it is no longer a matter of working for it. If it were, grace wouldn't be grace anymore" (Romans 11:5-6).

Paul calls himself an apostle sent to those who are not Jews. "I now serve the good news because God gave me his grace. His power is at work in me. I am by far the least important of all of God's people. But he gave me the grace to preach to the non-Jews about the wonderful riches that Christ gives" (Ephesians 3:7-8).

While Paul wants Jews to be saved, he also wants those who are not Jews to believe in Jesus as their Savior. But he has a warning for the believers who are not Jews, Do not think you are better than others! To illustrate his point, Paul uses the example of an olive tree. The tree is a picture of those chosen by God to be his children and a part of his church.

Believers who are not Jews are like branches from a wild tree that are grafted into God's tree. They are not saved because they are better, but because God is gracious. They need to be careful that they do not fall away. If

a branch is broken off, it will not continue to live. In the same way, believers who do not continue to believe God's Word will be separated from God's love and the salvation he has planned for all people.

The apostle asks everyone to think about how kind God is and how firm he is (Romans 11:22). In his kindness and love God chose those who are saved to be his children. That is good news. That is the gospel. But God's firmness reminds us that he punishes those who refuse to believe. We can be cut off from his mercy through unbelief. That is bad news. That is the law. God wants everyone to be saved (1 Timothy 2:4). We are saved by the grace of God. If we are lost, it is our own fault.

God, in his mercy has chosen and called those who are saved, whether they are Jews or not Jews. Therefore, we join Paul in praising God with the closing words of Romans 11:33-36 and say, "All things come from him. All things are directed by him. All things are for his good. May God be given the glory forever. Amen."

12. God _____ or elects people to be saved.
13. There will always be people who _____
_____ in Jesus and are saved.
14. In his kindness and love God chose those
_____ who are saved to be his _____.
15. God's firmness reminds us that we can be
_____ cut off from his _____.

Answers to these questions are found on page 85

Review of Chapter Four

The apostle Paul reminds us that God wants all people who are Jews or who are not Jews to be saved. But Paul's heart is filled with sorrow because many Jews do not believe in Jesus.

The Jews received many blessings from God. They were God's chosen people. They received the Ten Commandments from God through Moses. The Savior promised to Abraham was to come through the family of King David. Yet most of the Jews did not

believe in Jesus when he lived among them. Even today the Jews look for a different savior.

Both the Jews and those who are not Jews are saved by faith through what Jesus has done for them. People are not saved by doing good works. This is taught in the Bible. Such faith comes through hearing God's Word as it is taught and preached. This good news about Jesus is to be shared with those who do not know him.

It is a kind God who chooses people to be justified or forgiven. We are all saved by the grace, the undeserved love, of God. God sent his only Son to live a perfect life for us. God's Son, Jesus, was punished for our sins when he died for us on the cross. Thank God for what he has done.

Answers to the questions in Chapter Four:

1. believe; 2. promised; 3. Word; 4. faith; Jesus Christ, works; 5. grace; 6. save ourselves; 7. law; 8. perfect, sin; 9. faith; 10. Holy Bible; 11. mercy, love; 12. chooses; 13. believe; 14. children; 15. mercy.

Chapter Four Test

1. Today there are many people who do not believe God's _____ .
2. Throughout Paul's letter to the Romans, God teaches us that we are saved by _____ in _____ , and not by the good _____ we try to do in our lives.
3. We are lost if we try to _____ .
4. The Holy Spirit uses God's Word the _____ to bring you _____ to faith.
5. There will always be people who _____ in Jesus and are saved.
6. In his kindness and love God chose those who are saved to be his _____ .
7. God's firmness reminds us that we can be cut off from his _____ .

Answers to these questions are found on page 137



Chapter Five

God Wants Believers to Serve Him

Read Romans 12:1 – 15:33

God has blessed all believers with the forgiveness of sins and many other gifts. In response to God's love and mercy we show our thanks for all that he has done for us. In this chapter we will learn:

- a. We are to use our gifts and talents to serve God,

- b. We are to obey the people God has placed over us,
- c. We are to help people who have weak faith, and
- d. We are to teach others and share our faith.

A. WE ARE TO USE OUR GIFTS AND TALENTS TO SERVE GOD

In chapter 12 the apostle Paul centers our thoughts on important matters in our Christian lives. God has shown his mercy to us. We are now believers in Jesus Christ, our Savior. How can we thank God for his mercy? Paul asks all Christians “to offer up your bodies to him (God) while you are still alive.” Doing this will be pleasing to God, and people who see that we are God’s children may want to know more about our faith. Dedicate your entire life as a Christian to serving God. Paul writes, “So eat and drink and do everything else for the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31). The apostle

Paul also writes, “Do everything you say or do in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17). As Christians, do not live like unbelievers or people who do not know God. God wants to change our thoughts and lives completely and make them better. When Paul wrote to a man named Titus, he said, “God’s saving grace has appeared to all people. It teaches us to say no to godless ways and sinful longings. We must control ourselves. We must do what is right. We must lead godly lives in today’s world. That is how we should live as we wait for the blessed hope God has given us. We are waiting for Jesus Christ to appear in all his glory. He is our great God and Savior. He gave himself for us. By doing that, he set us free from all evil. He wanted to make us pure. He wanted us to be his very own people. He wanted us to long to do what is good” (Titus 2:11-14). As a Christian, is your life now changed by faith in Jesus? Do you want to do what is good? We are not to live like other people in the world, who do not believe in Jesus as their Savior.

