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Simply teaching the Word simply

Through The Bible Session 38

The Epistle to the Romans

Paul's Definitive Statement of
Christian Doctrine

From the miracle of our origin to the mystery of our destiny

The Book of Romans

- The Role of Romans:
 - The Definitive Gospel According to Paul
 - The most comprehensive book in the NT
 - *“The most profound of all literature”*
- Its impact on History is unequaled
- This book led to the ‘reformation’
- The book is written to *believers*
 - This book will delight the greatest logician;
 - Hold the attention of the wisest of men;
 - Will bring the humblest soul to the feet of the Savior.

The Book of Romans

- Theme: 'The Grace of God Revealed'
- Paul will contrast God's righteousness...
- ...with our iniquity
- This is the human predicament!
- The most terrifying fact in the Bible?
- God is Good!
 - What does a good God do with someone like you?
 - You are deserving of His wrath
- God's remedy through Grace

The Book of Romans

- *“What is the subject of Romans?” “the gospel.” “What is the gospel?” The word itself means good news. But in vv. 1–17 the apostle tells us six important facts about the good news:*
- *(1) Its source is God (v. 1);*
- *(2) It was promised by the prophetic OT Scriptures (v. 2);*
- *(3) It is the good news concerning God’s Son, the Lord Jesus Christ (v. 3);*
- *(4) It is God’s power for salvation (v. 16);*
- *(5) It is for all men, Gentiles as well as Jews (v. 16);*
- *(6) It is by faith alone (v. 17).*

The Book of Romans

- *“Paul was ‘a Roman citizen, with both Hebrew and Greek culture of history, religion, philosophy, poetry, science, music, etc. Yet, a Hebrew of Hebrews, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, studied under Gamaliel in Jerusalem... This book will delight the greatest logician; Hold the attention of the wisest of men; Will bring the humblest soul to the feet of the Savior”.*

Chuck Missler

- A God small enough for our mind...
- ...would not be big enough for our need.

Anon

The Book of Romans

- The first of Paul's Epistles in the NT
- Not written to a Church he founded...
- ...but to the Christians in Rome
- Written during spring of A.D. 57
- Written nearing the end of his 3rd Journey



Paul's
3rd Missionary Journey
18:23 – 21:6



3rd Missionary Journey

After spending some time in Antioch, Paul revisited the churches in Galatia and Phrygia in order.

Acts 18:23

Paul makes Ephesus his base for the next 3 years.

Acts 19:1-7

Disciples of Apollos receive the Holy Spirit; a church is founded.

Acts 19:8-20



3rd Missionary Journey

Paul is the center of a riot in Ephesus. His message threatened the sale of silver statues of the Ephesians goddess Diana.

Act 19:23-41

Paul goes to Troas.

Titus does not appear as arranged.

2 Cor 2:12-13

Paul goes to Macedonia in search of Titus.



3rd Missionary Journey

He encourages the churches and collects money for Jerusalem
Paul and Titus finally meet.

Acts 20:1-2

Paul travels to Corinth and here writes to the Roman Christians

Titus takes the letter to prepare the church for Paul's 3rd visit

2 Cor 8:16-24

Paul's Letters

Thessalonians	Spring 50; 50-51
1 Corinthians	Spring 55
1 Timothy	Fall 55
2 Corinthians	Spring 56
Galatians	Fall 56
Romans	Spring 57
Titus	Fall 57
Philippians	Summer 58
Colossians	Summer 58
Ephesians	Summer 58
2 Timothy	Fall 58

Church at Rome

- Where did the church at Rome come from?
 - “Visitors from Rome” (Acts 2:10) were in the crowd that witnessed the miracle of Pentecost and heard Peter’s sermon.
- Some of them probably were among the 3,000 converts that day and returned to Rome as believers and planted churches
- Other believers migrated to Rome
 - Aquila and Priscilla are good examples.
 - They had lived in Italy before. Acts 18:2
 - They apparently moved back.

Church at Rome

- Phoebe was going there on business and apparently the courier of this letter. **Rom. 16:1-2**
- 28 people are named in the letter,
 - **Significantly, not Peter**
- Seemingly, many of the believers in Rome were Paul's converts
- He was writing to believers
 - **Not preaching for them to be converted**
- This epistle is instruction on the foundation of our faith & what it is to be saved

Habakkuk 2:4

- Habakkuk 2:4 has lead to a Trilogy of epistles in NT.

“The Just Shall Live by Faith”

- The Just... (Who are they?)

Romans Rom 1:17

- ...Shall live (How?)

Galatians Gal 3:11

- ...By Faith!

Hebrews Heb 10:39

- Each of these epistles use Hab 2:4 as cornerstone

The Outline

- **1 - 8** **Faith** *Doctrinal*
 - 1-3 Sin: (the most complete diagnosis)
 - 4-5 Salvation
 - 6-8 Sanctification
- **9-11** **Hope** *Dispensational*
 - 9 Israel - Past
 - 10 Israel - Present
 - 11 Israel - Future
- **12-16** **Love** *Practical*

The Book of Romans Pt. 1

Chapter 1&2 deal with reality that we are all part of a fallen race:

-Pagan Man - The creation is enough

Guilty!

-Moral Man - Doesn't live up to own conscience

Guilty!

-Religious Man - Commitment and sincerity

Guilty!

The Book of Romans Pt. 1

• Chapter 3 - God's Greatest Problem

- To compromise His hatred of sin would be to compromise His own character
- How can a just God justify sinful man?
- How can He permit man to enjoy the destiny God made for us?

“It may be that the Deity can forgive sins,
but I do not see how.”

Socrates to Plato, 500 BC

The Book of Romans Pt. 1

- Chapter 4 - God's Greatest Gift

- Two examples are given:

- How was Abraham saved - Before the Law?

