

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 04 Sept.....Romans 1:1-17..... Good News To Tell
- 2) 11 Sept.....Romans 1:18-3:26..... Good News to Hear
- 3) **18 Sept.....Romans 3:27-4:25..... Good News to Believe**
- 4) 25 Sept.....Romans 5:1-21..... It's All About Grace
- 5) 02 Oct.....Romans 6:1-23..... It's All About New Life
- 6) 09 Oct.....Romans 7:1-25..... It's All About Victory
- 7) 16 Oct.....Romans 8:1-39.....It's All About Certainty
- 8) 23 Oct.....Romans 9:1-11:36..... It's All About God's Plan
- 9) 30 Oct.....Romans 12:1-21..... Does Your Life Please God
- 10) 06 Nov.....Romans 13:1-14..... Can You Be Counted On
- 11) 13 Nov.....Romans 14:1-12..... Do You Respect Others
- 12) 20 Nov.....Romans 14:13-23..... Do You Strive for Peace with Others
- 13) 27 Nov.....Romans 15:1—16:27..... Does Your Life Speak Well of God?

INTRODUCTION

- God's grace plus faith provide a guarantee from God for eternal life
- "These things are written that we may know we have eternal life" (1John 5:13). Our destiny is not a guessing game – Thank God!

Passage	Comments
Romans 3:27-31	Doctrine – Law of Faith <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v27. The Law of Faith is introduced as the reason why we are not able to boast about our own mental or physical abilities to get us to Heaven • Our faith is not a blind faith that other religions rely on, including atheism, but it has reliable evidence from recorded history and from every known field of science such as geology, archeology, mathematics, genetics, astronomy, paleontology, etc. • One day Faith will be obsolete when we transition to Heaven & fully experience our salvation.. 1Cor 13:12
Definition	Faith. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"..... Hebrews 11:1
4:1-8	Abraham was Declared Righteous for Believing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v5. Same with us. When we chose to believe by accepting Christ as our Lord and living for Him then we are justified as righteous by God's free grace • Our pitiful amount of good works are not enough
Definition	Justification. The act of being declared innocent of all criminal charges
4:9-12	Paul Shows Abraham's Righteousness is for All <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Jews thought their circumcision was a badge of honor, a discriminator of right standing before God that gentiles could not master or rival – WRONG! • Paul demonstrated by a simple argument that Abraham's righteousness was received prior to his circumcision. Therefore circumcision has nothing to do with receiving God's mercy and righteousness • Side Note. John Calvin taught infant baptism saves a child of Christian parents just as circumcision saved Jewish children (Institutes, Bk 4, Chap 16.6). Most Baptists would take issue with this pedobaptist position held by Catholics, Presbyterians and others • Point. Since this passage conveys that circumcision does not bring righteousness/salvation, then by implication, neither does baptism. Both are outward signs of what had or was to transpire in the heart
Definition	Mercy. Not receiving from God what we do deserve
4:13-15	Salvation is Guaranteed to those who have Faith <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v13. Paul hammers home again the point that the Law does not deliver righteousness – Faith does • If the Law brought righteousness to us, then we don't

Passage	Comments
	need faith, and Christ did not have to die for us - all we would need to do is keep the law perfectly
Definition	Righteousness is the state of sinlessness before God due to the sacrifice of Christ paying our sin penalty
4:16-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since no one can keep the law perfectly, we need something else to make us holy as God is holy so we can enjoy being in His presence in Heaven • God has to do something. He had to pay the price on our behalf, and graciously offer that gift to us • And we have to do something. We have to willingly accept that price by FAITH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ This Faith is more than a mere mental assertion, for even the demons believe in God ◆ It involves us acknowledging Christ died for us ◆ We then willingly repent from our sinful past ◆ And we choose to live for Christ – "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me".....Mark 8.34 ◆ Note. Any righteous acts we perform while picking up our cross and following Christ do not get us saved or keep us saved – they are simply acts of obedience. That's a lesson for another day ◆ Remember. God looks at our heart – not works
Definition	Grace. God's Riches At Christ Expense – or receiving from God things we do not deserve
4:22-25	Gentiles are Heirs to the Promise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv22,24. Like Abraham who was credited as being righteous before God, we too are also credited with that same righteous standing due to faith & grace • v25. ...and it was made possible by Christ being willing to die on our behalf and raised for our justification – 'for the joy that was set before Him (you and me) He endured the cross'... Hebrews 12:2
Definition	• Propitiation. Christ was our legal substitution who paid the payment (atonement) for all of our sins

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- We cannot escape the clear teaching of Scripture that God made salvation possible for us, and He gave us the responsibility to respond by **FAITH** by believing in the atoning work of Jesus Christ

NEXT WEEK: Romans 5. Those of us who are the "elect" were once non-elect – the ungodly, whom Christ had to die for – What love!

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"In the future dear, you should keep your views on politics and Calvinism to yourself"