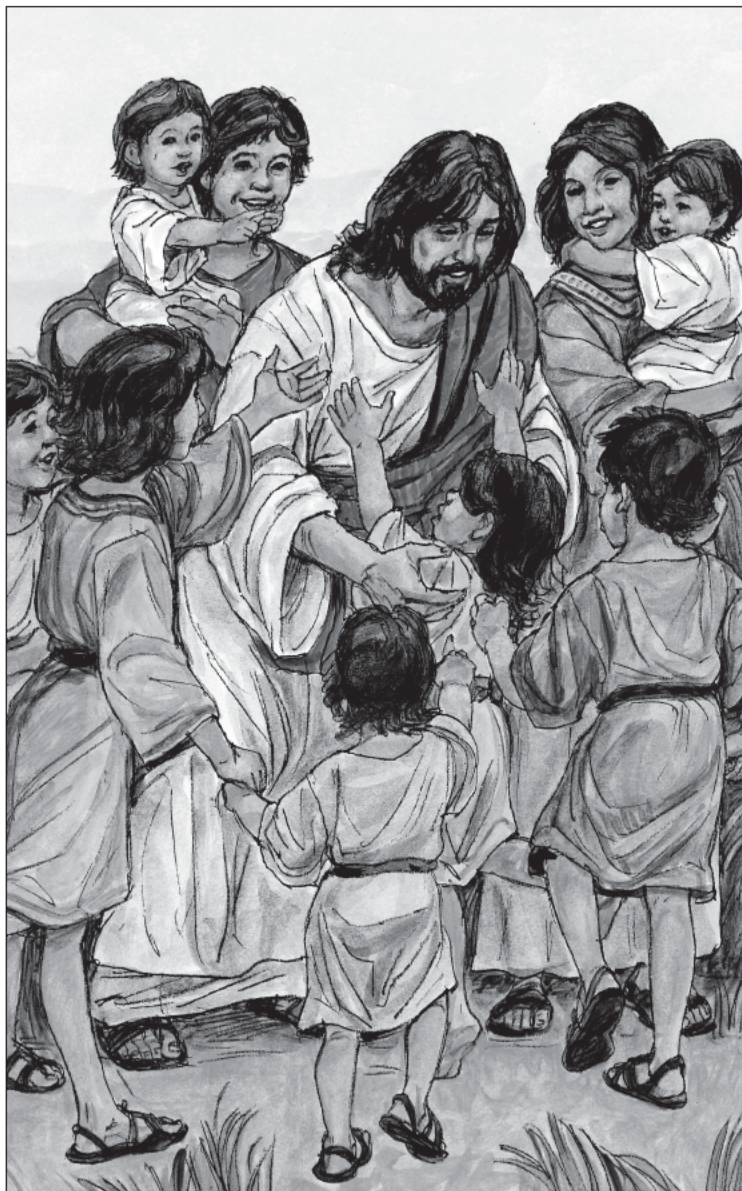
Each believer has different gifts and abilities. We are to work together to show our love for God. Paul gives an example of how Christians with different skills can work together. He says, Think of how your body works. Each part of the body has a different job to do. We see with our eyes. We hear with our ears. We walk with our feet. We feel with our hands. Our eyes do not walk. Our ears do not feel. Each part of our body works together with other parts so we can eat, sleep, hear, walk, and do a job. The parts of our body work together so that we can live and accomplish things. The same is true of working together with other Christians. We are not all the same. Paul points out that some are able to teach. Others can encourage other people. Some can lead people, while others like to help people. We need to work together as Christians and help each other so that God's Word reaches other people, and they too are justified.

In Romans 12:6-8 God gives us some wonderful examples of how we who are

believers in Jesus Christ can serve him. Let's look at a few of the examples that are in these verses.

a. Christians can humbly and faithfully prophesy, that is, teach God's Word. We will want to continue to study God's Word so we do not lose but rather strengthen our faith in God. As parents we can teach Bible stories to our children so they will believe in Jesus. As Christians we can tell our friends and neighbors about what Jesus has done by living and dying for all of us so we may have eternal life in heaven.

b. We can show mercy to those who are in need. God asks us to do this freely, not because we must, but because we want to do this. We may be poor ourselves, but we can share what we have, willingly. Jesus encourages us by saying, "Anything you did for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:37-40).



Jesus blesses the little children.

In verses 9 through 12 God tells us how we are to show love to each other. God has shown his love to us in many ways. He has justified us, forgiven us all of our sins. He has blessed us with eternal life in heaven. In our life on earth he has given us a family and friends. He has blessed us with many earthly gifts of food and shelter.

Now in a few short sentences God tells us how we should and should not behave. He tells us what we should do and not do as Christians. Listen to what God says. Our “love must be honest and true.” We should hate what is evil, but hold on to what is good.

a. When we hope, we should be joyful. On this earth we may hope for many things and may never get them. As Christians we have the sure hope of eternal life in heaven. Let us be joyful about that.

b. When we suffer, we should be patient. There is suffering and trouble in the lives of everyone who lives in this world because we are sinful. We may ask God to take away our suffering, but sometimes it may seem he does not answer our prayers. We need to be patient because, “We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him” (Romans 8:28).

c. When we pray, we should be faithful. That means we should be full of faith. Be certain that God hears our prayers and will answer them. Sometimes he answers yes. Sometimes he tells us no. And sometimes he says wait. But we pray, believing that God will answer all our prayers. He knows best what is good for us.

d. We are to share our blessings with God’s people and welcome others into our homes. Paul reminds us, “So when we can do good to everyone, let us do it. Let us make a special point of doing good to those who

belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:10).

In the previous verses of this chapter God tells us to show our Christian love by helping our fellow believers. Now in the remaining verses of this chapter he reminds us how we are to show Christian love when we live among others who are not believers.

a. We are asked to bless others and not curse them. This is true especially of those who hurt us because we are believers. The devil will try every way to cause us to sin and fall away from Jesus. The devil uses unbelievers to laugh at us and hurt us. We are not to curse them and sin against the commandments of God. Rather, we should be kind and pray for them. This will take a lot of love and courage, but we know that God will help us in every time of need.

b. We are asked to be joyful with others when they are joyful. There are happy days

when a couple is married or when a baby is born. Rejoice with such people and families. And there are days when people are sad. Be sad with those who have lost a loved one who has moved away or who has died. As believers we also will want to comfort them using God's Word.

c. We are asked to be humble and not proud. Be willing to greet and speak with and help "people who are not considered important." Above all, we should live in peace and not do evil things to other people. It is God who punishes evil. God says, "I am the One who judges people. I will pay them back." With God on our side, we can live in peace and do good.

d. We are to show love even to our enemies. We are to give them food when they are hungry and something to drink when they are thirsty. God says, "By doing those things, you will pile up burning coals on their heads." This means that when you

do these things, even for your enemies,
their ears will turn red. They will feel
ashamed because you have done this.