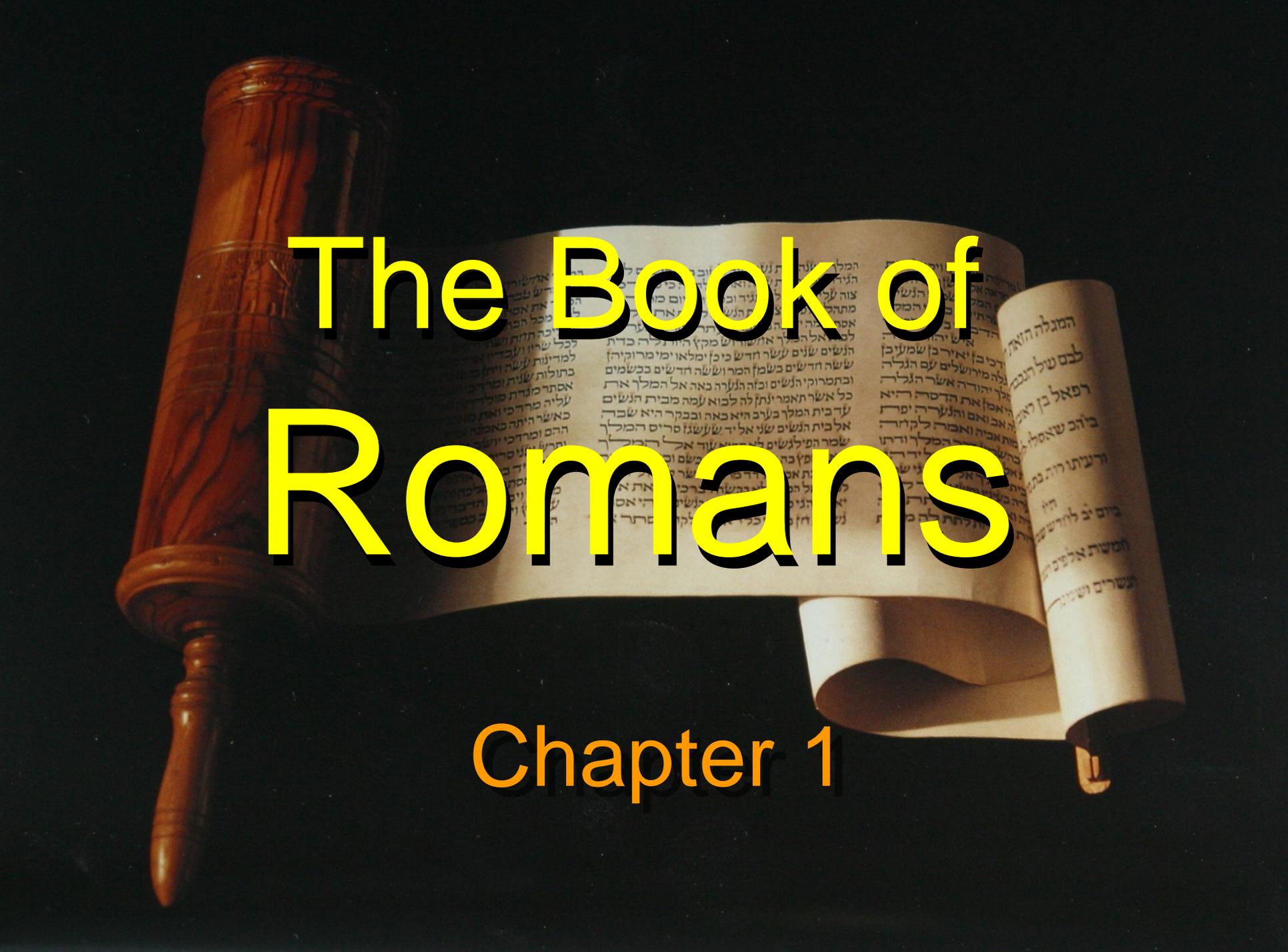
- How was David saved - Under the Law?

- Both were saved by Grace imputed through faith

- Chapter 4 demonstrates the unity of the Old and New Testament together

The Book of Romans Pt. 1

- Chapter 5 concludes the arguments for Salvation (Justification)
 - How then should I live?
 - Chapters 6, 7, and 8 will lay that out clearly!
- Chapter 5: Two heads
 - Adam and Christ
- Chapter 6: Two masters
 - Sin personified and God as revealed in Jesus.
- Chapter 7: Two husbands
 - The Law and Christ Risen.



The Book of Romans

Chapter 1

Romans 1

- Verse Summary for Chapter 1
- 1-7 Salutation
- 8-17 Introduction: reasons for writing
- 18-32 Need for the Gospel
- “Paul” = **the least**; the little one. Understood grace
 - “I am the **chief of sinners**” 1 Tim 1:12-15
 - Significantly, the **most devoutly religious man** who ever lived!
Phil 3:1ff
- So God has *already* saved one who is far worse than you or me!...

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,) **Romans 1:1-2**

- Paul, a 'dulos' = bondservant. Given for life
- Appointed by God, not man
- He has just one purpose in life – the Gospel
- This 'good news' has been promised from ages past
- This was the culmination of all the prophets wrote

Promised Afore

- “To Him give *all the prophets* witness...” Acts 10:43
- His first promise of redemption Gen 3:15.
- Messianic details: family, birthplace, etc.
- Hidden in Gen: 1, 5, 22, 39, Exod: Water /Rock/Manna /
- Philip with the Ethiopian Treasurer Isaiah 53:7-8
Acts 8:30-35; cf. Luke 24:25-27, 45-47
- Paul will also use Gen 18 and 22 in Romans 4

Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which
was made of the seed of David according to
the flesh;

Romans 1:3

- This asserts Christ's deity as basic to His person and prior to His Incarnation,
- His identification with David's line "came to be,"
 - The literal rendering of the participle *genomenou*, translated "was made."

*And declared to be the Son of God with power,
according to the spirit of holiness, by the
resurrection from the dead:*

Romans 1:4

- The **resurrection validated His claims to deity** and His predictions that He would rise from the dead **John 2:18-22; Matt 16:21**
- “The Spirit of Holiness”: This is the **Holy Spirit**,
- Redemption, Salvation & Grace is a work of the Triune God

Works of God

	Father	Son	Holy Spirit
• Creation of Universe	Ps 102:25	Col 1:16 John 1:1-3	Gen 1:2 Job 26:13
• Creation of Man	Gen 2:7	Col 1:16	Job 33:4
• The Incarnation	Heb 10:5	Phil 2:7	Luke 1:35
• Death of Christ	Ps 22:15 Rom 8:32 John 3:16	John 10:18 Gal 2:20	Heb 9:14
• The Atonement	Isa 53:6,10	Eph 5:2	Heb 9:14
• The Resurrection (Christ)	Acts 2:24 Rom 6:4	John 10:17,18 Joh 2:19	1 Pet 3:18 Rom 8:11
(All Mankind)	John 5:21	John 5:21	Rom 8:11
• Inspiration of Scriptures	2 Tim 3:16	1 Pet 1:10,11	2 Pet 1:21
• Indwelling presence	Eph 4:6	Col 1:27	1 Cor 6:19
• Believer's Security	John 10:29	John 10:28 Rom 8:34	Eph 4:30

