Survey of Romans & Introduction to Biblical Interpretation

Welcome back!

OUTLINE OF ROMANS:

THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD, THE OBEDIENCE OF FAITH

I.	1:1-17	INTRODUCTION
	1:1-7	Paul Greets Them and Describes His Mission
	1:1	The Prescript: Paul, a Slave of Christ, an Apostle of the Gospel
	1:2-4	Defining the Gospel: About the Promised Son of God, Jesus Christ Our Lord
	1:5-6	Defining Paul's Mission: To Bring Gentiles to the Obedience of Faith
	1:7	The Greeting: Grace and Peace to the Beloved Saints of God in Rome
	1:8-15	Thanksgiving for Their Faith and a Prayer to Visit Them
	1:8	Thanksgiving: Your Faith Is Being Proclaimed Throughout the Whole World
	1:9-15	Prayer: My Request Is that I May Finally Also Preach the Gospel in Rome
	1:16-17	Theme of the Letter: The Gospel—Righteousness from God Revealed in Christ

Theme Verses of Romans:

¹⁶I am not ashamed of the gospel, <u>for</u> it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous by faith will live."

(Romans 1:16-17, NASB adapted)

II. 1:18—3:20_____GOD'S WRATH REVEALED AGAINST SINFUL HUMANS: THE NEED FOR JUSTIFICATION (Problems of Sin and Wrath)

1:18-32	God's Wrath Against Unrighteous Men (Gentiles) Who Approve of Depravity
1:18-20	They Are Without Excuse—They Rejected the Revelation of God in Creation
1:21-23	They Did Not Honor Their Creator, But Worshiped Images of Created Things
1:24-31	God's Judgment—He Let Their Increasing Wickedness Harm Them
1:24-25	Lustful impurity caused their bodies to be dishonored
1:26-27	Homosexual passions degraded and harmed them
1:28-31	Depraved thinking led to all kinds of improper deeds
1:32	They Know God Says They Deserve Death, Yet Approve Others Like Themselves
2:1-16	God's Wrath Against Unrighteous Men (Gentiles/Jews) Who Judge Others
2:1-4	They Are Without Excuse—They Do the Same as Those They Judge
2:5-16	God's Coming Day of Wrath—All Will Be Judged According to Their Deeds
2:5-11	God is impartial—Jews and Gentiles will both be judged by their deeds
2:12-16	God is impartial—Jews and Gentiles will each be judged by the Law they know
2:17—3:20	God's Wrath Against the Jews
2:17-29	Jews Are Without Excuse—They Don't Keep the Law
2:17-24	Having the Law doesn't save Law-breakers
2:25-29	Being circumcised doesn't save Law-breakers (25-27),
	but "heart circumcision" by the Spirit makes one a true Jew (28-29).
3:1-8	Questions about God's Justice
3:9-20	Summary: The Whole World—Jews Included—Is Sinful and Accountable to God
3:9	Jews are no better than Gentiles; both are sinful
3:10-18	Evidence from the Law of human (especially Jewish) sinfulness
3:19-20	Conclusion: The Law proves all are guilty and will save no one

Big Problems:

Sin → Wrath

III. 3:21—4:25 GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS REVEALED IN CHRIST: THE MEANS OF JUSTIFICATION (Sinful Status Problem Solved) Thesis: God's Righteousness Is Revealed in Christ 3:21-26 It Is Given, through Christ's Faithfulness, to All Who Believe—Justification 3:21-24 It Is Shown, in Christ's Death, by God No Longer Overlooking Sin—Justice 3:25-26 Justification Is by Faith, Not by Works 3:27-4:25 3:27-31 Both Jew and Gentile Are Justified by Faith-None Can Boast Evidence from the Law: Abraham Was Justified by Faith—So Are We 4:1-25 4:1-8 Introduction: "Faith was credited to Abraham as righteousness" 4:9-12 Abraham was given righteousness through faith, not circumcision Abraham was given the promise through faith, not the Law 4:13-17 4:18-22 Abraham's example: the kind of faith that counts as righteousness

4:23-25

Conclusion: Righteousness is also credited to us through faith in Christ

What is saving faith fully convinced about?

[Righteousness] will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

(Romans 4:24-25, ESV).

