

# TRUTHS IN ROMANS



30  
SIMPLE  
PAGES

Lee Davis

**Truths  
in  
Romans**

**Lee Davis**

SAMPLE

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## DEDICATION

This volume is dedicated to my children, Leah, Jonathan, Matthew, Joshua, Bethany and Anna. You six have taught me more about life than I would have ever imagined. Your unfailing love and support have been second only to that of your Mother. Thank you for who you are and for what you are becoming. I love you!

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## PREFACE

It is with great joy that I approach the book of Romans. While this book is not considered the most complicated or controversial epistle of the New Testament, it is one of the most important.

Romans contains a treasure chest of local church doctrine. From the simplest truths about man's sinful condition to the very depth of God's mercy exhibited in salvation by grace through faith. From the basic truth of man's creation to the complex relationship between the Sovereign and His chosen people, Israel.

As we seek together to grasp both the simple and complex elements of this tremendous book, may we begin the journey prayerfully, respectfully and with the assurance that this book is infallible. We will never attempt to correct the text, but rather accept that anything we do not understand is a shortcoming on our part and not on the part of the scriptures.

God bless you!

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# INTRODUCTION

This is the foundational book for salvation “by grace through faith.” It is here that we find the truth about what God thinks about men and their condition.

It makes sense that we should pay attention to the book of Romans because we are in the last kingdom as described in the dream that Daniel interprets in Dan. 2:40-45:

*And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain*

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*without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.*

It was Rome that nailed Christ to the cross, it was Rome that put a spear in his side, it was Rome that tried to kill him when he was a baby and it was Rome that beheaded his apostles.

Some facts about the book of Romans are:

1. The 6th of Paul's letters, written from Corinth, about 58-60 A.D., and sent to Rome by Phebe)
2. 45th book of the Bible
3. 16 chapters
4. 433 verses; 9,447 words; 87 questions
5. 19 Old Testament prophecies
6. 4 new prophecies
7. 388 verses of history
8. 29 verses of fulfilled and 16 verses of unfulfilled prophecy

The writer is no doubt Paul. He probably wrote it around Acts 21-22 before he goes to Rome in Acts 25.

# CHAPTER 1

## THE EXCITEMENT

### The Preeminence of The Gospel- v. 1-4

#### a) the gospel messengers- v1-2

**Rom 1:1** *Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,*

v1: Paul often refers to himself as a servant 1 Cor. 9:19, 2 Cor. 4:5, 2 Tim. 2:24, Col. 4:12. Why we are servants. 1 Cor. 6:20 *For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

Paul said "I am a servant," I'm called to be an "Apostle." It takes a definite calling, but then he "separated unto the gospel." Paul is separated "unto." If you get separated unto you will have less trouble separating from.

**Rom 1:2** *(Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)*

v2: God had promised the redeemer and redemption all through the O.T. It was not described in those terms but it is there.

#### b) the gospel message- v3-4

**Rom 1:3** *Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;*

v3: He is made of the seed of David, He is not David's seed, Matt.1 David is in Joseph's line. The lineage is given in Luke also and proves that Mary is actually in the line of King David. We will prove this in our KJV study.

**Rom 1:4** *And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:*

v4: "declared to be the Son of God." That truth is declared all through the Bible.

"with power by the resurrection from the dead." It is the resurrection that proves the virgin birth. Acts 2:29,31

### **The Preacher Of The Gospel- v5-16**

a) the preachers command- v5-7

**Rom 1:5** *By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:*

**Rom 1:6** *Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:*

**Rom 1:7** *To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

v5-7: "for obedience to the faith" Faith and obedience are inseparable. Romans 16:26. *But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the*

## CHAPTER 1: THE EXCITEMENT

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*obedience of faith.* The Church of Christ would say that obedience is baptism, but Romans 10:16 describes the true Bible obedience.

**Romans 10:16** *But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?*

**b)** the preachers compassion- v8-9

**Rom 1:8** *First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.*

v8: The word faith is only in the O.T. twice, Deut. 32:20 and Hab. 2:4. Here we see it once in v5, v8, v12 and three times in v17. The word faith occurs 171 times in Paul's Epistles.

**Rom 1:9** *For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers;*

v9: "my spirit" is not the "natural man" of 1Cor.2:14 but the resurrected spirit of man who can commune with the Spirit. 1 Thess. 5:17 *Pray without ceasing.*

**c)** the preachers concern- v10-12

**Rom 1:10** *Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you.*

v10: Paul is praying for the "will of God." It was God's will for him to get to Rome but he got sidetracked and went to Jerusalem Acts 19:21. God told him three times not to go Acts 20:22-23,

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21:4, 21:10-12, but he went anyway and lost the "prosperous" trip he would have enjoyed. Instead he went on a ship in chains Acts 27.

**Rom 1:11** *For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;*

**Rom 1:12** *That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.*

v11-12: Paul's desire is to give the church the things needed for their growth and stability. Spiritual gifts are part of your growth process. Paul uses the word "established." That is the job of the preacher; to demonstrate and deliver to the saints and then to develop them Eph.12-14.