There are so many things God wants us to do as Christians to show his love to the world. We are not to live like unbelievers. God wants to change our lives, overcoming what is evil with what is good. Pray to God that you as a believer will live a changed life with God's help. Remember, he loves you and forgives you all your sins. In verse one of this chapter we read, "Offer up your bodies to him (God) while you are still alive. Your bodies are a holy sacrifice that is pleasing to God."

1. God has shown his _____ to us.
2. Our entire life as Christians will be dedicated to _____ God.
3. As Christians our lives are now _____ by faith in Jesus.
4. Each believer has different _____ and _____.
5. Humbly we are faithfully to _____ God's Word.

6. We are to show mercy to those in
 .
7. We should hate what is but
 hold on to what is .
8. Christians have the hope of
 in heaven.
9. We are to others and not
 curse them.
10. We are to show love even to our
 .

Answers to these questions are found on page 119

B. WE ARE TO OBEY THE PEOPLE GOD HAS PLACED OVER US

The Holy Spirit is the person of our triune God who breathed into (inspired) the many writers of the Bible what they should write. In Romans chapter 13 the Holy Spirit has the apostle Paul write about how we should obey, honor, and respect the people who are placed over us in our lives.

The Fourth Commandment, “Honor your father and mother,” mentions obeying and honoring our parents. But it also includes all people who are over us in our lives – our teachers, the police, and others. Paul in this chapter tells us we should especially honor and obey all those who are over us in our government.

There are many different kinds of governments. There are dictatorships and democracies. There are good rulers and bad rulers. There are presidents or kings or prime ministers. All these and other authorities “have been chosen by God.” In verse one Paul writes, “All of you must be willing to obey completely those who rule over you. There are no authorities except the ones God has chosen.” When the apostle Paul wrote these words, the people in the city of Rome were ruled by a very evil man. His name was Nero. He killed Christians. He burned down the city of Rome. Yet the people are told to respect those who rule over them.

Paul explains the difference between doing what is right, or obeying the government, and doing wrong, or disobeying the government.

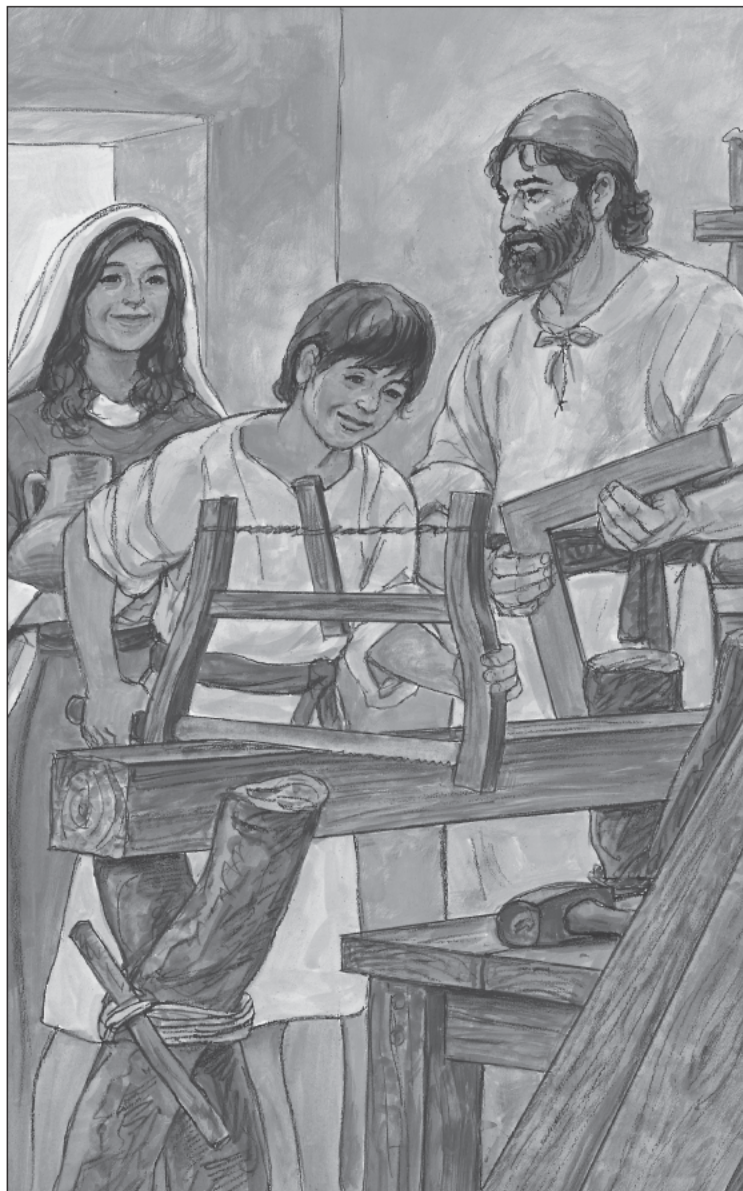
If we do what is wrong, we should be afraid of what the government can do to us. “You don’t want to be afraid of those in authority, do you?” We are then told to “Watch out!” Those in authority “serve God.” God carries out his anger against sin through the government, even using the “sword” to punish evil. Paul tells us that if we do not obey the government, if we do not pay our taxes, if we hurt someone, if we steal from someone, the courts have the power from God to fine us, to put us in prison, and even, if necessary, to put an evil person to death.