- 1. God—He keeps his promises.
- 2. God has provided the way that I can become righteous.
 - → I have done bad deeds.
 - → My deeds matter; bad deeds are deadly.
 - → Apart from Christ, I am not in right standing with God.
 - → Apart from Christ, I will receive God's wrath.
 - → Jesus died: His death is God's plan for dealing with my sins.
 - → Jesus rose: His resurrection is God's way to give me right standing with Him.
 - → Jesus is my Lord—master, boss, ruler—possessing all power and authority, and deserving all my obedience.

Sin → Wrath

Sinful Status ✓ Justified

Sinful Deeds?

Wrath?

Romans 5-8

LIFE IN CHRIST: THE RESULTS OF JUSTIFICATION

5:1—5:11	A – Thesis: Justification Gives Us Hope of Eternal Glory
5:1-4	Justification Gives Us Blessings Now and Hope for the Future
5:1-2	Peace with God, grace, joyful hope of glory to come
5:3-4	Joy in suffering, which only increases our hope
5:5-8	Because of the Love That God Has Already:
5:5	1) Poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit;
5:6-8	Shown when Christ died for us while we were still sinners.
5:9-11	If God Loved His Enemies, He Will Certainly Spare His Friends

Past

- Justified by faith
 - Began in grace
- God's love poured within our hearts
- Gift of Holy Spirit
 - Christ died for the ungodly
- God demonstrated His love
 - Jesus died for God's enemies



Present

- Peace with God
- Stand in grace
- Exult in hope
- Exult in tribulations
 - Perseverance
 - Proven character
 - More hope
 - Exult in God because we are at peace with Him



Future

- Glory of God
- Saved from God's wrath
- Jesus' life will save God's friends

5:12—5:21	B – Justification = No Condemnation:
	In Christ All Will Live, Just as in Adam All Die
5:12	Just as Adam's Evil Deed Brought Sin and Death to All Men
5:13-17	(Clarifications and Contrasts)
5:13-14	Sin and death existed even before the Law made men guilty
5:15-17	Contrasts between Adam's trespass and Christ's gift
5:18-19	So Christ's Righteous Deed Brought Righteousness and Eternal Life to All Men
5:20-21	The Law Made Sin Increase, But Grace Increased Even More Through Christ

"Original righteousness":

Christ frees us more certainly and completely than Adam left us bound!

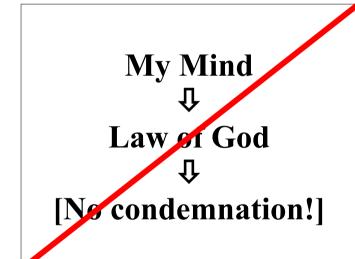
6:1-23—7:6	C - Grace Does Not Lead to Sin; It Frees from Sin and Death
6:1-14	A New You – Sin Has No Dominion over Us Who Died and Rose with Christ
6:1-4	Grace is not a reason to sin, for we been baptized into Jesus' death and life
6:5-7	We know that: In Christ, our old sinful self has died, freeing us from sin
6:8-11	We know that: Like Christ, having died once to sin, we can forever live to God
6:12-14	Since you have been freed from sin's reign, don't volunteer to serve it
6:15-23	A New Master – Sin's Wages Cannot Match Righteousness's Gift
6:15-19	Grace is not a reason to sin, for you have become slaves who obey God
6:20-23	Sin pays with death; God gives sanctification which leads to eternal life
7:1-6	A New Husband – Sin Bears Fruit Only in the Law's Bride, Not in Christ's Bride
7:1-3	Marriage analogy: Death removes one from the bondage of the law
7:4-6	Our death to the Law means our new "husband," Christ, can bear fruit in us

A New You = We cannot be forced to sin

A New Master = We see no benefit in sinning

A New Husband = We are not "impregnated" with sinful desires

7:7-25	C' – The Law Is Not Sinful; But It Cannot Free from Sin and Death
7:7-12	Is the Law Sinful, Since It Awakens Sin? No, It Convicts of Sin and Is Holy
7:13-25	Does the Law Cause Our Death? No, Sin Does. The Law Drives Us to Christ
7:13	Sin is shown to be utterly sinful because it uses the good Law to kill us
7:14-23	Our inability to keep the Law reveals sin is inside our flesh, binding us
7:24-25a	The resulting wretchedness drives us to Christ, who frees us from death
7:25b	Conclusion: With your mind serve the Law of God, or with your flesh the law of sin



"I Myself"

7:25b
Conflict

Flesh

↓
Law of Sin

↓
Condemnation!