**d)** the preachers commission- v13-16

>a commission to train- v13-14

**Rom 1:13** *Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles.*

v13: the old English word "let" means to hinder. This is a good example of the text defining a word. (hitherto- up till now)

Paul's desire is to have some fruit among the Romans as he has fruit in other places. Jn. 15:2 "fruit," Jn. 15:2 "more fruit," Jn. 15:5 "much fruit."

## CHAPTER 1: THE EXCITEMENT

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**Rom 1:14** *I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.*

v14: we are all debtors to a lost world because someone told us.

> a commission of time- v15

**Rom 1:15** *So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.*

v15: Paul says he has a drive to preach the gospel to the Roman church.

> a commission of testimony- v16

**Rom 1:16** *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

**Romans 1:17** *For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

v16-17: the gospel has the power 1 Cor.15:3-4 but we don't always preach the gospel.

Every Baptist church should support a missionary to the Jews.

### **The Power of The Gospel- v17-18**

a) power to justify- v17

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**Rom 1:17** *For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*

The “therein” is the gospel.

From OT faith to NT faith, quotes from Hab. 2:4 but quotes it a little differently.

NT faith is not yours but Gal. 2:20 “faith of.”

**b)** power to judge- v18

**Rom 1:18** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*

v18: God is a God of wrath and his wrath is revealed.

Note the word “all” ungodliness and unrighteousness.

The last phrase is not in any translation since 1885; the verse is a direct reference to the Bible rejecters.

### The Gospel—Romans 1

- 1) The Preeminence of The Gospel- v1-4
- 2) The Preacher of The Gospel- v5-16
- 3) The Power of The Gospel- v17-18
- 4) The Presence Toward The Gospel- v18-21

**a)** it is literal- v18-19

**Rom 1:18** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and*

## CHAPTER 1: THE EXCITEMENT

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*unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*

**Rom 1:19** *Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.*

v19: the Bible rejecters know in themselves that the KJV is the word of God.

**b)** it is learnable- v20 (clearly seen)

**Rom 1:20** *For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

v20: things that are invisible are "clearly seen" by the things that are made.

What is clearly seen is "his eternal power and Godhead." Ps. 19:1-4 *The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. (2)Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. (3)There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. (4)Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun.*

Now, if the context of v18-19 is Bible rejecters what is the context of v20 "without excuse"?

**c)** it is light- v21 (foolish heart was darkened)

**Rom 1:21** *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their*

*imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

v21 three things are made evident here:

- 1- they knew God.
- 2- they glorified him not as God.
- 3- they were not thankful.

They became vain in their imaginations (thought too much of themselves) Gen. 11:6 *And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.* 2 Cor.10:5 *Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*

Their foolish heart was darkened. (absence of light)

### **The Pretense Toward The Gospel- v22-25**

**Rom 1:22** *Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,*

**a)** it is intentional- v22

v22:1 Cor. 3:18-19 *Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.* 4:10 *We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised.*

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**b)** it is irreverent- v23

**Rom 1:23** *And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.*

v23: men have attempted to change his glory into what?

- 1- corruptible man- (Santa)
- 2- birds- (turkey day not Thanksgiving)
- 3- four footed beast- (bunny not resurrection (Easter))
- 4- creeping things- (Halloween)

**c)** it is irrational- v24 (dishonor their own bodies)

**Rom 1:24** *Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:*

v24: notice God is "giving up" not "turning over" three times:

- 1- giving up, v24 "to dishonour" body
- 2- giving up, v26 "vile affections" soul
- 3- giving up, v28 "reprobate mind" spirit

**d)** it is irresponsible- v25

**Rom 1:25** *Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.*

v25: the Devil will not try to get you to totally ignore God, just put yourself and the creature or creation before him.

### The Passion Against The Gospel- v26-28

**Rom 1:26** *For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:*

**a)** their passion is unnatural- v26 (against nature)

v26: "vile" means filthy or defiling

So God gave them over to love filthy things 2 Cor. 7:1 *Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

**b)** their passion is uncontrollable- v27 (burned in their lust)

**Rom 1:27** *And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.*

v26b-27: anyone who cannot tell that this is dealing with the Sodomites is ignorant on purpose. Use Bible terms (Sodomites) Lev.20:13, Gen.19 story of Sodom.)

**c)** their passion is unleashed- (to do those things)

## CHAPTER 1: THE EXCITEMENT

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**Rom 1:28** *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;*

v28: Paul here is dealing with past history to teach a truth.

The danger is when a man does not "like to retain God in his knowledge." A reprobate will not have a desire to be saved; if a man wants to be saved he can be saved.

Then God "gave them over" to do "things not convenient."

### **The Plight Of Those Without The Gospel- v29-32**

**a)** their filling- v29a

**b)** their filthiness- v29b-31 (a detailed description)

**Rom 1:29** *Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,*

**Rom 1:30** *Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,*

**Rom 1:31** *Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:*

v29-31: the depravity of the human race; what a spectacle. 1 Cor. 2:12-14 *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of*

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*God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

**c)** their frustration- v32

*Rom 1:32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*

They are frustrated by the fact that the truth won't change no matter what they do or what laws they pass. God's word remains firm.