On the other hand, we are reminded, “If you do what is right, you won’t need to be afraid of your rulers.” When we obey the laws of our country, “the one in authority will praise you.” The government will “do you good.” “Then you will not be punished. You should obey the

government because you know it is right. That's also why you pay taxes." Show respect and honor to those who are over you in your life, whether they are your parents, your teachers, the police, or the rulers of your country. Then God will bless you.

In the Fourth Commandment we learn, "Honor your father and mother, that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." Our parents love us and do everything in their power to provide us with food, clothing, and a home to live in. Leaders in the church also provide us with blessings. They care for our souls and want us to be at peace with God and to have eternal life in heaven. The government is God's arm to provide order in our land and to bless us with peace and protection. Obey those who rule over you as long as they do not act against God's will, and you will not be punished.

Jesus teaches us to love our parents. As a twelve-year-old child when he was studying



Jesus obeys Mary and Joseph.

God's Word in the temple and Mary and Joseph came to take him home. "He went back to Nazareth with them, and obeyed them" (Luke 2:41-51). Jesus took care of his mother when he was dying on the cross by asking the apostle John to take care of her (John 19:26,27). Jesus respected both God and the government when he told his enemies, the Pharisees, "Give to Caesar (the ruler of the Roman world) what belongs to Caesar. And give to God what belongs to God" (Matthew 22:15-22).

When Jesus spoke about giving to Caesar what belongs to him, he was talking about paying taxes to the government. That is what Paul speaks about when he says, "You must also obey them (the rulers) because you know it is right. That is also why you pay taxes." We honor all those in authority, not just by paying taxes, but by showing respect to them and love for them. The apostle goes on to speak about the love we should have for all people. It is

Christ's love that moves believers to honor and obey those who are over them.

In Romans 13:8 the apostle Paul says, "You can never pay back all the love you owe each other." He points out some of the commandments we do not keep perfectly. If you have looked at another person with lust in your heart, you have committed adultery. If you have shown hate toward someone, you have committed murder. If you have had a desire for something that belongs to someone else, you have had an evil desire. That is not showing love. Jesus summarized all the commandments by saying we should love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and mind and we should love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Love is the way to fulfill the law. Love does what the law requires.

We need to understand that Christian love for our neighbor is motivated by the love God has shown to us and to all people. In love God sent his one and only Son to be our Savior. In love

God has justified us. In love God promises us eternal life with him in heaven. It has been pointed out again and again in this letter to the Romans that we are not saved by keeping the law. We are made right with God only by the grace of God through Jesus. The time to thank God for his love is now. Paul tells us that “Our full salvation is closer now than it was when we first believed in Christ.” Each day brings us closer to the day of our death or the day of Jesus’ return to judge the people of our world.

Therefore, we are encouraged to live in the light of God’s love and not in the darkness of unbelief. God tells us, “have nothing to do with... wild parties”, or being “drunk”, or “sexual sins”, or “evil conduct”, or “fighting” and being “jealous” of each other. When we do such things we are walking in darkness.

Instead, “live in the daytime” and “put on the Lord Jesus Christ as your clothing.” In his letter to the Christians living in Galatia Paul writes, “You are all the children of God by believing in

Christ Jesus. All of you who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ as if he were your clothes” (Galatians 3:26,27). Being clothed with Christ means we enjoy being wrapped in the protection and beauty of Jesus’ holiness that God gives to us by faith in what Jesus has done for us. This faith makes it possible for us to live a new Christian life in the light of God’s love and not in the darkness of unbelief.

11. The apostle Paul writes about how we should _____, _____ and _____ those who are placed over us in our lives.
12. If we do what is _____, we will be afraid of what the government can do to us.
13. If you do what is right, you won’t need to be _____ of your rulers.
14. It is _____ love for us that moves believers to _____ and _____ those over them in their lives.
15. We are made right with God only by the _____ of God through Jesus.

16. We are encouraged to live in the
 of God's love and not in the
 darkness of .

Answers to these questions are found on page 119

C. WE ARE TO HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE WEAK FAITH

In chapter 14 the apostle Paul now tells believers to help those who have weak faith. Once more he speaks about those who are Jews and those who are not Jews.

During Old Testament times God told the Jews to keep certain laws that spoke about what foods they could and could not eat. For example, they were not permitted to eat pork, the meat from pigs. (Leviticus 7:22, 23 and Leviticus 11:1-24). The Old Testament Jews had to bring certain offerings to the Lord. There were burnt offerings, grain offerings, and offerings of animals (Leviticus 1:1-3; 2:1; 4:1-5). Also, in the Old Testament the Jews were required to observe certain festival days.

Examples of such days would be the festival of the Passover, the festival of Booths, and the Harvest festival (Leviticus 23:4-44). Those laws kept people ready and looking forward to the arrival of the Savior. Therefore, when Jesus the Savior came, those laws no longer had any purpose.

We who live in the New Testament do not need to keep them. Colossians 2:16-17 tells people who believe in Jesus, “Don’t let anyone judge you because of what you eat or drink. Don’t let anyone judge you about holy days. I’m talking about special feasts and New Moons and Sabbath days. They are only a shadow of the things that were going to come. But what is real is found in Christ.”

The laws of the Old Testament foreshadowed the sacrifice that Jesus would make on the cross. We are justified, forgiven, by what Christ Jesus did for us. He fulfilled those laws of the Old Testament. He lived a perfectly holy life. And he was punished for the sins of all

people when he offered his life as a sacrifice to God on the cross.

In Paul's day, some of the Jews who believed in Jesus had problems because they had kept the Old Testament laws concerning food and festivals all of their lives. When they became Christians, they found it difficult to change their customs about eating certain foods and keeping certain holy days.