Attributes of God

	Father	Son	Holy Spirit
• Eternal Existence	Ps 90:2	Rev 1:8,17 John 1:2 Micah 5:2	Heb 9:14
• Omnipotence	1 Pet 1:5	2 Cor 12:9	Rom 15:19
• Omniscience	Jer 17:10	Rev 2:23	1 Cor 2:11
• Omnipresence	Jer 23:24	Matt 18:20	Ps 139:7
• Truth	John 7:28	Rev 3:7	1 John 5:6
• Benevolence	Rom 2:4	Eph 5:25	Neh 9:20
• Disposition for communion	1 John 1:3	1 John 1:3	2 Cor 13:14
• Holiness	Rev 15:4	Acts 3:14	*

* Everywhere (Isa 6:3: "Holy, Holy, Holy")

Five “For”s

- The core of the book: Romans 1:16-20
- The summary text of the entire epistle:
 - The Gospel is Just!
 - Its universal saving power
 - Its secret is the revelation of God’s righteousness on the principle of faith
 - And Its accord with the OT: Hab 2:4

Five “For”s

- ¹⁶ **For** I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: **for** it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
- ¹⁷ **For** therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Romans 1:16-20

Five “For”s

- 18 **For** the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;
- 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.
- 20 **For** the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

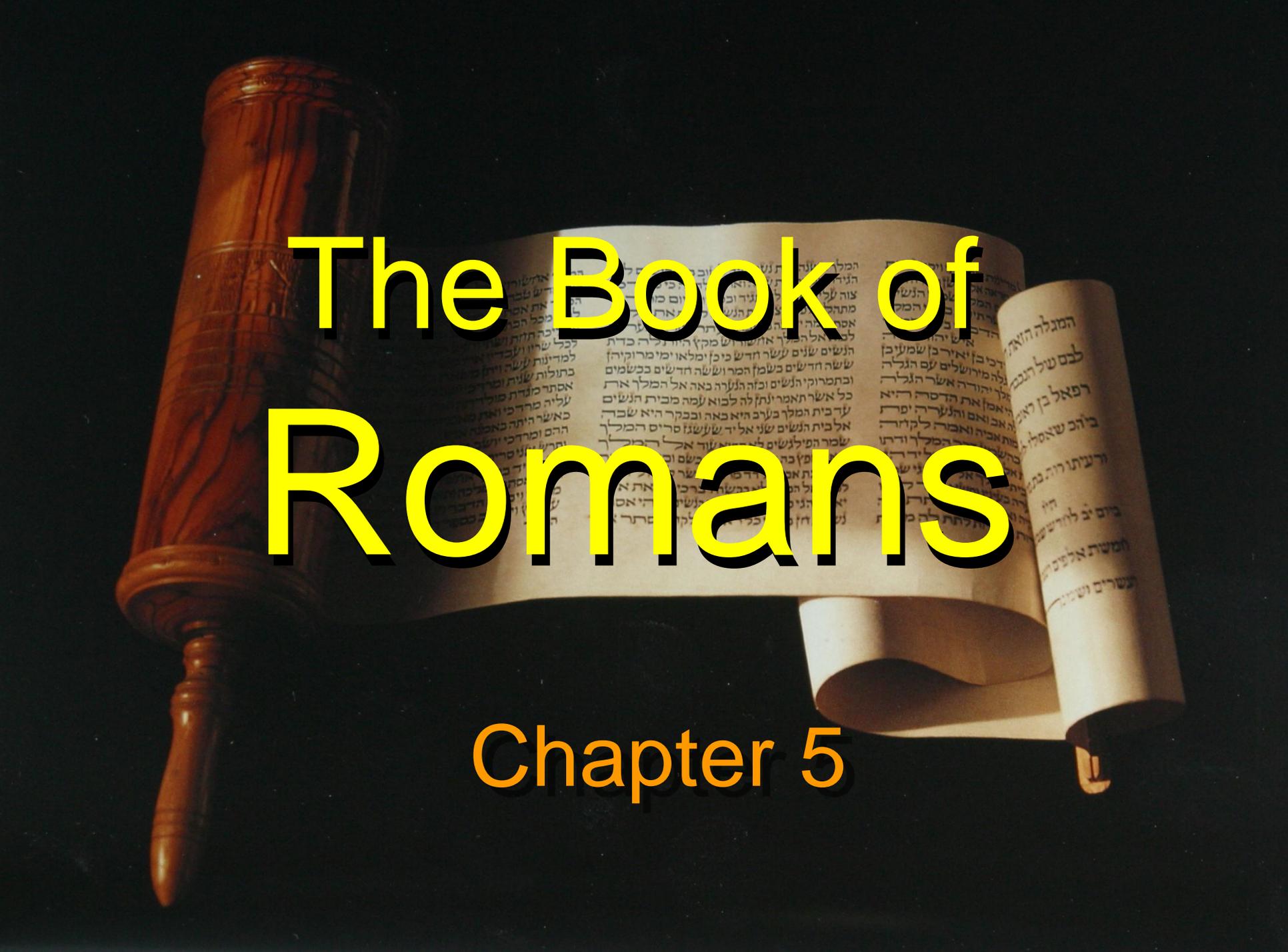
Romans 1:16-20

The Power of God

- “The *power of God* unto *salvation...*”
 - Not unto reformation, education, progress, nor development, nor “fanning an innate flame.”
 - It is for lost man and no other.
- Men are involved either in *salvation* or in its opposite, *perdition* Phil 1:28

The Jew First

- He acknowledged, however, a priority for the Jew expressed in the word first,
 - Which has sufficient textual support here and is unquestioned in **2:9-10**
- Because Jews were God's Chosen People **11:1**
 - The custodians of God's revelation **3:2**
 - And the people through whom Christ came **9:5**
- They have a preference of privilege expressed historically in a chronological priority.
 - Jesus stated it, "Salvation is from the Jews." **John 4:22**



The Book of Romans

Chapter 5

Two Heads: Adam and Christ

- From 5:12 to Chapter 8:
 - what makes that union with Christ absolutely, irrevocably ours because of Him
- Contrasts our descent from Adam with our present union with Christ
- Imputation through Union
 - Impute:** to *ascribe*, to account, to you something that was true of another.