Apart from Christ, the sinful flesh overpowers you!

Galatians 3:19-27 – Law as "schoolmaster"

3 :1—1 7	B' – Justification → Sanctification = No Condemnation:
	By the Spirit You Will Live, Just as by the Flesh You Die
8:1-8	The Spirit Frees Those in Christ from Sin and Condemnation
8:1-2	Thesis: We face no condemnation, for the Spirit frees from the law of sin and death
8:3-4	How? In Christ's sacrifice, God condemned sin, so the Law can be fulfilled in us
8:5-8	For those in the Spirit (not the flesh) set their minds on what pleases God.
8:9-17	The Spirit Gives Life and Testifies We Are Children of God—Follow His Leading!
8:9-11	Fact: All who belong to God have the Spirit, giving us life
8:12-14	Response: We owe it to the Spirit to let him (not death-producing flesh) lead us
8:15-17	Fact: The Spirit assures our spirits we are children of God destined for glory
	For those who are in Christ Jesus (vs. 1)
	Φ
We	have the Spirit—we are not "flesh people." (vs.9)

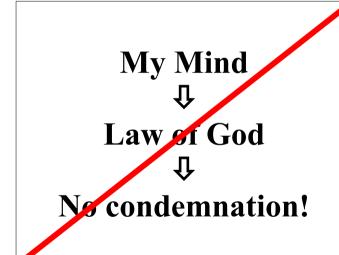
We <u>have</u> the <mark>Spirit</mark>—we are not "flesh people." (vs.9) ↓

We set our minds on the things of the Spirit. (vs. 5)

We walk according to the Spirit. (vs. 4)

No condemnation! (vs. 1)

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"I Myself"

7:25b Conflict Flesh

U

Law of Sin

U

Condemnation!

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My Mind on the Spirit

U

Law of God

U

No condemnation!

"I + Spirit"

7:25b Conflict Resolved! Flesh

U

Law of Sin

U

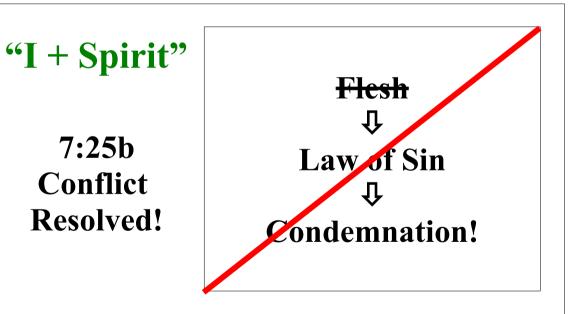
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My Mind on the Spirit Law of God No condemnation!

7:25b **Conflict**

Resolved!



- 1. Know "you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit" (8:9).
- 2. Cooperate with the Spirit as He leads your thoughts and actions.

8:18—39	A' – Conclusion: God's Love in Christ Assures Us of Eternal Glory
8:18-30	God's Purpose for His Children: Groaning Will Give Birth to Glory
8:18	Thesis: Present suffering fades before the coming glory of God's children
8:19-22	1) Creation groans—longing to escape futility and share our coming glory
8:23-25	2) We groan—waiting eagerly for the redemption of our bodies
8:26-27	3) The Spirit groans—interceding for us according to the purposes of God
8:28-30	Conclusion: God's purpose is to use all things to glorify us as children of God

And we know that...

for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

<u>For...</u>

- 1) those whom he foreknew...
 - 2) he predestined...

to be made like Jesus.

- 3) he called...
- 4) he justified...
- 5) he glorified.

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8:31-39	Conclusion: God Is for Us, His Elect—Nothing Can Change That!
8:31-34	No one can condemn us whom God has justified in Christ
8:35-39	No one and nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ

Sin → Wrath

Sinful Status ✓ Justified

Sinful Deeds?

Wrath?

Sin → Wrath

Sinful Status ✓ Justified

Sinful Deeds ✓ Born Again + Holy Spirit

Wrath?

Sin → Wrath

Sinful Status ✓ Justified

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Wrath ✓ No Condemnation!

