

ROMANS

Key Points

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ROMANS 1:1-17. Christianity is for all people

KEY POINTS

1. Miracles are of the Spirit, and available to us here and now.
2. He lives!
3. Justification is the heart of the gospel – being made right before God.
4. Spreading the gospel involves new believers and spiritual growth.
5. God accepts the blood of Christ for our forgiveness. Focus on it! Pray about it!
Accept God's forgiveness!

ROMANS 1: 18-32. We are not OK

KEY POINTS

1. God is perfect. God's wrath is perfect, a revulsion against evil.
2. We can give ourselves to sin so completely that we become enslaved to sin, lost to God because of a hard heart.
3. To look for peer approval is to look away from God.
4. We are not OK the way we are. We are a sinful people who are much in need of God.

ROMANS 2:1-16. Christ lives in us

KEY POINTS

1. We are not to judge others, but we are to judge good and evil.
2. We are judged every day of our lives on the good and evil we do, and this is with us for eternity.
3. The primary goal of every Christian is to draw closer to Christ.
4. Christ lives in us!

ROMANS 2:17-29. Man's response to being judged

KEY POINTS

1. Jewish leaders saw themselves as superior to those they led, while God wants a humble heart, a Spirit-led heart.
2. Increased knowledge of God and closeness to Christ brings increased accountability.

ROMANS 3:1-8. Keeping the law

KEY POINTS

1. In the old covenant, the Jews were the chosen people. In the new covenant true believers in Christ are God's chosen people, a holy nation.
2. In the old covenant the Jews tried to keep the law. In the new covenant we seek oneness with Christ, for from this all else follows.

ROMANS 3:9-20. No one is righteous on his own

KEY POINTS

1. No one is righteous of their own accord because of our sinful nature. We can become righteous, justified before God, through the saving work of Christ.
2. God made the fact of freedom, and we are accountable for the acts of freedom.

ROMANS 3:21-31. Righteousness through faith

KEY POINTS

1. Faith is a choice. We must choose. With great conviction we must choose.
2. Faith is of the indwelling Christ. Faith is also of our own choosing and efforts. As we gain oneness with Christ, our faith builds. As we study God's word in the light of Christ and as we do God's work in the direction and power of Christ, our faith builds.
3. We must have faith before we can receive God's gift of righteousness.

ROMANS 4:1-12. By faith alone

KEY POINTS

1. Righteousness before God comes not by works, but by faith. On the other hand, we can help Christ help us.

ROMANS 4:13-25. Free grace

KEY POINTS

1. As we accept God's grace, accept Jesus Christ on faith, we become the covenant people of God. And we have things to do to keep God's covenant.
2. Crucified, risen, returned: Forgiven, new life, Christ in us and we in Christ.

ROMANS 5:1-11. Peace, joy, hope, love

KEY POINTS

1. The resurrected life of Christ within us provides us with the sure hope of salvation and an extraordinary present life.

2. God can draw good from evil. We can therefore draw closer to God through our suffering, but we must be ready to do so, choose to do so and do it.
3. Through the blood of Christ we are made right with God, justified from God's perspective and reconciled from our perspective.

ROMANS 5:12-21. Sin and death give way to life

KEY POINTS

1. All fall from grace in Adam but can find grace through Christ.
2. People need just laws to live together. Law as we know it started with Moses.

ROMANS 6:1-14. We receive the risen life of Christ

KEY POINTS

1. As we become new creations through faith, we receive the risen life of Christ into our being.
2. The negative emotions given to us in our sinful nature are displaced by the fruit of the Spirit as we become one with Christ.
3. We must re-dedicate ourselves to Christ every day of our lives, allowing Christ to overcome our sinful nature.

ROMANS 6: 15-23. Our desires and God's will

1. As we gain oneness with Christ our desires and choices more and more line up with God's will for us.
2. Once we experience the results of joyful obedience in Christ, sin becomes irrational.

SUMMARY OF ROMANS 1-6

1. Christianity is for all people.
2. God fully accepts the blood of Christ for our forgiveness.
3. We have an inherited sinful nature and we must die to this nature before we can live in Christ.
4. To look for peer approval is to look away from God.
5. Christ lives in me!
6. Our primary goal in life should be to draw closer to Christ.
7. We all have freedom of choice and are accountable.
8. Faith is of our choosing and faith is of Christ.
9. Christ is crucified, risen and returned.
10. We can be new every morning in Christ.

ROMANS 7:1-6. We must fully accept God's forgiveness

KEY POINTS

1. In Christ there is forgiveness. We must accept God's forgiveness and get on with the work of the kingdom of God. To do less is to express hatred for Christ!
2. Only as we die to our sinful nature can Christ give us life.

ROMANS 7:7-25. Awareness of sin

KEY POINTS

1. A young Christian is in tension between good and evil. But as he grows in Christ he allows Christ to overpower his inherited sinful nature and the tension becomes more and more resolved.
2. Christ in us is infinitely stronger than our sinful nature.

ROMANS 8:1-17. Life in Christ

KEY POINTS

1. We need to help Christ help us grow.
2. We are to grow into a likeness of Christ.
3. Eternity starts for us the first day we believe.

ROMANS 8:18-27. Glory, now and future

KEY POINTS

1. We should expect to learn from our sufferings, and then follow through.
2. Christians are a forward-looking people.
3. The indwelling Christ brings to us the first installment of the glory that will be ours in heaven.

ROMANS 8:28-39. Closer and closer to Christ

KEY POINTS

1. Predestination is a difficult concept but we would not want it any other way because it is through predestination that God reaches out to us.
2. Our sanctification phases right into glory.
3. Live close to Christ continuously.
4. We act as our self-image leads us.

ROMANS 9:1-29. A nation of believers

KEY POINTS

1. Because of free choice we can be God's people.
2. Our free choices are the agents of God's sovereign will.
3. True believers in Christ form an holy nation of God.

ROMANS 9:30-33. Not by works, but by faith

KEY POINTS

1. We are saved by faith alone, not by works.
2. Repentance is letting go of what will hurt us and faith is clinging to what will save us.
3. First the mind, then the heart, then the will.

ROMANS 10. A new covenant in Christ

KEY POINTS

1. An unenlightened zeal can do more harm than good.
2. Belief, confession and forgiveness are inseparable.
3. Taking the gospel to the ends of the earth involves unbelievers and helping believers grow.

ROMANS 11:1-10. A hard heart can not please God.

KEY POINTS

1. The nation of believers, Jew and Gentile, has replaced the chosen nation of Israel as God's chosen people.
2. There can be a hardness of heart from which there is no return.

ROMANS 11:11-24. The Jewish heritage in Christianity

KEY POINTS

1. All true believers form a holy nation in Christ.
2. We should approach God through Christ with great humility.
3. We must persevere in our faith, new every morning in Christ.

ROMANS 11:25-36. Mercy for all who choose faith in Christ

KEY POINTS

1. God has mercy upon all people, without distinction.
2. We have nothing to give back to God except our love, but this is sufficient.

SUMMARY OF Romans 7-11

1. Only as we die to our sinful nature can Christ give us life.
2. As we gain oneness with Christ our desires and choices line up with God's will for us.
3. We need to help Christ help us grow.
4. Christians are a forward-looking people.
5. Through predestination God reaches out to us.
6. Sanctification phases right into glory.
7. We act as our self-image leads us.
8. Our free choices are the agent of God's sovereign will.
9. True believers in Christ form the holy nation of God.
10. First the mind, then the heart, then the will.

