

# **Romans**

**The Righteousness of God  
proven through Messiah,  
King Jesus**

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# Romans

## Outline of Romans 5:1-8:30

*Romans 1:18-3:20 = You have the wrong Person on trial*

***Romans 3:21-8:39 = God will put the world to rights thru  
Messiah (as promised!)***

*Romans 9-11 = God has been faithful to what He promised*

*Romans 12-16 = Now live in harmony & love as the true  
renewed humanity of God*

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# Romans

- *Paul has made it clear who the real guilty party is – US!*
  - *Despite that God is willing to be questioned about whether or not He has been righteous*
    - *Given the fact that it doesn't look like Israel has seen the promises fulfilled*
    - *The world is still a train wreck*
  - *So Paul sets out to exonerate God to prove He is faithful*
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# Romans

Does this by proving:

- *The original contract with Abraham ALWAYS included Gentiles*
- *Membership in God's covenant family is not thru ethnicity or Torah but rather as a gift from God through faith*
- *The same gift that was extended to Abraham is being extended to anyone that receives the gift of Jesus' blood*
- *And that blood will acquit you! Render you innocent & righteous before God!*

Therefore Jesus having been faithful where Israel never was as an Israelite has fulfilled all that His Father promised Abraham He would do

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# Romans

Outline: Ch. 5-8 shift back to 1<sup>st</sup> issue – Is God fixing life?

*5:12-21 – What are the solidarities of power we live under?*

*6:1-23 – How has Jesus resolved the solidarity of SIN/DEATH in our lives?*

*7:1-8:11 – There is no condemnation in the final judgment for those in Jesus*

*8:12-39 – Having now come out of the “Egypt” of sin/death & freed from the weight of Torah we are now being led into the true intended promised land by the Spirit of Jesus*

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# Romans

## Chapter 7 – Who is Paul speaking to?

1) 7:1a “Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law”

*Jews & Gentile Proselytes = “I”*

2) 7:4 You have “Died to the Law thru Messiah” = came out from under its domain

*Who died? Those in chapter 6 – those in Christ – specifically those under Torah*

7:5 “while we WERE”...7:6 “now we ARE”

# Romans

Chapter 7 – Why does Paul need to spend a whole chapter about the role of Torah?

1) 5:20 = *“The Torah came in that sin might increase...”*

2) 6:14b = *“you are no longer under Torah but under grace”*

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# Romans

What is his Jewish audience thinking at this point?

- *We are the chosen people of God*
  - *We were given Torah & thought promised life thru/with it*
  - *We followed it and what did we get?*
  - *I thought Torah would justify me before God & you say it instead shows how sinful I am...even increased my sin*
  - *Are you saying Torah is bad? It is God's Word for heavens sake*
  - *It almost sounds like God mislead us by giving us something that didn't work!*
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# Romans

Sidebar conversation of chapter 7:

Question 1: Chapter 7:7-12 = *Is the Torah sin since Jesus had to free us from it?*

➤ *Answer = Of course not...the problem is SIN! Sin is so dark that it used the Words of God to arouse more sin*

Question 2: Chapter 7:13-25 = *Did this good Torah then cause death since sin leads to death & it increased sin?*

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# Romans

Romans 7:13a – Even though Torah is good does it kill?

*Rom. 5:20-21 “The Torah came in so that the transgression would increase...”*

*Sin reigns in death – and Torah feeds it!*

*His answer is of course NO* = *sin is responsible for the deceit*

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# Romans

Romans 7:13a – Even though Torah is good does it kill?

*Sin in its darkness sees innocent Torah & uses it to get people to think:*

*a) that following it will produce life...I don't need God I just need to do the right thing*

*b) and then it actually entices them to break it and sin more*

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# Romans

Romans 7:13 – Even though Torah is good does it kill?

*Then why does it appear God wants sin to  
“abound”?*

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# Romans

Romans 7:13 – Even though Torah is good does it kill?