Contrast of Two Unions

One Man (Adam)

[15] One man's offence

many died

[16] One (Adam)

judgment, condemnation

[17] Through one man

death reigns

[18] One man's offence

condemnation to all

[19] Disobedience of one

many made sinners

[21] Sin reigned in death!

One Man (Christ)

One Man's free gift

righteousness to many

For many offences

gift of justification

Through one Man

believers reign in life

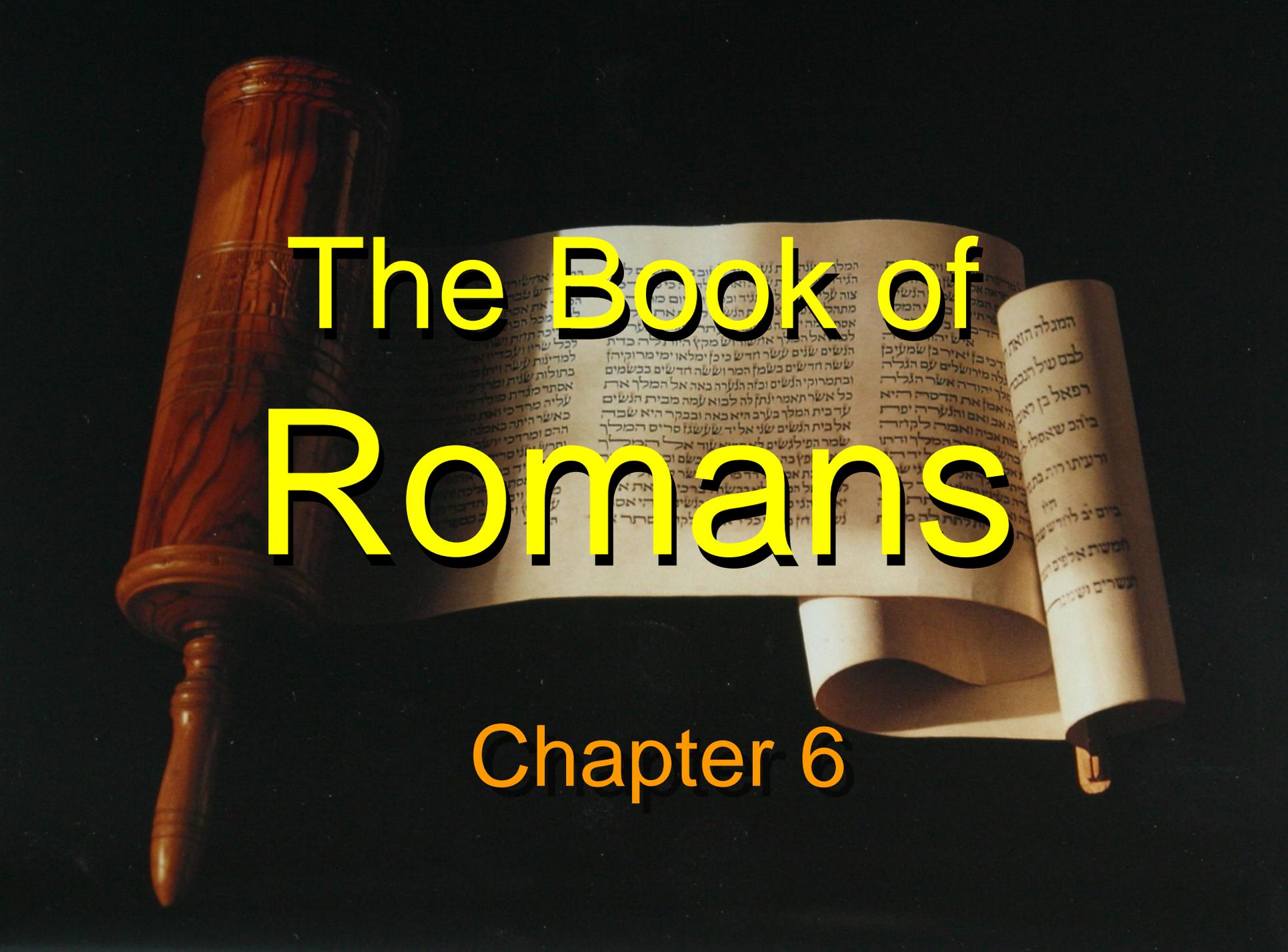
Righteousness of One

justification offered all

Obedience of One

many made righteous

Grace reigns in eternal life!



