

## Methods for studying Paul's Epistle to the Romans

At a meeting on Sunday, Sept. 11, a consensus was reached 1) to begin society on Sept. 21, and 2) to follow plan 3 below.

Perhaps it would be good to consider another option that was not well known Sunday, namely, using the new RFPA study guide of Romans. A sampling of that guide is available on line:

<https://rfpa.org/collections/bible-study-guides/products/romans-studies-in>

A study sheet for the first meeting is found on this site. We plan to consider the introduction to Romans written by N.T. Wright, a proponent of the "Federal Vision" -- justification by faith and works. Do read/study that before Wednesday.

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Plan 1: Study the book with no schedule and no deadlines.

Plan 2: Take two of Rev. Hoeksema's sermons per meeting – 97 sermons = 4.5 years (11 meetings per season).

Plan 3: This gives a study of Romans in four years, assuming 11 society meetings per season. October – March, 2 per month except February. If we start in September, we have a meeting to spare, for possible cancellations.

I. Introduction: 1:1-15 – 3 weeks

A. Romans, author, church, history, theme (and N.T. Wright's view of Romans).

B. Vss 1-15 (And 16-17)

II. Doctrinal Part of Romans (1:16-11:36)

A. Outside of the gospel of Jesus Christ, no one can be saved.

1. What is gospel and why it is a power of salvation 16, 17 – include in first 3 weeks

2. The impossibility of salvation for the unchurched unbelievers

a. Their wickedness. 1:18-32 - 2 weeks

b. Their judgment. 2:1-16 – 2 weeks

3. Not the Jews. 2:17-3:20

a. They have the law, but do not keep it. 2:17-29 – 2 weeks

b. Not better than Gentiles. 3:20 – 2 weeks

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B. Righteousness of God is revealed in Jesus.

1. By faith in Christ. 3:21-31 – 1 week

2. O.T. illustration of justification by faith. – 1 week

a. Abraham. 4:1-5

b. David. 4:6-8

3. This righteousness is not to the Jew only, but to every believer. 4:9-25 - 2 weeks

C. Fruits of Justification. (Romans 5-8)

1. Blessings of being justified by faith. 5:1-11 - 2 weeks

2. Imputation of guilt and righteousness. 5:12-21 – 1 week

3. Alive unto righteousness. Chapter 6. – 2 weeks

4. The place of law. 7:1-14 1 week
5. The struggle between the old and the new man. 7:15-25 – 1 week

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6. Sanctification by the Spirit. 8:1-18 -2 weeks

7. The sure hope of the believer. 8:19-39 – 2 weeks

D. The Salvation of Israel and of the Gentiles.

1. Sovereign Predestination. Romans 9 – 3 weeks

a. 1-8

b. 9-18

c. 19-33

2. Salvation of Israel. Romans 10 – 3 weeks

3. Fall of Israel and salvation of Gentiles.

a. 11:1-10- The elect in Israel saved the reprobate hardened. – 1 week

b. 11:11-32 – Salvation of Gentiles, grafted into the tree of Israel. – 1.5 weeks

c. 11:33-36 – Doxology. – .5 week

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III. The Practical Application. Romans 12-16

A. Chapter 12 – General Admonitions. – 2 weeks

B. Chapter 13 – 2 weeks

1. Admonitions re government. 1-7

2. General admonitions. 8-14

C. Things indifferent. 14:1-15:7 – 2 weeks

D. Christ is also for the Gentiles. 15:8-33 – 2 weeks

E. Greetings, Blessing, and Doxology. 16:1-27 – 1 week