

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

1) 09 Sept.	Romans 01	True Power
2) 13 Sept.	Romans 02	Coming Judgment
3) 20 Sept.	<b>Romans 03-04</b>	<b>Saving Faith</b>
4) 27 Sept.	Romans 05	Restored Relationship
5) 04 Oct.	Romans 06	Freedom
6) 11 Oct.	Romans 07	Struggle
7) 18 Oct.	Romans 08	Indwelt
8) 25 Oct.	Romans 09-10	Believe
9) 01 Nov.	Romans 11	Kindness
10) 08 Nov.	Romans 12	Sacrifice
11) 15 Nov.	Romans 13	Represent
12) 22 Nov.	Romans 14	Unity
13) 29 Nov.	Romans 15-16	Purpose

**INTRODUCTION**

- Grace + Faith delivers a guarantee from God for eternal life to those who exercise their God-given faith
- “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 3:1-18	<b>Purpose for the Jews → Tell Us We Need Jesus</b> • vv1-2. The purpose for the Jews was to give the world the Written Word & the Living Word (Jesus).
3:19-20	<b>Purpose of the Law → Give Us Knowledge of Sin</b> • v19. Jews & Gentiles are accountable to God since we all learned about sin from God’s Universal Law (goodness, kindness, justice, mercy, love).
3:21-26	<b>Purpose of Jesus → Our Propitiation (Payment)</b> • v22. God’s righteousness is available to those who believe by faith. • v24. Being declared innocent of all crimes (justified) is a free Gift from God, but it cost Him dearly.
Definition	<b>Sanctification.</b> A continuous process of being made holy, i.e., maturing into the image of Christ over time.
3:27-31	<b>Doctrine – Law of Faith</b> • 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	<b>Faith.</b> “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”.....Hebrews 11:1
4:1-8	<b>Abraham was Declared Righteous for Believing</b> • v5. Same with us. When we chose to believe by accepting Christ as our Lord and living for Him then we are <b>justified</b> as righteous by God’s free grace. • Our pitiful amount of good works are not enough.
Definition	<b>Justification.</b> A one-time act of being declared innocent of all criminal charges.
4:9-12	<b>Paul Shows Abraham’s Righteousness is for All</b> • 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 <b>mercy</b> and righteousness.

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Side Note.</b> John Calvin taught infant baptism saves a child of Christian parents just as circumcision saved Jewish children (<i>Institutes, Bk 4, Chap 16.6</i>). Most Baptists would take issue with this pedobaptist position held by Catholics and Presbyterians.</li> <li>• <b>Point.</b> 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.</li> </ul>
Definition	<b>Mercy.</b> Not receiving from God what we do deserve.
4:13-15	<b>Salvation is Guaranteed to those who have Faith</b> • v13. Paul hammers home again the point that the Law does not deliver <b>righteousness</b> – Faith does. • If the Law brought righteousness to us, then we don’t need faith, and Christ did not have to die for us. • All we would need to do is keep the law perfectly
Definition	<b>Righteousness</b> is the state of sinlessness before God due to the sacrifice of Christ paying our sin penalty
4:16-21	<b>Grace Alone + Faith Alone + Christ Alone = Heaven</b> • Since no one can keep the law perfectly, we need something else to make us holy as God is holy. • <b>God must do something.</b> He had to pay the price on our behalf, and graciously offer that gift to us. • <b>And we must do something.</b> We must willingly accept that price by FAITH. ♦ 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 ♦ <b>Note.</b> Any righteous acts we perform while picking up our cross & following Christ do not get us saved or keep us saved. They are simply acts of obedience. That is a lesson for another day. ♦ <b>Remember.</b> God looks at our heart – not our works.
Definition	<b>Grace.</b> God’s Riches at Christ Expense – or receiving from God things we do not deserve.
4:22-25	<b>Gentiles are Heirs to the Promise</b> • vv22,24. Like Abraham who was credited as being righteous before God, we too are also credited with that same righteous standing due to grace & faith. • 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	• <b>Propitiation.</b> Christ was our legal substitution who paid the payment (atonement) for all 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 05.** Those of us who are the “elect” were once non-elect – the ungodly, whom Christ had to die for – What love!