Romans 9-11

DEFENDING GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL: THE JUSTICE OF JUSTIFICATION



9:1-5_ Great Sorrow: Israel, Chosen by God, Is Separated from Christ

9:1-5	Great Sorrow: Israel, Chosen by God, Is Separated from Christ
9:6-13	God's Promise Has Not Failed—For True Israel – Evidence from Patriarchs
9:6	Not All of Israel's Descendents Are Truly Israel or Qualify for the Promise, Just as
9:7 - 9	Not All of Abraham's Children Are God's Promised Children.
9:10-13	Not Even Isaac and Rebecca's Twins Were Equally Blessed by God.

9:14-29	God Has Dealt Justly with Ethnic Israel
9:14-18	Q.1 – Is God Unjust in Choosing Some over Others? No – Evidence from Exodus
9:14-16	God shows unearned mercy to anyone he wishes; this is just
9:17-18	God hardens some sinners to reveal himself to other sinners; this is just
9:19-29	Q.2 – If God's Will Is Irresistible, Why Does He Blame Us? – Evidence from Prophets
9:19-20a	"Who are you, O man, who answers back to God?" Consider that
9:20b-21	God has the right of a potter to use his clay vessels in any way he wishes, and
9:22-23	God patiently uses even "vessels of wrath" to reveal his glory to "vessels of mercy,"
9:24-29	us, who include, as promised, both Gentiles and an undeserving Jewish remnant.

God's
Sovereign → Justice
Choice

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9:30—10:21Bu	t Ethnic Israel Is Unrighteous Because They Refused to Place Faith in Christ
9:30—10:13W	hy Ethnic Israel Is Unrighteous: They Did Not Place Faith in Christ
9:30—10:4	Israel rejected God's righteousness, trying to establish their own by the Law
10:5-13	How Christ is the telos (end, fulfillment) of the Law for all who believe in him
i	0:5-7 — What righteousness based on the Law says/believes
i	0:8-10 — What righteousness based on faith says/believes, resulting in salvation
i	0:11-13 – Righteousness based on faith means God saves Jew and Gentile alike
10:14 - 21W	hy Ethnic Israel Did Not Place Faith in Christ: They Were Contrary
10:14-15	What is required to have opportunity to respond to the gospel
10:16-21	Israel obstinately disbelieved the gospel, despite hearing and understanding it

11:1-10	Has God Rejected Israel? No, He Has Chosen a Remnant
11:1-6	God Has Graciously Kept a Remnant—True Israel
11:1-2a	Paul is evidence God has not rejected true Israel
11:2b-4	Just as God kept 7000 righteous men for himself during Elijah's time
11:5-6	so God has now kept a remnant, based on his gracious choice—not on works.
11:7-10	Those God Chose Obtained Righteousness; The Rest, as Prophesied, Were Hardened

11:11-32	Ethnic Israel's Fall Is Designed to Save "All Israel"—Gentiles Be Humble!
11:11-15	A - Israel Falls → Gentiles Saved → Israel Jealous → Israel Saved → World Given Life
11:16-24	B - Olive Tree Illustration: Salvation Is in True Israel—Gentiles Must Be Humble
11:16-18	The root (true Israel, with its patriarchal covenants) gives life—Gentiles be humble!
11:19-22	Jews were cut off for unbelief; Gentiles remain only by faith—Gentiles must fear!
11:23-24	Jews, by faith, can easily be grafted back into their own tree

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11:25-32	A - God's Mysterious Purpose: To Save "All Israel" by Showing Mercy to All
11:25-27	Israel's partial hardening is designed to save "all Israel"—Gentiles be humble!
11:28-29	God still loves Israel, because of the gifts and the calling promised to the patriarchs
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"God has imprisoned everyone in disobedience so he could have mercy on everyone." (Romans 11:32, NLT)

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- 2. To show Gentiles that God loves Israel (28-29).

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- 1. To keep Gentiles humble (25).
- 2. To show Gentiles that God loves Israel (28-29).
- 3. To make Gentiles marvel over God's mercy (30-32).

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- 1. Make Jews jealous by our faith.
- 2. Win more Gentiles to Christ.

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- 1. Make Jews jealous by our faith.
- 2. Win more Gentiles to Christ.
- 3. Invite Jews to believe in Christ.