Paul reminds us that all foods are good for us to eat, and we should not judge those who believe in Jesus but might not be ready to eat all foods. Rather we are to show them love and understanding. We are not to judge them for being different.

That is true in our lives today. Some people are different from others. Some people have different customs than those we may have. We should not make fun of them. We should be patient as we help them understand and adjust to what God's Word teaches.



Paul speaks to new believers.

Romans chapter 15 tells us to help those who have a weak faith. We are to “do what is good for them. Let us build them up.” We are not to judge those whose faith is weak. Those who are not Jews are asked to help those who are Jews to be strong believers in Jesus. “Our God is a God who strengthens you and cheers you up. May he help you agree with each other as you follow Christ Jesus.” Paul uses four Old Testament statements to assure us that God is a God of both the Jews and those who are not Jews. Here is one example. Isaiah says, “The Root of Jesse (Jesus, who was a Jew) will grow up quickly. He will rule over the nations. Those who aren’t Jews will put their hope in him.”

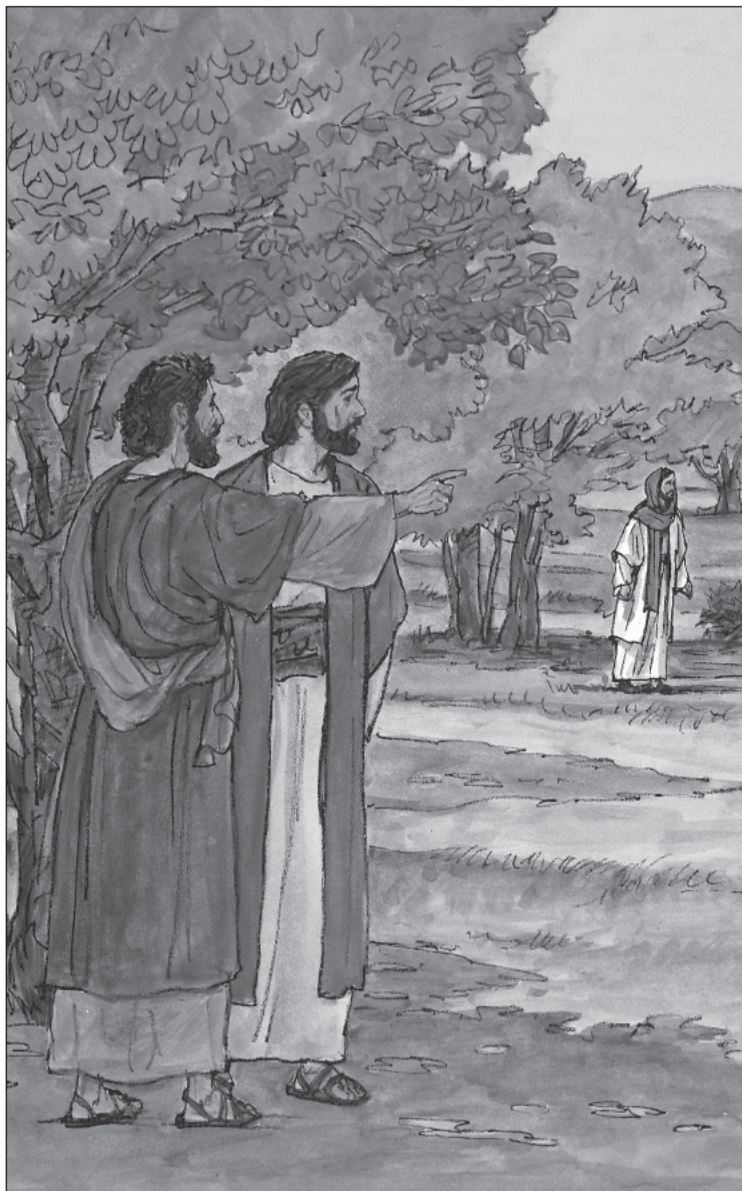
17. During Old Testament times God asked the Jews to keep certain _____.
18. The laws of the Old Testament foreshadowed the _____ that Jesus would make on the _____.
19. We are not to _____ those who are _____.

Answers to these questions are found on page 119

D. WE ARE TO TEACH OTHERS AND SHARE OUR FAITH

In verses 14 to 22 of chapter 15 Paul reminds us once again that he is a Jew who believes in Jesus Christ. He is bringing the gospel message to those who are not Jews. The Gentiles who believe are chosen by God and justified. Their sins are forgiven. They are the children of God. Paul taught others and shared his faith in Jesus by preaching the Word of God. His preaching was centered on what Jesus did for sinful mankind. "I will not try to speak of anything except what Christ has done through me."

The apostle Paul shared the Word of God with people throughout the Roman world of his day. He preached the gospel in what today is the country of Turkey, the country of Greece, and the country of Macedonia. He says, "From (the city of) Jerusalem all the way around to (the country of) Illyricum (possibly the present country of Albania) I have finished preaching



Andrew and Philip learn about Jesus.

the good news about Christ. I have always wanted to preach the good news where Christ was not known.”

That should also be what we as believers want to do – share the good news about our Savior “where Christ is not known.” There are many of our friends who do not know about Jesus.

There are many people in our country who worship false gods. There are many people in other countries of the world who still sit in the darkness of unbelief instead of in the light of Jesus and his Word.

What can we do to share the good news that all people are justified, forgiven, by what Jesus did for them? We can pray. Pray that God’s Word is taught to many people so they come to the knowledge of the truth about their salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. We can speak to others around us about the hope and joy that is in our hearts because Jesus has saved us; he helps us in our lives on earth, and he leads us to eternal life in heaven. We can honor and

support those who teach and preach God's Word to us. We can give our offerings according to the way God has blessed us. Then preachers and teachers can be sent to other cities and countries to tell many men and women and children the good news of salvation through Jesus. There is, indeed, much we can do as individuals and as worship groups to tell others about Jesus Christ, our Savior. Jesus is sending us as his messengers, too, when he says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end" (Matthew 28:18-20).