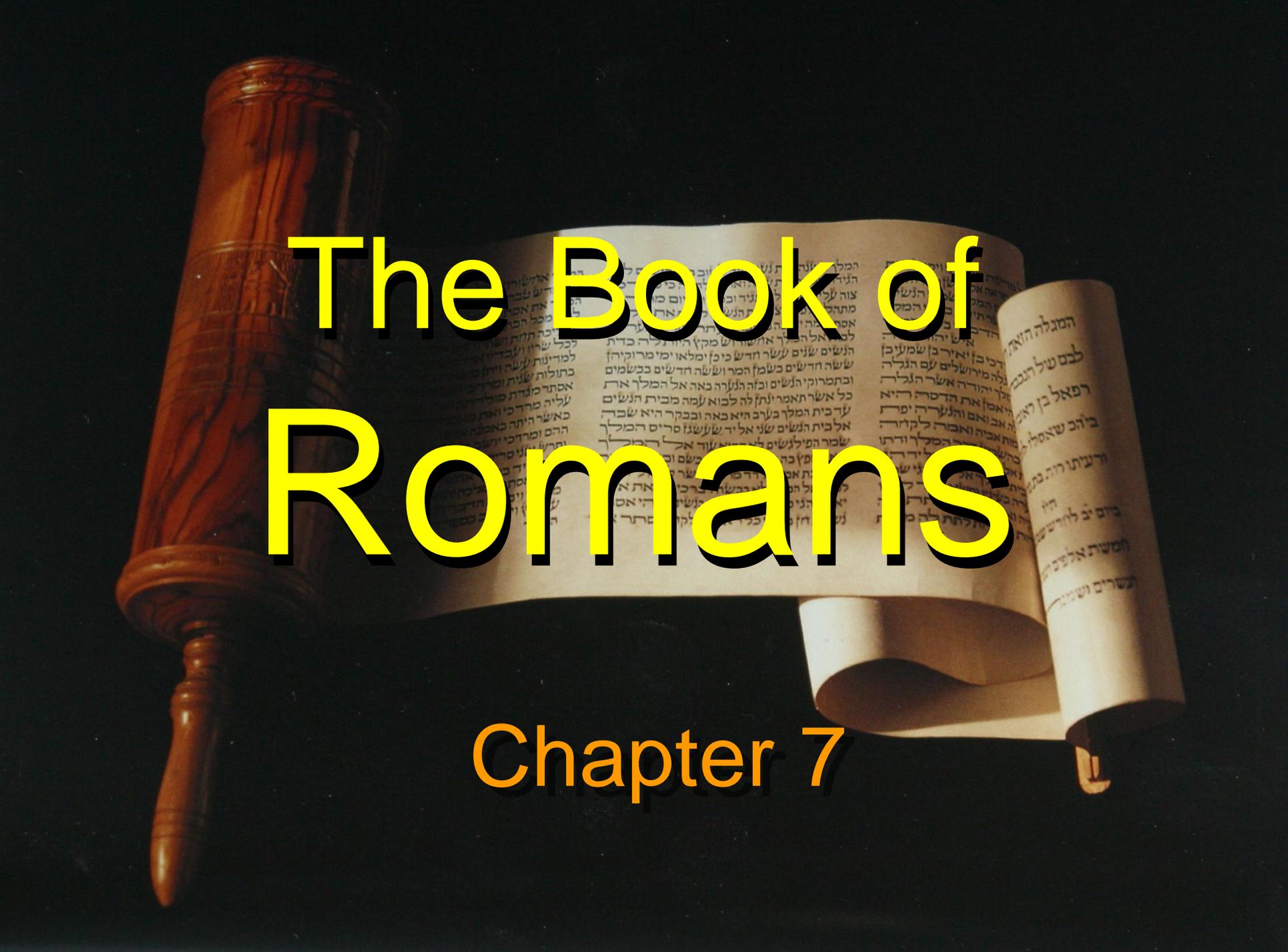
The Book of Romans

Chapter 6

Who are you serving?

- 16** Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
- 17** But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
- 21** What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.

Romans 6:16-21

An unrolled scroll of parchment with Hebrew text, resting on a wooden handle. The scroll is partially unrolled, showing several lines of text in a traditional Hebrew script. The background is dark, making the scroll and the text stand out. The title 'The Book of Romans' is overlaid in large, bold, yellow letters with a black outline. The chapter title 'Chapter 7' is overlaid in orange letters with a black outline at the bottom.

The Book of Romans

Chapter 7

The Law

The Mosaic Law is where many Christians go to try to find Christian living.

Now Paul is going to show that the Mosaic Law has no claim on the believer.

Actually, the Law condemned man to die; it was a ministration of condemnation 2 Cor. 3:9

“You don’t contact the judge who sentenced you to die and ask him how you are going to live!”

The Burden of the Law

Stephen, before the Sanhedrin, said that they had

“... received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it”

Acts 7:53

Peter calls it a yoke

“which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear”

Acts 15:10

Why Was the Law Given?

- 19** Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.
- 20** Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:19-20

Why Was the Law Given?

20a Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound....

Romans 5:20a

The Law Magnifies Sin



Why Was The Law Given?

19 Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

Galatians 3:19

The Law – Our Schoolmaster

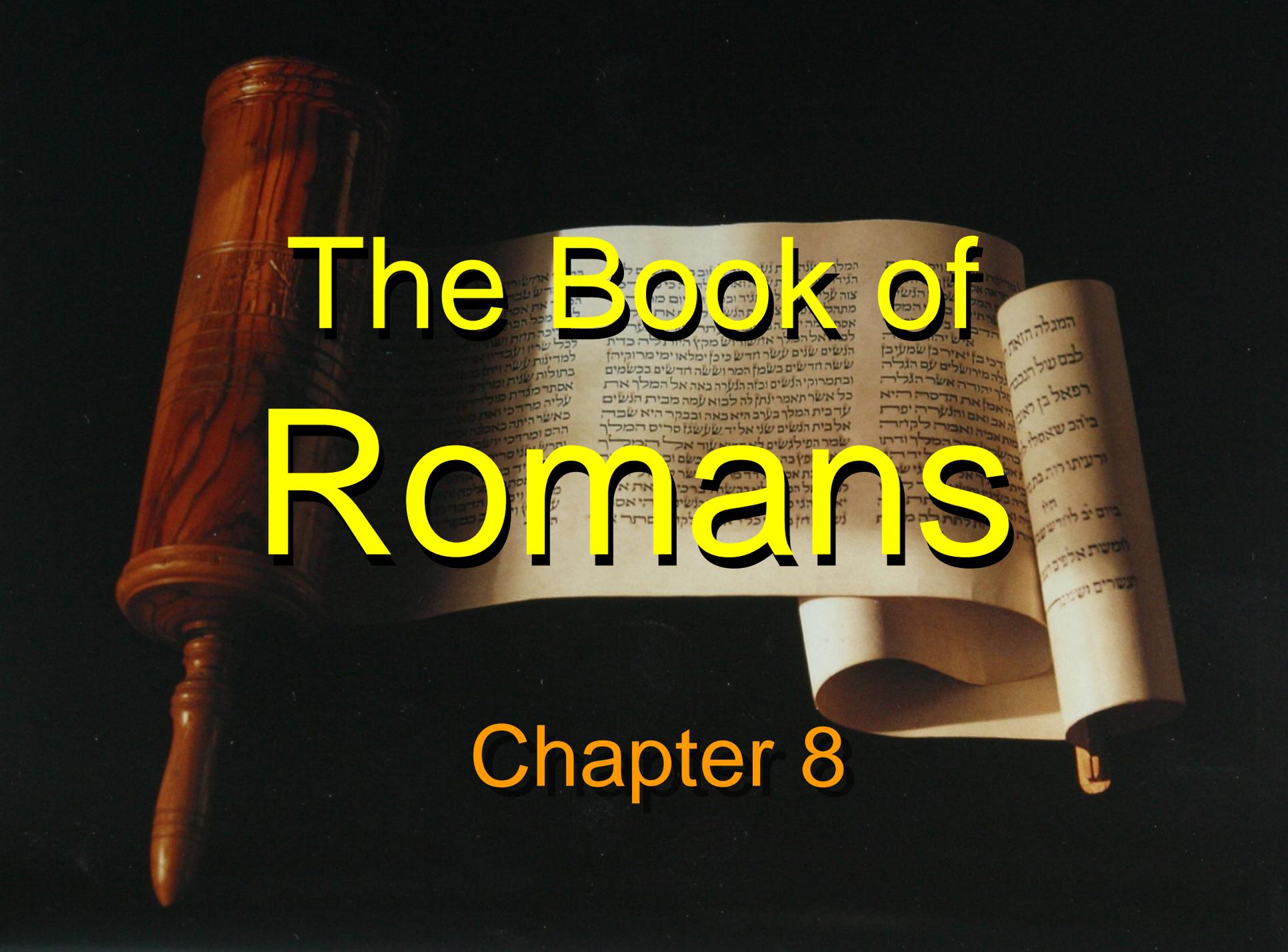
- ²³ But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.
- ²⁴ Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.
- ²⁵ But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Galatians 3:23-25

