

Romans 1:18-32

Lesson Three

“Lord how great is our dilemma! In Thy Presence silence best becomes us, but love inflames our hearts and constrains us to speak. Were we to hold our peace the stones would cry out; yet if we speak what shall we say? Teach us to know that we cannot know, for the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Let faith support us where reason fails, and we shall think because we believe, not in order that we may believe. In Jesus’ name. Amen.” A.W. Tozer

DAY ONE: Review Romans 1:1-17

1. Spend a few moments in prayer asking God to reveal all He has for you today.
2. Why is *prayer* important in a believer’s life?
3. How are believers *established or strengthened*?
4. According to last week’s lesson, how do we obtain the *Righteousness of God*?
5. **Read Romans 1:18-32.** Remember to read with a purpose as you begin this new section. Allow it to be fresh each time you read it, asking yourself who, what, where, when, why and how. Don’t get discouraged with the repetition. This is how we “*hide the Word of God in our hearts that we might not sin against Him*”! (*Psalm 119:11*).
6. **Romans 1:18-32** could be titled “*Wrath of God Revealed.*” List some reasons that you can find why God would need to impute **His** Righteousness to us:
 - a. Look up **Jeremiah 17:9** and write it here:
7. Why do you think God instituted the Law in the Old Testament if He knew we would need Grace for not only salvation but also sanctification?
 - a. **Galatians 3:24:**
 - b. **Romans 7:7:**
 - c. List any other Scriptures you can find to answer this question:

8. According to **2 Corinthians 3:7**, what is the Law?

9. In the chart below, contrast **Grace** and **Debt** using their definitions:

Grace (# 5484)	Debt (#3784)

10. When we complain about our circumstances we are really telling God that He owes us more than we have. What is it that you feel God **owes** you? Be honest. (*What do you complain about?*)

11. Until we understand that the law is there to point us to Christ and His provision, we will continue to work at our salvation and sanctification. Oh how futile it is when we think we can obtain that which only Jesus can provide! When we lack the understanding that we cannot do anything to earn favor in God's eyes, we live in constant defeat (2 Corinthians 3:9). How does **Titus 3:5-7** encourage you today?

*"I Am Amazed
By Your great and endless mercy
We have all been born anew
And by Your death and resurrection
You did what I could never do".
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DAY TWO:

1. Define the following words from **Romans 1:16-18**:

a. **Power:**

b. **Salvation:**

c. **Righteousness:**

d. **Revealed:**

e. **Faith:**

f. **Righteous (just):**

g. **Wrath:**

2. In **Romans 1:18** it says **“the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.”** Define the following words and list some Biblical examples if you can:

Vs	Ungodliness (vs. 18)	Vs	Depraved (vs. 28)	Vs	Suppress (hold) (vs. 18)

3. Some view God as being harsh and unfair. Meditate on the following verse and thank Him for His perfect work!

“For I proclaim the name of the LORD: ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He.” Deuteronomy 32:3-4

4. Wickedness is contrary to the Righteousness of God. Look up **Habakkuk 1:13a** and comment. Note that the phrase **“look on”** means to embrace.
5. Why did Adam and Eve give up perfect communion with God? (**Genesis 3:1-7**)

Note from the passage in Genesis that Man was created for perfect communion with God. It was not God that broke that communion, but man through the deceit of the Serpent.

6. God is so gracious that He makes Himself known to **all** mankind! The Bible says that there is **none** without excuse. To support this truth look up **Psalm 19:1**.
- a. What about those in remote areas that have never been presented the gospel?

1) **Romans 1:19-20:**

2) **Romans 2:15:**

3) **Psalm 14:1:**

Challenge: Take this week and list how you can see God's eternal power and divine nature in creation. Also, list how you know that God's Law is written in the hearts of men and women.

DAY THREE:

1. Prayerfully read **Romans 1:21-31**.

2. **Romans 1:21** says: "*because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.*" This verse points out a lot of application for us today.
 - a. Is *knowing* of God enough to get you into heaven?
 - 1) **Matthew 7:21-23:**

 - 2) **James 2:19-20:**

 - 3) Comment in your own words:

 - b. What is God's desire for His people?
 - 1) **1 Peter 4:11:**

 - 2) **1 Corinthians 10:31:**

 - c. Why is it important for us to be *thankful* as God's children?
 - 1) **1 Thessalonians 5:18b:**

 - d. What causes thanksgiving in a believer's life?
 - 1) **2 Corinthians 4:15:**

e. It says, *“their foolish hearts were darkened”*. Look up the following verses and comment.

