



## Outline of the Book of Romans by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

**Romans = of Rome, Italy**

**GOD IS PARAGON  
BLUEPRINT FOR REDEMPTION**

### I. Whom Does God Justify? **1:1 – 8:39**

#### A. Paul Is Qualified As Jesus' Apostle **1:1-15**

##### 1. Qualified by **Savior** who called him **1:1-6**

a. Jesus was ["son" of Abraham] promised by God's prophets **1:1-2**  
**Genesis 22:18; Galatians 3:16**

b. Jesus born of David's fleshly lineage [son of man] **1:3**  
**Luke 1:30-35**

c. Jesus' physical resurrection from the dead [Son of God] **1:4**  
**I Peter 1:3; I Corinthians 15:1-8, 20-23**

##### 2. Qualified by **salvation** ("grace") & sending ("apostleship") **1:5a**

##### 3. Qualified by **the saved** who obeyed **1:5b-15**

a. All Romans obedient to "the faith...for His name" **1:5b**

1) "the called of Jesus Christ" **1:6**

2) "beloved of God, called to be saints" **1:7a**

3) "grace...and peace" from God & Jesus Christ **1:7b**

b. World-wide reputation for faith **1:8**

c. Paul had not yet personally come to Rome **1:9-13a**

d. Paul felt Gospel "debt" to the Gentiles **1:13b-15**

#### B. Gospel Is Adequate To Save All People **1:16-3:20**

##### 1. The Bible rule is "**The just shall live by faith**" **1:16-17**

a. whether Jew or Greek **1:16**

b. same rule for all **1:17** **Habakkuk 2:4; Nehemiah 9:29;**  
**Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38; Acts 10:34-35**

##### 2. The Bible rule is: **Gentile sinners will be condemned...** **1:18-32**

a. **for ignoring proof for God in "nature"** **1:18-25**

b. **for having animal lust as moral standard** **1:26-27**

c. **for not elevating lives above debased level** **1:28-31**

d. **for approving those who are "a-c"** **1:32**

##### 3. The Bible rule is: **Moral consciousness alone cannot save** **2:1-16**

a. those who judge others without living by the same standard are  
"inexcusable" **2:1-4**

b. those who feel good works alone can save are lost **2:5-11**

c. those who now seek salvation by good morals("conscience") alone  
are also lost **2:12-16**

- 4. The Bible rule is: *Physical Judaism can no longer save* 2:17-3:20**
- a. the Jews' historical breaking of God's law had helped Gentiles feel justified in also breaking God's law **2:17-24** **Isaiah 52:4-6; Ezekiel 16:1-59**
  - b. heart circumcision, not physical circumcision is now what God requires **2:25-29** **Deuteronomy 10:12-16; 30:6; Galatians 5:1-6; Galatians 6:15**
  - c. Jews who refused to hear God's Word were no better off than Gentiles who did not hear God's Word **3:1-20**
- 5. The Bible rule is: *None are saved without faith in Jesus Christ* 3:21-8:39**
- a. "the righteousness of God" is now only through Jesus **3:21-31**
    - 1) as "the Law and the Prophets" witnessed **3:21**
    - 2) as future universal judgment requires **3:22-23**
    - 3) as blood-bought plan of redemption shows **3:24-26**
    - 4) as one God is provided for all men's needs **3:27-31**
  - b. Abraham's example pointed the way to Christ **4:1-25**
    - 1) justified by works of faith, not works alone **4:1-4** **Genesis 15:6; James 2:20-24**
    - 2) David taught the same thing **4:5-8** **Psalms 32:1-2**
    - 3) justified before (and without) circumcision **4:9-12** **Genesis 15:6; Genesis 17:10-14, 23-27**
    - 4) promise through Abraham was before Judaism began, and by his righteousness without Moses' Law **4:13-25**
  - c. Jesus' work shapes righteous lives **5:1-8:39**
    - 1) those obedient to Jesus progress spiritually **5:1-5**
    - 2) Christ died to reconcile sinners to God **5:6-11**
    - 3) Jesus opened the possibility of salvation for the obedient, Adam opened the possibility of sin for the disobedient, **5:12-21** **Matthew 7:13-14, 21; Mark 16:15,16**
    - 4) Jesus' death for sin requires man's death to sin **6:1-23**
      - a) burial in baptism precedes a new life **6:1-4a**
      - b) after baptism, sinner is free from sin **6:4b-14**
      - c) after baptism, enslaved to righteousness **6:15-23**
    - 5) Jesus' death severs one from Moses' law **7:1-25**
      - a) if Moses' law still binding, then Christians are serving two laws=spiritual adultery **7:1-6**
      - b) if Moses' law obeyed now, death results **7:7-12**
      - c) if fleshly "law" prevails, sin is served **7:13-25**
    - 6) Jesus' death shows Spirit's leading **8:1-39**
      - a) changing a carnal mind to a spiritual mind **8:1-11**
      - b) changing a child of sin to a child of God **8:12-17**
      - c) changing hopelessness to hope **8:18-30**
      - d) changing worthless to worthy **8:31-39**

## II. How God Is Justified 9:1 – 11:36

- A. *Fleshly Israel's usefulness was limited from their beginning...***
- 1. Had been the lineage through which Christ came **9:1-5**
  - 2. Are NOT NOW the children of God **9:6-13**
    - a. Abraham's seed of promise through Isaac **9:6-9** **Genesis 21:12**
    - b. Isaac's son, Jacob/Israel, chosen ahead of birth **9:10-13** **Genesis 25:19-24; Malachi 1:2-3**