The Purpose of the Law

7b I had not known sin, but by the law

Romans 7:7b



The Book of Romans

Chapter 8

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8:1

- “Now” in the sense of logic
 - Summarizing and concluding the argument of what has gone before
- This is one of the greatest assurances a Christian can receive:
 - No condemnation from any source, for any reason, at any time John 3:18
 - No qualifying clause; it does *not* depend upon our walk!
 - It is not how I feel, but it is what God says...

Exposition

- Chapter 8 opens:
no possibility of condemnation.
- Chapter 8 closes:
no possibility of separation!

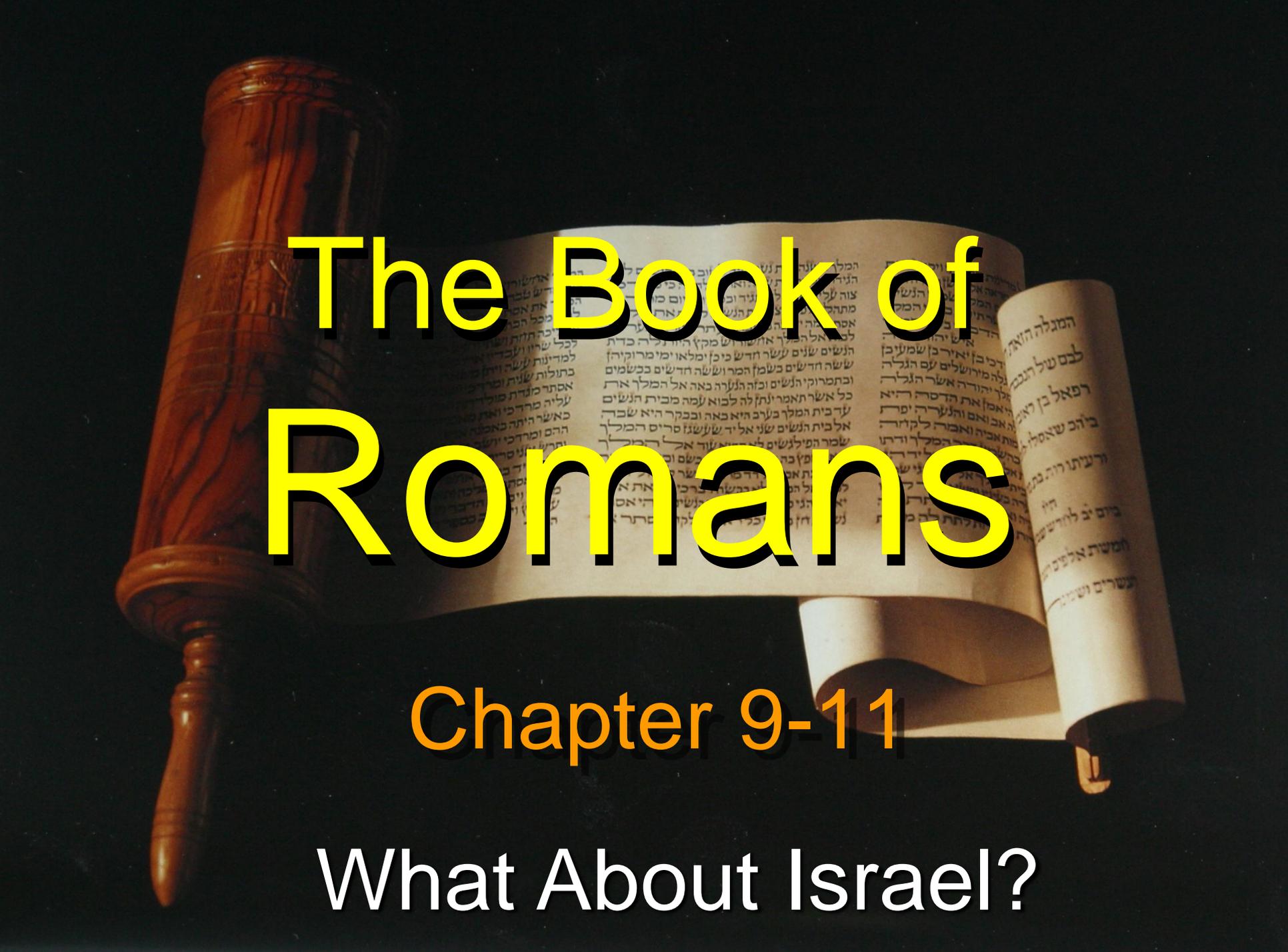
For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Romans 8:18

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor
things present, nor things to come,
Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature,
shall be able to separate us from the love of
God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

- **His Final Guarantee**
- Angels! Principalities [demons]!
- Powers [of “darkness”! ...What else is there?
– *This should really re-prioritize our outlook on everything!*



The Book of Romans

Chapter 9-11

What About Israel?

The Book of Romans Pt. 2

The next 3 Chapters focus on Israel
& begin one of the most important
“trilogies” in the Scripture

Chapter 9 - Israel Past

Chapter 10 - Israel Present

Chapter 11 - Israel Future

Does God keep His promises?

Introduction

- **Romans 8** opened with “no *condemnation...*”
 - Closed with assurance there is no *separation*.
- If God is so faithful to His Word
 - That none He has justified can be condemned;
 - And that none in Him can be separated;
- Then why have the Israelites,
 - who were sovereignly chosen by God
 - and also given unconditional promises,
Completely failed and then been rejected?