*Sin uses Torah (God's commands) to:*

*1) Convince us it will produce life without God*

*2) And then when we try and do the right thing we actually sin even more*

*3) So God loosens the reins on sin & lets it use Torah so He can set a trap*

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# Romans

## Romans 7:14

The “I” here is the Jew or a Proselyte Gentile who is “under Torah” - But now Paul switches and says but “I am of flesh”

- *The Jew in other words “according to the flesh”*
- *Sin & death still rule over them*
- *They have not been “baptized” into the life & death & resurrection of Jesus*
- *They are still a “slave” of the Egypt of sin & death*

*Torah followers before they got saved!*

# Romans

Romans 7:15

*Here is the paradox of Israel “under Torah”*

*1) Seeing what is the right thing to do*

*2) Delighting in it & wanting to perform it*

*3) And then doing the opposite*

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# Romans

Flow of the argument of chapter 7:

Question 1: Chapter 7:7-12 = Is the Torah sin since Jesus had to free us from it?

➤ Answer = Of course not...the problem is SIN! Sin is so dark that it used the Words of God to "arouse" more sin

Question 2: Chapter 7:13-25 = Did this good Torah then cause death since sin leads to death & it increased sin?

➤ Answer = Of course not...utterly dark force of sin USED the innocent Torah to cause death!

Question 3: Chapter 7:13-25 = Can the Torah give life?

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# Romans

## Romans 7:15

Deut. 30:15-16a “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity; in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live

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# Romans

## Romans 7:15

*It was always assumed in the OT that DOING Torah was coupled with:*

*Dependency = that humanity is broken & weak and unable to live well on its own, that humanity was never meant to have life apart from the Trinity*

*Faith = God will accomplish it as they surrender to Him realizing they cannot do it on their own*

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# Romans

*Romans 7:15*

*Psalm 119:5 Oh that my ways may be established To keep  
Your statutes!*

*Psalm 119:10 With all my heart I have sought You; Do not  
let me wander from Your commandments*

*Psalm 119:17 Deal bountifully with Your servant, That I  
may live and keep Your word.*

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# Romans

*Romans 7:15*

*How is it supposed to work?*

- 1) We read the commandments, try to do it, and fail*
  - 2) So we look at ourselves and see how fragile & weak we are & how dark & powerful the reign of sin is*
  - 3) We turn to God in utter dependence & say HELP!*
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# Romans

*Romans 7:16*

*The only thing left is the Jew under Torah (the "I") & SIN*

*1) The REAL problem being the utter darkness and destructiveness of SIN*

*2) And our utter need for Messiah to accomplish it for us!*

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# Romans

*Romans 7:17-20*

*Remember, it was always about:*

- *dependence = sense of brokenness*
- *faith = we need God*

And this is what God will do thru us thru His Spirit

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*1) The REAL problem being the utter darkness and destructiveness of SIN*

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Remember Chapter 6 – our need to be identified with Jesus in His obedient life, His death, & His resurrection!

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# Romans

*Romans 7:17-23*

*I Cor. 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law;*

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# Romans

*Romans 7:24 - God gave Torah to TRAP SIN and gather it together so He could deal with it*

➤ *We all need to see how utterly dark sin is & how powerful its reign over life and humanity is (Romans 5)*

➤ *We all need to see how sin has used the beautiful Torah, the Words of God, to twist humanity into thinking it can do life on its own, somehow pulling off Torah under our own power all the while just causing us to produce even MORE SIN (chapter 7)*

➤ *We ALL need to break in dependence & faith before God so HE can give us life*

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# Romans

*Romans 7:24 - God gave Torah to TRAP SIN and gather it together so He could deal with it*

- *We all need the work of Jesus life & death & blood (chapter 6) to wash us clean and free us from the solidarity of sins dark reign*
  - *We all need Jesus' resurrection to raise us up as a new person with Him, whole, forgiven, holy and now with the power of Jesus' Spirit to be able to fully live...to be fully human (chapter 6 & 8)*
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# Romans

*Romans 7:25*

How do we truly live? How do we pull off God's commandments?

*Paul's answer = Thru JESUS Messiah!*

- *Jesus has freed me from sins dark reign & oppression*
  - *Jesus has given me life*
  - *Jesus has enabled me thru His power to LIVE...to LIVE the words of Torah under His power*
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# Romans

*Romans 7:25*

*Dependence (I am a broken and unable to live well on my own) and faith (I am utterly dependent on the Trinity that formed me)*

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