20. Paul teaches others and shares his faith in Jesus by preaching the _____ of _____.

21. List four ways we can share the good news that all people are justified, forgiven, by _____.

what Jesus did for them.

a.

b.

c.

d.

Answers to these questions are found on page 119

Review of Chapter Five

In the beginning chapters of Paul's letter to the Romans he teaches that we are justified by faith in Jesus Christ. We are not saved by our good works but by the grace of God who chose us and declares that we are right with God through faith and that our sins are forgiven. Now in the concluding chapters of his letter, Paul tells us how a believer should live his Christian life. We have studied four ways for us to live as Christians.

The first way is by using our gifts and abilities to serve God. God has given each of us different gifts and abilities. Some people are good teachers. Others are good leaders. We are to work together as Christians, cooperating as smoothly as the various parts of our body work together. We are to show mercy to other people. We are to be filled with joy and reflect our Christian joy in our lives. We are to show love to other people, even to our enemies.

The second way we should live as Christians is by honoring and obeying those who have been placed over us in our lives. Such people may be our parents or our teachers or the police and others placed over us in our government. Paul very clearly teaches that governments are placed over us by God. The government has been established to provide order and peace in our world. If we do what is right, we will be praised by the government. If we do what is evil, God tells us that the government has the right to punish us. The Fourth Commandment teaches us to honor those over us in our lives.

We show our love and respect to those who rule over us because of the love God has shown to us.

The third way Paul teaches us to live as believers is by helping people who have weak faith. Paul is thinking of the Jews who had observed the laws of the Old Testament and who now were believers in Jesus. In the Old Testament there were many laws regarding food and festivals that needed to be observed until the Savior would come. Those laws helped keep people prepared, and they foreshadowed the sacrifice Jesus would make on the cross. When Jesus came, those laws had no more purpose. We are now free from those laws. Now we are to patiently help those who still feel a need to keep the Old Testament laws so they see that they are saved, not by keeping the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ.

Finally, Paul reminds us that we are to teach and share the good news that Jesus is the Savior of all people whether they are Jews or are not Jews. The time is now. Jesus has given the command that we are to make disciples of

people who live in all nations. We are to baptize them and to teach them to obey everything Jesus has taught us. He promises to be with us as we do this until the end of the world. We can pray that God's Word will be taught to many people and that people will believe what they hear. We can speak to other people and tell them about the love Jesus has for them and the joy we have in our lives as Christians. We can honor and support our religious teachers. And we can give offerings so that the good news is taught in other parts of our country and in the world.

Indeed, there are many ways a believer in Jesus can live a Christian life so people see the good we do and praise, not us, but our God in heaven.

Answers to the questions in Chapter Five:

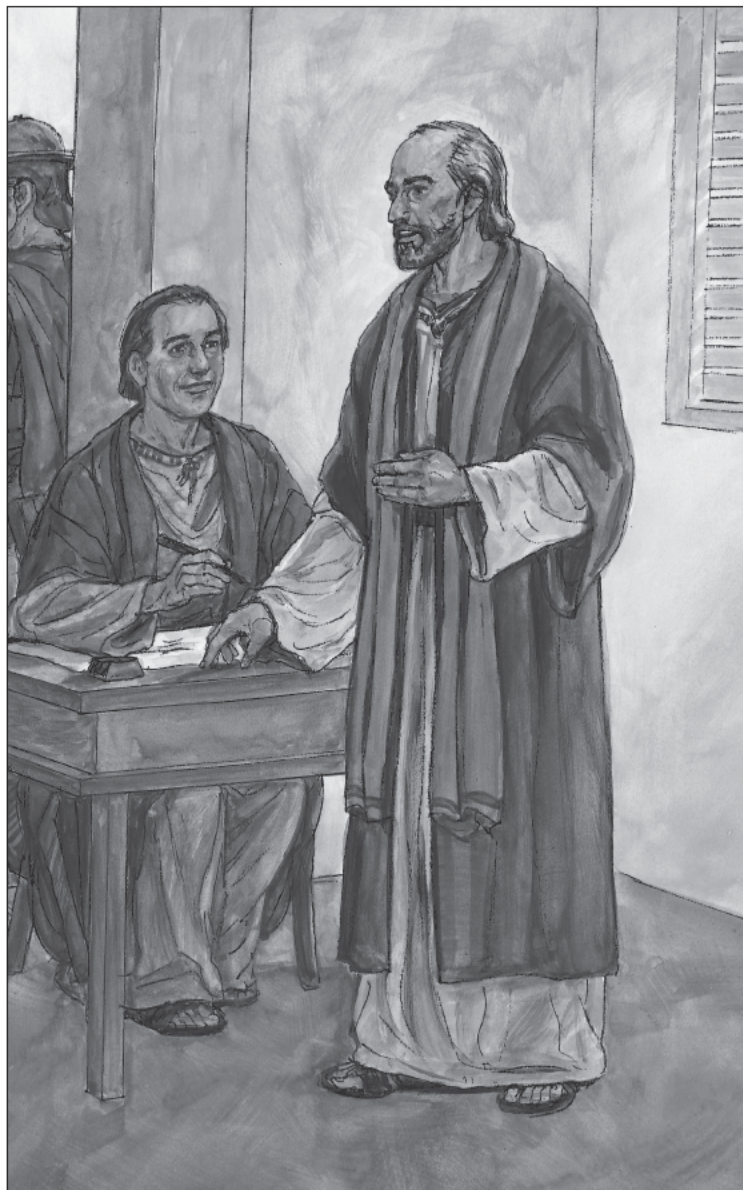
1. mercy; 2. serving; 3. changed; 4. gifts; abilities; 5. teach;
6. need; 7. evil, good; 8. eternal life; 9. bless; 10. enemies;
11. obey, honor, respect; 12. wrong; 13. afraid;
14. Christ's, honor, obey; 15. grace; 16. light, unbelief;
17. laws; 18. sacrifice, cross; 19. judge, weak; 20. Word, God; 21 a. We can pray that God's Word can be taught.
- b. We can speak to others around us about our hope.
- c. We can honor and support those who teach and preach.
- d. We can give our offerings as God blesses us.