1) **John 3:19-21:**

2) **1 Corinthians 3:18-20:**

3. Look up **Deuteronomy 32:21a** and **Leviticus 26:1**, and record what God has to say about idols.

Challenge: Look up **Exodus 32** and read about the Children of Israel. What happened when they decided to turn from Moses’ leadership and carve for themselves idols?

4. **Romans 1:24** says: *“Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves.”* What does it mean when it says *“in the lusts of their hearts”*?

5. Look up **Proverbs 6:16-19**. What are the seven things that are an abomination to the Lord?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

7) _____

a. Are any of these evident in your life?

If so, please pray and ask God to cleanse your heart.

b. What risk do we run if there is a lack of repentance in our hearts? (**Romans 1:21**)

“Draw me close to You, never let me go. I lay it all down again, to hear you say that I’m Your friend. You are my desire, no one else will do. ‘Cause nothing else could take Your place to feel the warmth of Your embrace. Help me find the way, bring me back to You!”

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6. What are some of the ways we dishonor our bodies according to **Romans 1:21-31**?

DAY FOUR:

1. As Christians it is important for us to know what we believe. Look up the following verses and answer the question, *what is truth*? Choose one or two verses to share with your group.

a. **Psalm 119:160:**

b. **John 14:6:**

c. **John 14:17:**

d. **John 16:13:**

e. **John 17:17:**

“And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. Little children keep yourselves from idols. Amen”.

I John 5:20-21

2. With God’s Word, we have an absolute, contrary to what the world would like us to think. The current tolerance in today’s society for homosexual activity is alarming to say the least! Billy Graham says, *“if judgment does not fall upon America, God owes Sodom and Gomorrah an apology.”* What does the Bible say about Sodom and Gomorrah according to the following verses?

a) **Genesis 13:10:**

b) **Genesis 13:13:**

c) **Genesis 18:20:**

d) **Genesis 19:24-28:**

e) **Jude 1:7:**

3. Legislation is being passed almost on a monthly basis that erodes the Biblical definition of marriage. In May 2000 a bill was proposed before legislation that would redefine sex. This bill proposed redefining sex, adding “*Transgender*” to what is now only male and female. If this bill were passed, there would be a *transgender*; which would include transvestite, cross dressers, and anyone that did not want his/her sex to be defined as how God created them. Men would not be refrained from using the women’s restroom, and visa versa. There would no longer be a distinction between male and female only. Praise God, this bill did not pass, however this just shows the moral decline in our society.

a) Look up **1 Corinthians 6:9-10** and comment:

4. Do you think one sin is worse than another sin in God’s eyes? Support your answer with Scripture.

a) Look up **1 Corinthians 6:11** and comment:

“For as by one man's disobedience (Adam) many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience (Jesus) many will be made righteous. Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound.

But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 5:19-21

DAY FIVE:

1. Retaining God in your knowledge is another way of wording, **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**: *“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”*

a) Although we were purchased with a price, we still have a choice to follow God’s plan or our own plan for our life. Look up **Joshua 24:14-15** and comment:

b) Make **Joshua 24:14** your prayer today, write it out here:

2. Throughout his writings, Paul exhorts believers to glorify God. Look up a few of the following Scriptures, and share your favorites with your group.

a) **Romans 12:1-2:**

b) **1 Corinthians 6:20:**

c) **1 Corinthians 10:31:**

d) **Hebrews 10:22:**

- e) **Philippians 2:15-16:**

 - f) **Ephesians 5:8-10:**
3. Choose one of the above Scriptures and commit it to memory today. Write it out here:
4. Read **Romans 1:32** carefully.
- a) As Christians we know the *righteous judgment of God* is for those who **practice** sin in a non-repentant state of disobedience to His Word. What is the penalty of such behavior according to **Romans 1:32**?

 - b) **Romans 1:32b** says these “*things are worthy of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.*” List some ways that would be considered approval of this type of sinful behavior. Let this be a checkup for your own life:
5. What do we learn from **Romans 1:18-32** regarding man’s position apart from God?
6. What is the difference between “*religion*” and relationship?
7. What have you learned from this week’s lesson that you did not know prior to the study?

Pastor Chuck says “*Many people hold a prideful view of themselves, as the Pharisee who said, ‘God I thank Thee, that I am not as other men’ (Luke 18:11). They feel smug because they’re innocent of some of the grosser forms of sin. Yet, they go to a movie or watch a TV program as actors portray these vile things, and they actually enjoy or ‘have pleasure in them that do them.’ We need to take great care not to sow to our flesh in any way. ‘For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption.’ (Galatians 6:8) Selah!*”