Introduction

- How are the Gentiles to relate to the Jews?
 - If circumcision is of no value without faith, then what advantage has the Jew?
 - What is the benefit of circumcision?
- Same question was underlying **Acts 15**
 - And will be answered in **Chapters 9, 10, and 11**

The issue behind all of this is a demonstration by God to the world that He keeps His promises

The background features a wooden scroll on the left and an open scroll on the right, both containing Hebrew text. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the wood and the parchment.

Has God Finished with Israel?

Romans 11

Israel

- Contentious issue or key to scripture?
- Has the church replaced Israel as God's chosen people?
- In their rejection of Christ, has national Israel blown it?
- What about the promises made to national Israel?
- How are we to view events in the Middle East today?

What About Israel?

† I say then, Hath God cast away his people? **God forbid.**
For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the
tribe of Benjamin.

Romans 11:1

- The Church began with Jews
- Paul was a Jew and a Christian
- *‘God has not ‘cast away’ the Jews because most of the early Church is Jewish’*

What About Israel?

Paul makes the point:

- As with Elijah, God had 'reserved' some of Israel for Himself
- So, in the early Church, many Jews had become believers and were saved and had not been 'cast off'

What About Israel?

5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

Romans 11:5

- The BIG question...
- What about national Israel?

What About Israel?

- Paul restates the question:

⁷ What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded **(those reserved by God)**

⁸ (According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day.

Romans 11:7-8

- Isaiah 27:10 / 6:9

Permanent Blindness?

II I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.

Romans 11:11

- Is this blindness permanent?
- From the context, the 'they' has to refer to those whose eyes have been blinded (in verse 8)
- i.e. National Israel

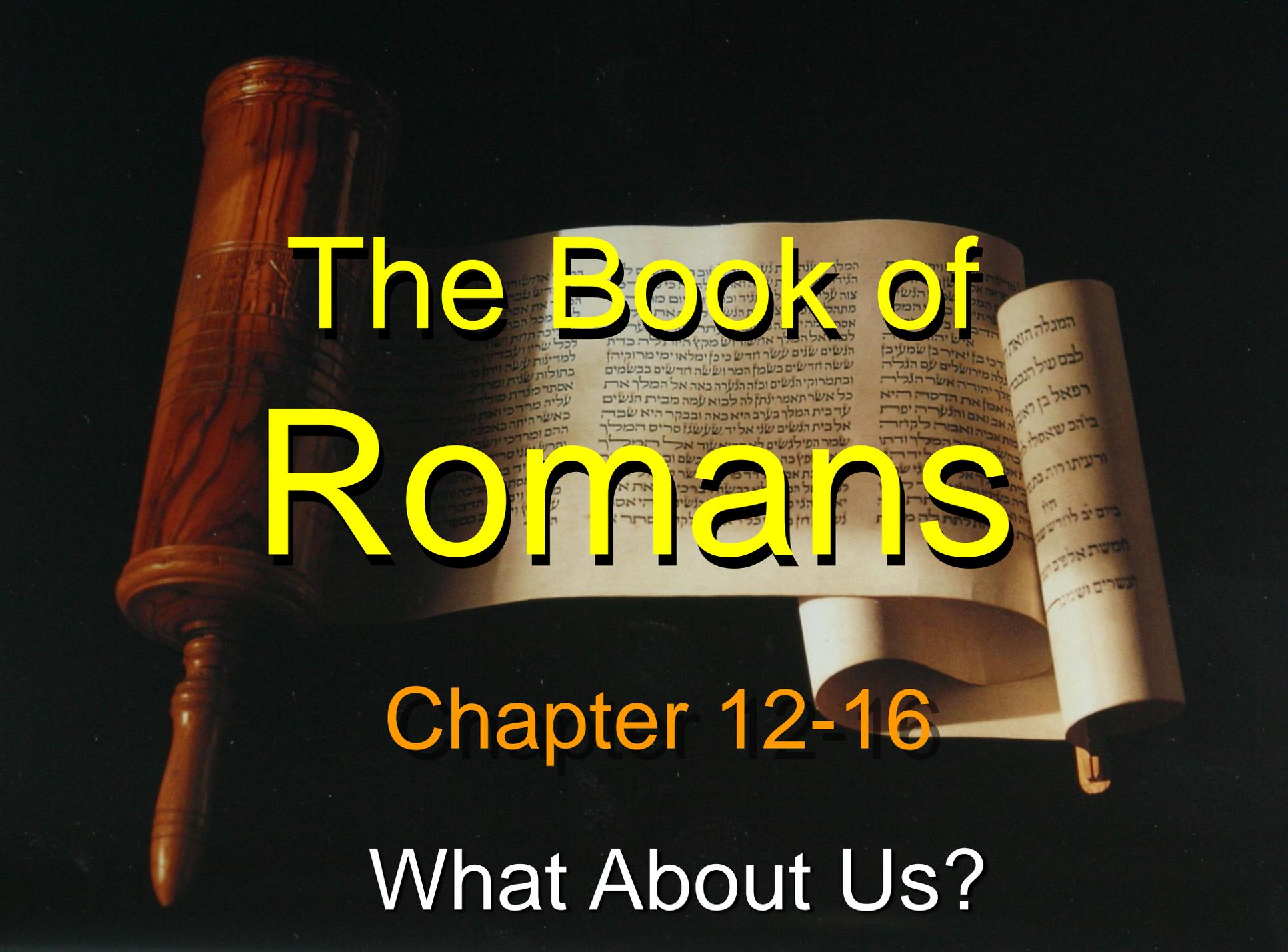
Paul's Summary

²⁵ For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness **in part** is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

²⁶ And so **all Israel** shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

²⁷ For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

Romans 11:25-27



The Book of Romans

Chapter 12-16

What About Us?