It seems that anyone who knows the judgment of God would condemn these things.

God judges those who have pleasure in them that do these things.

# CHAPTER 2

## THE EFFECT

**Rom 2:1** *Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.*

v1: this verse is telling us not to judge anyone.

We are told not to judge the soul of man but also we are told in 1 Cor. 2:15 *But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.*

We are all guilty in some way, but we can judge what the Bible says is wrong.

**Rom 2:2** *But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.*

v2: the Gentile nations will condemn themselves, v1, and they are condemned by God, v2, according to truth.

**Rom 2:3** *And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?*

**Rom 2:4** *Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

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v3: the "O man" in this verse is a reference to an unsaved man. He looks at another unsaved man and judges.

**Rom 2:4** *Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

v4: the end of the verse is a preface to the comments of verses 5-11.

It is the goodness of God that leads a man to repent.

God is good to all men but some refuse to repent!

**Rom 2:5** *But after thy hardness and impenitent heart, treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;*

v5: the heart of the sinner is described as "hard and impenitent"

That hardness stores up for the sinner "wrath" and the "righteous judgment of God."

**Rom 2:6** *Who will render to every man according to his deeds:*

v6: this is the key to the passage: "sinners" are the context. Pro. 20:11 *Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.*

## CHAPTER 2: THE EFFECT

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**Rom 2:7** *To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life:*

v7: the verse is teaching that God will honour a seeking heart with answers.

If a man honours the light he is given, God will give more light.

**Rom 2:8** *But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,*

**Rom 2:9** *Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;*

v8-9: those who reject the light they have been given will receive no more light, and will still go to Hell.

The situation is the same with Jew or Gentile.

**Rom 2:10** *But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile:*

v10: not earning salvation but seeking more light.

**Rom 2:11** *For there is no respect of persons with God.*

v11: this is an individual moral conduct in relation to God.

**Rom 2:12** *For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and*

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*as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;*

v12: this verse connects with Rom. 4:1 *Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.*

Speaks to those who have no comprehension mentally of their condition.

This includes babies and the mentally handicapped.

Who has sinned in the law?

**Rom 2:13** *(For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.*

v13: those Jews are without excuse because they were given the law years ago by Moses.

They had their security in the keeping of that law.

Their sins were put off by the obedience to those sacrifices.

**Rom 2:14** *For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:*

**Rom 2:15** *Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)*

v14-15: the Gentiles were not given the law but they have a law in their hearts.

## CHAPTER 2: THE EFFECT

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Go to any Gentile nation and they have a law that says if you steal what belongs to another man you must be punished.

It is in the conscience where this light is given.

Disobedience brings a condemning, obedience brings an opportunity for more light.

**Rom 2:16** *In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.*

v16: finishing the thought of verse 12.

The hearts will be open and all will be told.

**Rom 2:17** *Behold, thou art called a Jew, and retest in the law, and makest thy boast of God,*

v17: Paul begins now to speak directly to the Jews who are resting in the giving of the law, not it's keeping.

**Rom 2:18** *And knowest his will, and approvest the things that are more excellent, being instructed out of the law;*

**Rom 2:19** *And art confident that thou thyself art a guide of the blind, a light of them which are in darkness,*

**Rom 2:20** *An instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.*

v18-20: Paul begins to tear away at their self-righteousness.

## TRUTHS IN ROMANS

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**Rom 2:21** *Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?*

**Rom 2:22** *Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?*

v21-22: you may not teach what you have not learned.

Having the law given to you and then ignoring it's truth.

**Rom 2:23** *Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?*

**Rom 2:24** *For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.*

v23-24: the activity of the nation of Israel has brought a dishonour to the name of God. 2 Sam. 12:14 *Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.*

**Rom 2:25** *For circumcision verily profiteth, if thou keep the law: but if thou be a breaker of the law, thy circumcision is made uncircumcision.*

v25: the covenant from Gen. 17 is nothing if that is all you have. Deut. 10:16 *Circumcise therefore*

## CHAPTER 2: THE EFFECT

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*the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.*

**Rom 2:26** *Therefore if the uncircumcision keep the righteousness of the law, shall not his uncircumcision be counted for circumcision?*

v26: God makes a comparison that bypasses the outward sign.

**Rom 2:27** *And shall not uncircumcision which is by nature, if it fulfil the law, judge thee, who by the letter and circumcision dost transgress the law?*

v27: God brings the Gentile into a position of judgment over the Jew because of fulfilling the law. Col. 2:14-15 *Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*

**Rom 2:28** *For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:*

**Rom 2:29** *But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.*

v28-29: OT circumcision is an act of the will, N.T. circumcision is an act of the new birth. Col.2:11 *In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision*

## TRUTHS IN ROMANS

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*made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ.*

This NT circumcision brings glory to God and not to a man.

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