Chapter Five Test

1. Our entire life as a Christian will be dedicated to _____ God.
2. We should hate what is _____ but hold on to what is _____.
3. We are to show love even to our _____.
4. The apostle Paul writes about how we should _____, _____ and _____ those who are placed over us in our lives.
5. If you do what is right you won't need to be _____ of your rulers.
6. It is _____ love for us that moves believers to _____ and _____ those over us in our lives.
7. The laws of the Old Testament foreshadowed the _____ that Jesus would make on the _____.
8. Paul taught others and shared his faith in Jesus by preaching the _____ of _____.

9. List four ways we can share the good news that all people are justified, forgiven, by what Jesus did.
- a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.

Answers to these questions are found on page 137



Paul dictates to a scribe.



Chapter Six

The End of Paul's Letter to the Romans

Romans 16:1-27

We come now to the last chapter of the letter to the Romans. In this chapter the apostle Paul speaks of three things,

- * Greetings to his friends, relatives, and fellow workers,
- * A final warning, and
- * A final word of encouragement for all Christians.

In the first sixteen verses of this chapter Paul sends greetings to twenty-five people. This is a larger number of persons than are mentioned in any of the other letters Paul wrote. We will not speak about each of the people Paul mentions, but we want to learn about some of them.

Many of the people Paul writes about are women. Women have an important part in the work of the Christian church. As mothers they can set an example and help their children learn about Jesus and live as believers should. Women can be an example by studying God's Word so their faith is strengthened. Women can also serve as Bible women, reaching out to other women to share the gospel with them.

Phoebe was such a woman. She is spoken of in the first verse of chapter 16. She served the church in the city of Cenchrea and was a help to many people including Paul himself.

There is also a husband and wife team, Aquila and Priscilla. These two Christians were a great help to Paul. Verse three tells us they served God together with Paul. An important thing to notice is that a group of people met in their house to learn about God and to worship him. House churches were an important part of the early history of the Christian church, and the same is true today. We do not need a large church building in order to worship and study God's Word. We can gather our friends and neighbors together in our house or in a room and form a study group and worship group.

Another important thing said about Aquila, Priscilla, and other people is that they "put their lives in danger." There was much persecution in the early church. Verse seven mentions two people who were put into prison with Paul for being believers. In verse ten, Paul speaks of a man named Apelles. "Even though he was put to the test, he remained faithful as one who belonged to Christ." Even today there will be people who will laugh at us and maybe even

hurt us because we believe in Jesus and we want to share the joy of being a Christian with other people. Then remember that Jesus promises to be with us. We know “that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.” (Romans 8:28)

Some of the people Paul greets are his own relatives. Many of the people to whom Paul sends his greetings were people whom he met on his missionary journeys. They were among those who were not Jews.

After asking that greetings be sent to all these family members, friends, and fellow believers, Paul gives the Christians in Rome and us today a warning in verses 17 and 18. He writes, “I am warning you brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who try to keep you from staying together. They will try to trip you up. They teach you things opposite to what you have learned. Stay away from them.”

“Stay away from them.” With these words the apostle Paul is warning all Christians to watch out for people who would try to destroy their faith in Jesus. Such teachers and people will not teach God’s Word in all its truth. Such individuals will put their own reason, their own thinking, above what God’s Word teaches. Jesus himself gave us this same warning when he was speaking about the end of the world. Jesus said, “Keep watch! Be careful that no one fools you. Many will come in my name. They will claim, ‘I am the Christ!’ They will fool many people” (Matthew 24:4,5). Paul goes on to warn us in verse 18, “People like that are not serving Christ our Lord. They are serving only themselves. With smooth talk and with words they don’t mean they fool people who don’t know any better.”

This is why we need to study what God teaches us in the Bible. This is why we need to test every teacher and preacher of God’s Word to find out if that person is teaching the truth of God’s Word or only his own ideas. Jesus said

before leaving his disciples that they should baptize and teach. They and we are to teach everything God has commanded us. This includes both the law and the gospel. This includes what we have learned from our study of the letter to the Romans that we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ and not by the works of the law. We are justified, our sins are forgiven. Treasure this Word of God.

Now Paul wants to encourage all Christians, those in Rome and those in our lives and world today. Paul's heart is filled with joy. He wants his fellow believers to have peace with God. He asks that the grace, the undeserved love, of God be with all Christians. He asks that we give all praise and glory to God for what God has done for us. He speaks about the good news in Christ that he preached and that we are to preach and teach. God commanded that this message be made known to all nations. God wants all of us to believe in him and to obey him.

“May the only wise God receive glory forever through Jesus Christ. Amen.”

1. Many of the people Paul writes about are .
2. Women can be an example by studying God's so that their faith is strengthened.
3. There was much in the early church.
4. With the words, “Stay away from them” the apostle Paul is all Christians to watch out for those people who will try to destroy their in Jesus.
5. Paul asks that we give all praise and glory to for what God has done for us.
6. God wants all of us to in him and to obey him.

Answers to these questions are found on page 131

Review of Chapter Six

In the closing chapter of his letter to the Romans the apostle Paul sends greetings to many friends, relatives, and fellow church workers. He remembers how these people helped him in his ministry and how they suffered in their lives because they were believers in Jesus Christ.

Then a warning is given to the Christians in Rome and also to us today. There will be those who will try to destroy the faith of believers. These people will teach false doctrine (false teachings) and not what the Bible teaches us. We need to stay away from such people.

Finally, all Christians are encouraged to be at peace with God and see the grace of God in their lives. We are to thank and praise God for all he has done for us. Especially be thankful that God has forgiven all of our sins through what Jesus did. We are now justified and at peace with God. All praise and glory belongs to God.