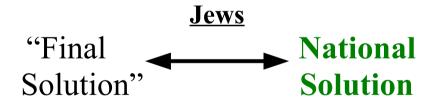
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Popular Alternatives

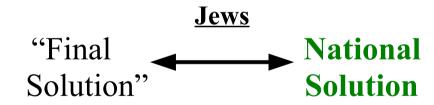
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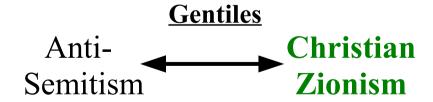
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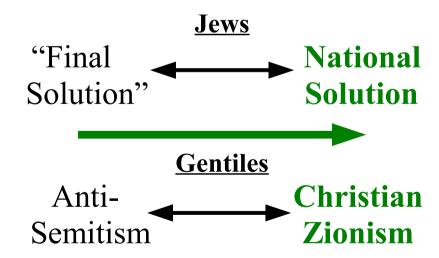
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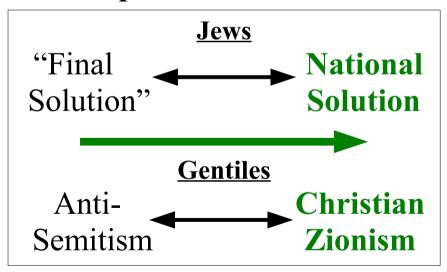
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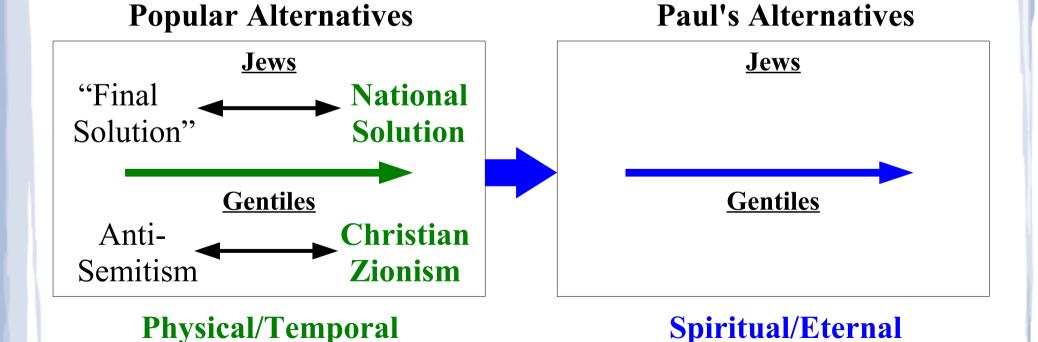
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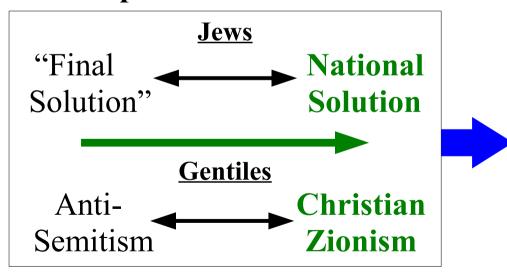
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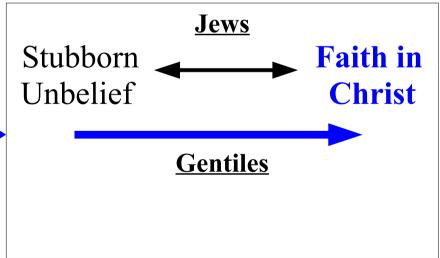


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Paul's Alternatives

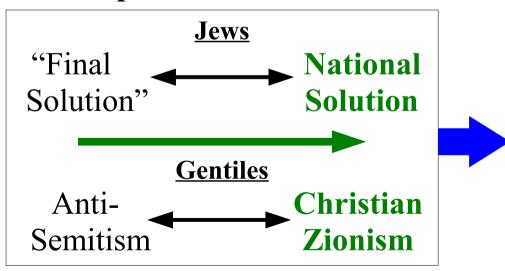


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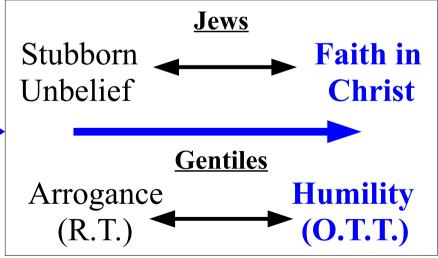
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11:33-36	Great Rejoicing: God, Who Shows Mercy to All, Is Unfathomably Wise

Romans 12-16

GLORIFYING GOD TOGETHER AS LIVING SACRIFICES: OUR RESPONSE TO JUSTIFICATION

<u>Romans 1-11</u>:

God has imprisoned everyone in disobedience so he could have mercy on everyone. (11:32, NLT)

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Romans 12-16:

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God... (12:1, ESV)

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14 imperatives

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51 imperatives



12:1-2	Thesis: Because of God's Mercies, Sacrifice Yourselves to God, Have Renewed Minds

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Homework!