- c. God is free to choose whomever He will use to accomplish His plan **9:14-29**
  - 1) principle stated when Moses offered himself in place of disobedient Israelites at Sinai **9:14-15** **Exodus 33:19**
  - 2) God raised up Egyptian Pharaoh for His use in releasing Israelites, thus creating a chosen nation **9:16-18** **Exodus 9:16**
  - 3) the created cannot judge or question the Creator **9:19-21**
  - 4) God intended to bring in Gentiles with Jews in Jesus **9:22-29**
    - a) His plan longer ranged than just to Jews **9:22-24**
    - b) His plan was taught through prophets: **9:25-29**  
**9:25-26 = Hosea 2:23; 1:10**  
**9:27-28 = Isaiah 10:22-23; 28:22**  
**9:29 = Isaiah 1:9**
    - c) His plan needed by Jews & Gentiles **9:30-32**
    - d) His plan stumblingblock of Jews **9:32-33**

## B. **Fleshly Israel's uselessness was because of their own...**

- 1. **Self-righteousness 10:1-13**
  - a. ignorant zeal **10:1-4**
  - b. ignoble works **10:5** **Leviticus 18:5**
  - c. ignominy of faith **10:6-10** **Deuteronomy 30:12-14; Amos 9:2-4**
  - d. informed heart **10:11-13** **Isaiah 28:16; Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21**
- 2. **Lack of obedience to Christ 10:14-21**
  - a. God sent them messengers **10:14-18** **Isaiah 52:7; 53:1; Psalm 19:4**
  - b. God promised to preach to Gentiles **10:19-21**
    - 1) through Moses **10:19; Deuteronomy 32:21**
    - 2) through Isaiah **10:20; Isaiah 65:1**
    - 3) through Isaiah **10:21; Isaiah 65:2**

## C. **Fleshly Israel's use has ended to give them hope in Christ 11:1-36**

- 1. Paul was a converted Israelite, one of "the remnant" **11:1-6**
- 2. Those hardened against the Gospel cannot be saved **11:7-10**
  - a. as Isaiah prophesied **11:8; Isaiah 29:10,13**
  - b. as David prophesied **11:9-10; Psalm 69:22-23**
- 3. Their end in God's plan begins hope for Gentiles **11:11-29**
- 4. All disobedient (Jews or not) must now obey Christ **11:30-36**

## III. **How The Justified Must Live 12:1 - 16:27**

### A. **Personal Power 12:1-21**

- 1. Living sacrifice **12:1**
- 2. Transformed mind **12:2**
- 3. Humility of service **12:3-8**
- 4. Christians must be...
  - a. honest **12:9**
  - b. loving **12:10-13**
  - c. returning good for evil **12:14-21**

### B. **Worldly-wise 13:1-14**

- 1. Orderly citizens of earthly kingdoms **13:1-7**
- 2. Good loving citizens of the heavenly kingdom **13:8-10**
- 3. Clean moral citizens in life **13:11-14**

- C. Conscientious cooperators 14:1-15:13**
1. Judge not matters of judgment **14:1-13**
  2. Be considerate of brethren's conscience **14:14-23**
  3. Let the strong in faith not be selfish **15:1-6**
  4. Remember the goal: Jews & Gentiles One In Christ **15:7-13**
- D. Concern for the Church 15:14-16:27**
1. Paul's goal is for Gentiles to fully participate **15:33**
  2. Paul spreads Christian greetings around **16:1-16**
  3. Paul warns of those who would ruin fellowship **16:17-20**
  4. Paul's personal greeting to Romans **16:21-24**
  5. Paul's "great commission" summary **16:25-27**

### Roman Rudiments:

- Written before **Acts 28:16**, for in **Romans**, Paul had not yet been to Rome (**1:11, 13, 15; 15:22-23, 29, 32**). It was written after **Acts 19:21**, where Paul intends after his Jerusalem journey to go to Rome (**Romans 15:23-28**). It was written before the bounty for Jerusalem had been collected (**Acts 24:17; 21:17-21; Romans 15:26, 31**).
- There are many similarities between the books of **Galatians** and **Romans**.
- Mis-directed passages in **Romans**:
  - **4:5** - "does not work, but believes" cannot rule out ALL WORKS, for faith, itself, if a work **John 6:29**. It cannot mean salvation by "faith only" for that can do nothing **Cf Galatians 5:6; James 2:24**. It MUST therefore mean, "does not work [only] but believes [and obeys]."
  - **6:23** - "free gift" only refers to God's willingness to offer -- NOT man's effort to receive it! **Cf 5:15-18; 6:19-23**
  - **7:6** - "oldness of the letter" refers to Moses' Law **Cf 7:7-8**. The contrast is between the new law [of Christ] and that which had become the old one [Moses] **Cf Hebrews 8:7-13**
  - **11:26**-**"And so all Israel will be saved"** CANNOT mean a future national conversion to Christ! Because they:
    1. were in unbelief **3:3**;
    2. have not attained to the law of righteousness **9:31**;
    3. seek their own righteousness, and not God's **10:3**;
    4. had hardened their hearts against the Gospel **11:7**;
    5. were once disobedient **11:30**;**there was/is NO WAY they can be saved apart from obeying Jesus Christ 10:8-13!**