Chapter Six Test

There is no test for Chapter Six.

Answers to the questions in Chapter Six:

1. women; 2. Word; 3. persecution; 4. warning, faith;
5. God; 6. believe.



Word List

(A list of words you may not know)

advantage	Something that will help a person to gain a desired result
ancestor	A person, especially living a long time ago, from whom people are born
ashamed	Feeling guilt or sorrow because of what someone has done
boast	To talk about one's own accomplishments or abilities with too much pride.
brag	To speak with too much praise about oneself
cheat	To act dishonestly, to trick, to gain or get something we want
cherish(ed)	To love someone or something, or to hold it dear
circumcision	Cutting of the foreskin of the male sex organ often as a religious rite or practice
conclude	To come to an end; decide
condemn(ed)	To say officially what someone's punishment is to be

contrast	To compare two people or things in order to make the differences clearly seen
cooperation	to work together
curse	The evil or injury that comes to a person for having done evil
declare	To announce something publically and officially
dedicate	To set apart for a special purpose; to commit oneself fully to a particular task
deserve	To be worthy of or suitable for
embarrass(ed)	To cause someone to feel ashamed or uncomfortable
endure	To suffer for a long time
foreshadow	To show something before it happens
gospel	The good news that Jesus came into the world to save sinners
graft(ed)	To insert a shoot from one plant into another so they join and grow
image	Likeness of; picture of
individual	A certain person or a single human being
inherit(ed)	To receive money, property or other things left by someone who has died

innocent	Not guilty
inspiration	To move or guide by breathing something like words into someone
Levite	Jewish religious person
lust	Great sexual desire
majesty	Greatness and dignity as of a king
manger	An open box in which feed is placed for cattle to eat
mention(ed)	To speak briefly about something, to remark
observe	To notice or to obey
oppose	To act or be against something or someone
persecute	To treat cruelly; to cause to suffer for religious beliefs
pollute	To corrupt; to make something impure or unfit for use
previous	before; earlier
pride	Too high of an opinion of a person's importance
property	Land or buildings
provide	To supply something needed or useful

repent	To be sorry for one's sins and determined not to sin again by looking in faith to Jesus for forgiveness
response	An answer to a request
reveal(ed)	To make known something that is hidden
righteousness	Morally good; to be right with God because of what Jesus did by living a perfect life and dying in our place as punishment for our sins
skill	able to use knowledge to do something
stable	A building for keeping and feeding animals
talents	A special ability
temporary	Lasting for a short time
tempt(ed)	To try to make someone do something sinful



Answers to Chapter Tests

Chapter One: (page 16)

1. enemy; 2. believer; 3. Jesus; 4. good news; 5. Son, God;
6. share; 7. gospel; 8. everyone; 9. faith; 10. Faith.

Chapter Two: (page 34)

1. angry; 2. sinned, anger; 3. right; 4. good works; 5. grace;
6. Ten Commandments; 7. circumcision; 8. sinners.

Chapter Three: (pages 68-69)

1. faith; 2. sin; 3. cross; 4. gift; 5. Savior; 6. joy; 7. children;
8. everlasting life; 9. commandments, love; 10. faith, faith,
Christian; 11. certain.

Chapter Four: (page 86)

1. Word; 2. faith, Jesus Christ, works; 3. save ourselves;
4. Holy Bible; 5. believe; 6. children; 7. mercy.

Chapter Five: (pages 120-121)

1. serving; 2. evil, good; 3. enemies; 4. obey, honor, respect;
5. afraid; 6. Christ's, honor, obey; 7. sacrifice, cross; 8. Word,
God; 9a. Pray for them; 9b. Speak to others; 9c. Support
those who teach; 9d. Give offerings.

THERE IS NO TEST FOR CHAPTER SIX



Final Test

Congratulations! You have completed your study of The Letter to the Romans. Go back through the book and review any mistakes you made in the chapter tests. Also review the goals from each chapter. When you are confident or sure you know all the goals, you are ready to take the final test.

Complete the final test without looking at the text of the book. When you are finished, give the test to the person who gave you the book or send it to the address on the back cover. You may also ask for more Bible study books to study.

If you are ready, take the test without looking back into the book.



The Letter to the Romans
Final Test

Fill in the blank.

1. Paul, an apostle, was especially chosen by _____.
2. Paul wants to share the _____ about God's Son.
3. Because of what Jesus did for us, we by _____ are right with God.
4. We are saved by _____ in Jesus.
5. We need to confess, "I have _____ against God and deserve only God's _____."
6. Many people think they can get _____ with God by doing what God wants them to do.
7. We are saved only by the _____ of _____ God.
8. God's grace is his _____ for us that _____ we do not _____.
9. We are forgiven, not by keeping the law, but by _____ in Jesus Christ.
10. Jesus was punished for our sins when he took _____ our place and died on the _____ for us.

11. Your faith is also a _____ of God.
12. Abraham believed God would send a
_____.
13. We are now God's _____ by faith
in Jesus.
14. We who are believers in Jesus have
_____ in heaven.
15. As believing children of God, we do God's will
and keep his _____ not
because they will save us, but out of
_____ for what Jesus did for us.
16. It is the Holy Spirit who brings us to
_____, who keeps us in the
_____ and who causes us to live a
_____ life.
17. Throughout Paul's letter to the Romans, God
teaches us that we are saved by
in _____, and not by
the good _____ we try to do in our
lives.
18. Our entire life as a Christian will be dedicated
to _____ God.
19. We should _____ what is evil but hold
on to what is _____.

20. It is _____ love for us that moves
believers to _____ and
those over us in our lives.
21. With the words, “Stay away from them” the
apostle Paul is _____ all Christians to
watch out for those people who will try to
destroy their _____ in Jesus.
22. Paul asks that we give all praise and glory to
_____ for what God has done for us.

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