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- 1. Sentence and paragraph structures.
- 2. Word studies.

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Time for Exegesis:

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- 3. Context!

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¹ <u>I appeal to you</u> therefore, fellow employees, by the kindness of our boss, <u>to offer yourselves as diligent workers</u>, honest and pleasing to our boss, which is the reasonable thing for you to do.

- ² Do not be controlled by the propaganda from the unions,
- <u>but be transformed</u> by thinking clearly about the situation, so that by your own experience you will discover that what our boss wants is is actually best.
 - 1. Sentence and paragraph structures.

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 - 1. Sentence and paragraph structures.

Result of focusing on unions/world?

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- ² Do not be conformed to this world,
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2. Word studies.

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- <u>but be transformed</u> by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Word studies.

² <u>Do not be conformed</u> to this <u>WORLD</u>, aion (I-own)

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Place: Planet Earth?

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People: All those unsaved?

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Romans 11:36 "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."

Place: Planet Earth?

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Romans 11:36 "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for EVER. Amen."

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Time: An age of time, with its characteristics

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Time: An age of time, with its characteristics

Vine's Expository Dictionary, pgs. 19, 685

BIBLICAL AGES

To the King of <u>ages</u>, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the <u>ages of ages</u>. Amen. (1 Tim 1:17)

5. The Age to Come

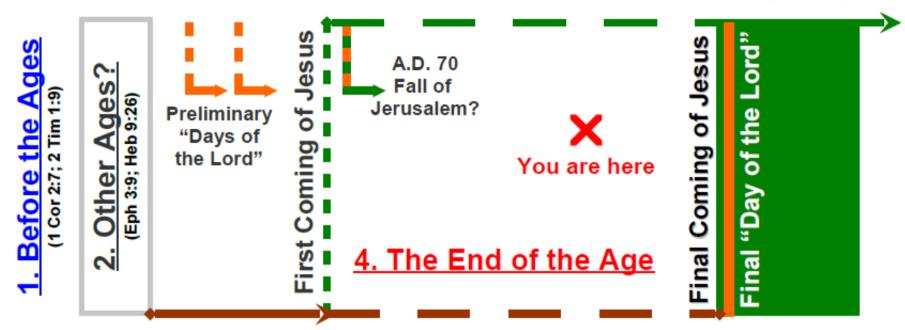
(Matt 12:32; Mk 10:29; Lk 18:30; Eph 1:21; Heb 6:5)

"that age" (Lk 20:35)

"the coming ages" (Eph 2:7)

"the regeneration" (Matt 19:28)

"sons of the resurrection" (Lk 20:36)



3. This Age

(Matt 12:32; Lk 20:34; 1 Cor 1:20; 1 Cor 2:6, 8; 1 Cor 3:10; Eph 1:21)

"this/the present age" (1 Tim 6:17 / Tit 2:12; Heb 9:9)

"the present evil age" (Gal 1:4)

"the age of this world" (Eph 2:2)

"the god of this age" (2 Cor 4:4); "sons of this age" (Lk 20:34);

"rulers of this age" who "crucified the Lord of glory" (1 Cor 2:6, 8)

¹ <u>I appeal to you</u> therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, <u>to present your bodies as a living sacrifice</u>, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

- ² Do not be conformed to this world [age],
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3. Context.

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3. Context.

(Historical Context)

Old thinking:

...Men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.... For although they knew God [from creation], they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became <u>futile in their thinking</u>, and their <u>foolish</u> hearts were darkened. Claiming to be <u>wise</u>, they became <u>fools</u>, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. (Rom. 1:18, 21-23, ESV)

Old thinking:

...Men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.... For although they knew God [from creation], they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. (Rom. 1:18, 21-23, ESV)

Old/new thinking:

Do you <u>suppose</u>, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you <u>presume</u> on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, <u>not knowing</u> that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? (2:3-4, ESV)

New thinking:

We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. (2:2, ESV)

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Old thinking:

But if you... know [God's] will..., having in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth—you then who teach others, do you not teach yourself? (2:17-21, ESV)

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New thinking:

Without becoming weak in faith he <u>contemplated</u> his own body, now as good as dead.... Yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith... being <u>fully</u> <u>assured</u> that what God had promised, He was able also to perform. (4:19-21, NASB)

New thinking:

<u>Do you not know</u> that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?... <u>We know</u> that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.... <u>We know</u> that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again... he lives to God. So you also must <u>consider yourselves</u> dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. (6:3, 6, 9-11, ESV)

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New thinking:

<u>Do you not know</u> that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ...and its end, eternal life. (6:16, 22 ESV)

New thinking:

<u>Do you not know</u>, brothers... that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ... You... have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. (7:1, 4, ESV)

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Old thinking (futility of flesh-controlled mind):

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin.... For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh.... For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.... So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin. (7:14, 18, 22-23, 35, ESV)

Old/New thinking (freedom of Spirit-controlled mind):

The law of the Spirit of life has set you free.... For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.... You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit.... (8:2, 5-7, 9, ESV)

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New thinking:

For <u>I consider</u> that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.... <u>For we know</u> that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. (8:18, 22, ESV)

New thinking:

We do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us.... And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good (8:26, 28, ESV)

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For <u>I am sure</u> that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (8:38-39, ESV)

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Old thinking:

For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but <u>not</u> <u>according to knowledge</u>. For, being <u>ignorant of the righteousness</u> <u>of God</u>, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. (10:2-3, ESV)

Old thinking:

As it is written, "God gave them <u>a spirit of stupor</u>, eyes that would not see and ears that would not hear, down to this very day." (11:8, ESV)

12:1-2 Thesis: Because of God's Mercies, Sacrifice Yourselves to God, Have Renewed Minds

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Old/New thinking:

Lest you be wise in your own sight, I want you to understand this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. And in this way all Israel will be saved.... (11:25-26, 34, ESV)

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New thinking:

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" (11:33-34, ESV)

12:1-2_____Thesis: Because of God's Mercies, Sacrifice Yourselves to God, Have Renewed Minds 12:3—13:14____Specific Commands About Sacrificial Living and New, Life-Transforming Thinking

12:1-2	Thesis: Because of God's Mercies, Sacrifice Yourselves to God, Have Renewed Minds
12:3—13:14	Specific Commands About Sacrificial Living and New, Life-Transforming Thinking

Can you find more "mind" or "thinking" words in chapters 12 and 13?

12:1-2	Thesis: Because of God's Mercies, Sacrifice Yourselves to God, Have Renewed Minds
12:3—13:14	Specific Commands About Sacrificial Living and New, Life-Transforming Thinking
12:3-8	Don't Think Too Highly of Yourselves—God Has Made Us One Body in Christ

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Mennonite History?

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13:11-14	Live as in the Day of Christ's Return, Not Thinking about Fleshly Desires

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12:3—13:14	Specific Commands About Sacrificial Living and New, Life-Transforming Thinking
12:3-8	Don't Think Too Highly of Yourselves—God Has Made Us One Body in Christ
12:3	Sanely assess your value based on the measure of faith God has given you:
12:4-5	We, like many different body parts, all belong to Christ's body and to each other
12:6-8	and each functions using different grace-gifts.
12:9-21	Love Without Hypocrisy and Overcome Evil with Good
12:9-13	Unhypocritical love is like this
12:14	Bless your persecutors
12:15-16a	Rejoice and weep together—have harmonious minds, not proud minds
12:16b-20	Don't be conceited—return good for evil, letting God take revenge
13:1-7	Stay Under God's Governing Authorities and Give Them What Is Due Them
13:1-2	Don't set yourself against the governing authorities God has established
13:3-4	Do good, not evil, and you won't have to fear rulers, who are ministers of God
13:5-7	Because rulers are God's ministers, stay under them and pay taxes
13:8-10	Give Everyone the Love You Owe Them, for Love Fulfills the Law
13:11-14	Live as in the Day of Christ's Return, Not Thinking about Fleshly Desires
13:11-12a_	Do this because it it time to wake up—the day of Christ's return is near

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13:12b-14	Take off the night-clothes of sin and wear Christ as if he has already come

Survey of Romans & Introduction to Biblical Interpretation

Homework:

- 1. Read Romans 14:1-15:13.
- 2. Look for "thinking" words.
- 3. In one or two sentences, tell what Paul was trying to say to the church in Rome in this passage.
- 4. What might Paul say if he wrote this passage to us? Make several applications.