The Book of Romans Pt. 3

- In the first part of Romans we saw the helmet of salvation and the shield of faith displayed
- But in this last section, our feet are to be shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace
 - We are to *stand* in the battle
 - we are to *walk* in our life
 - we are to *run* in the race

The Book of Romans Pt. 3

- Romans 12 Responsibilities from gifts
- Romans 13 Civil Responsibilities
- Romans 14 Christian Maturity
- Romans 15 Unity within the Body
- Romans 16 Personal Greetings

Shift of gears:

- Under “sanctification” we were dealing with Christian *character*;
 - in this section we will be dealing with Christian *conduct*.
- There it was the *inner* man;
 - here it is the *outward* man.
- There it was the *condition* of the Christian;
 - here it is the *consecration* of the Christian.
- There it was who the Christian *is*;
 - here it is what he *does*.
- We have seen the *privileges* of grace;
 - we now consider the *precepts* of grace.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. **Romans 12:1**

- “Therefore” as a response to all the foregoing.
- “Mercies” = *oiktirmos* rendered
 - “compassion” in **2 Cor. 1:3; Phil. 2:1**
Col. 3:12
 - “mercy” in **Heb. 10:28**
- God’s compassion has been described in detail in the first 11 chapters of Romans

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:1

- “Present” = “yield” **6:13, 16, 19**
- “your bodies”: A Christian’s body is temple of Holy Spirit **1 Cor. 6:19-20**
- “Living sacrifice” (in contrast to the OT sacrifices).
 - Christians are believer-priests, identified with the great High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ **Heb. 7:23-28; 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Rev 1:6**
 - A believer’s offering of his total life as a sacrifice to God represents a complete change in lifestyle **Gen 2:24**

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Romans 12:2

- “Stop being conformed to this [age].”
- “Conformed” = pressed into a mold.
 - Modern media has placed incredible technology in Satan’s hands. Depravity is unprecedented
 - The underlying presuppositions of the entertainment industry is anti-godly.
 - Advertising is an exploitation of our basest desires

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Romans 12:2

- “keep on being transformed”:
Present tense, Passive voice, Imperative mood
- “transformed” = *metamorphousthe*, is seen in the English word “metamorphosis”
 - A total change from inside out **2 Cor 3:18**
 - Key to change is the “mind”, the control center of one’s attitudes, thoughts, feelings, actions **Eph 4:22-23**

The Book of Romans Pt. 3

- Romans 12 Responsibilities from gifts
- Romans 13 Civil Responsibilities
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Civil Responsibilities

- **Chapter 13** - The relationship between the Christian and his government.
 - Often misquoted and misunderstood
 - “Must we obey a government that is corrupt?”
 - “We have a *dual* citizenship!”
- Biblical submission is a readiness *to obey law and uphold the legal order*,
 - Not an approval or endorsement of all lawmakers or even all laws absolutely.

And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

Romans 13:11

The Tenses of “Salvation”

Past Tense:

Separation from the *Penalty* of Sin

Justification

Present Tense:

Separation from the *Power* of Sin

Sanctification

Future Tense:

Separation from the *Presence* of Sin

Glorification



The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. **Romans 13:12**

- For details of that see **Ephesians 6:10-18**

But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.

Romans 13:14

- How: by confessing all known sin;
 - And walking moment-by-moment,
 - Taking every thought captive,
 - Taking a step at a time,
 - Trusting in Him...
 - Being transformed by the [continual] renewing of your mind...

The Book of Romans Pt. 3

- Romans 12 Responsibilities from gifts
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General Review

- **Chapter 14** - Differences between a strong and a weak believer.
 - The stronger believer understands his liberty in Christ.
 - Spiritual maturity not measured by what we give up.
 - The weak believer is still oriented to external rules & law

General Review

- The weaker Christian is still under rules.
- The stronger Christian is sensitive to 3 different rules or principles.
 - **The Rule of Liberty** - anything not expressly prohibited is permitted.
 - **The Rule of Expediency** - Our liberty should not cause the **unsaved** to stumble.

1 Cor 9:19-23

General Review

- **The Rule of Love** - Our liberty should not cause the **weaker brother** to stumble.
 - These are Internal, motivational rules with the attitude of the heart.
- Paul taught in **Chapter 14** that we are not to judge

Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? To his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

Romans 14:4

- “Servant”: *oiketes*, one who lives in the same house as another
- Self-righteous pride is a stumbling block to many
- We are not trying to convert others to our opinion but to Christ!

But *why* dost thou judge thy brother? or *why*
dost thou set at nought thy brother? for **we**
shall all stand before

the judgment seat of Christ.

Romans 14:10

Note the “we” that Paul uses here

Cf. 2 Corinthians 5:10

For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Romans 14:11-12

- Each believer's life of service will be under review
 - Some loss will be experienced
 - But he will be rewarded for what he endures

The Book of Romans Pt. 3

- Romans 12 Responsibilities from gifts
- Romans 13 Civil Responsibilities
- Romans 14 Christian Maturity
- Romans 15 Unity within the Body
- Romans 16 Personal Greetings

Importance of Unity

- In **Chapter 15** he introduced an additional principle to observe when dealing with fellow Christians:
 - He is to follow the example of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - Jesus was supremely the Person who ministered on behalf of others, not for Himself.
 - It is fitting that those who take the name of Jesus should imitate Him, by serving others.

We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Romans 15:1

- Paul summarized the previous discussion in **chapter 14** by saying,
 - “We who are strong” (obviously in convictions and conscience) “ought” (pres. tense, emphasizing continuing obligation; its first position in the sentence underscores its importance) “to bear with the infirmities of the weak (lit., “non-strong”):

We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Romans 15:1

- The strong ought not despise the weak; they ought to bear with them.
- Our Liberty in Christ is constrained by love for others.

Let every one of us please his neighbor for his
good to edification.

Romans 15:2

- Everything we do should be directed to the spiritual growth (edification) of our neighbor.
 - A Christian should not be self-centered, but should be concerned about the spiritual welfare of others.
 - Pleasing others, however, is not an end in itself, but is for their good, to build them up (lit., “unto edification”; cf. “edification”) **14:19**

For **whatsoever things were written aforetime**
were written for our learning, that we
through **patience and comfort** of the
scriptures might have hope. **Romans 15:4**

- *Every detail in Scripture is there by deliberate design.*

- Heroes and failures of OT are there for our instruction!

“Patience”: *hupomone* Perseverance

“Comfort”: *paraklesis* Encouragement

The How and Why

- The precision of the Scriptures demonstrate its supernatural origin
- Once you discover that for yourself it changes your entire attitude toward its reliability and your own destiny...
 - “This is too important to delegate to others”

– Chuck Missler

Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ
also received us to the glory of God.

Romans 15:7

- The Model of acceptance for Christians, is,
however, the Lord Jesus,
–who accepted us, when we were:

“powerless”

Rom 5:6

“ungodly”

Rom 5:6

“sinners”

Rom 5:8 and

“enemies”

Rom 5:10

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Overview

- This final chapter will emphasize the importance of relationships:
 - Concludes with longest personal list in all the epistles
 - From a city he hadn't visited yet...
- In 24 verses he named 33 people,
 - And referred to many others

Rom 16:5, 10-11, 13-15



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