
INTERNATIONAL TRAINING AND EQUIPPING MINISTRIES
Institute in the Foundations of Church Leadership

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THE THEOLOGY IN ROMANS
IFCL 12a (Advanced Lecture 4b)

INTRODUCTION

The book of Romans, like most of Paul's books, is divided into two parts. In the first eleven chapters he presents theological truth with very little application. But beginning in chapter 12 Paul changes his emphasis from theological truth (doctrine) to application. The first 11 chapters presents theological truth. The last five chapters tells us how we should live as a result of the truth presented in the first 11 chapters.

I. THE THEOLOGY OF ROMANS (CHAPTERS 1-11)

- A. The theme: The gospel is the power of God unto salvation. (1:16-17)
- B. All have sinned. (3:23)
 - 1. All gentiles are unrighteous. (1:18, 21)
 - 2. All Jews are unrighteous. (2:17-23)
 - 3. All mankind is unrighteous. (3:9-12)
- C. God has made His righteousness available. (5:19)
 - 1. God's righteousness is received by faith. (4:5; 5:1)
 - 2. Christ died for us while we were unsaved sinners. (5:8)
 - 3. Through Adam all died spiritually. Through Christ all can live spiritually. (5:18).
- D. A change in one's desires and lifestyle is the result of salvation. (6:1-2)
 - 1. The old sinful self was crucified with Christ so we are no longer slaves to sin. (6:6).
 - 2. A believer is dead to sin, therefore sin should not reign in a believer's life. (6:12, 14)
 - 3. A believer was once a slave to sin, but is now freed from sin. (6:20, 22)
 - 4. A believer, like Paul, doesn't want to sin and hates the sin he commits. (7:15)
 - 5. A believer wants to obey, but doesn't obey all of the time. The sin that remains in his flesh is what keeps him from obeying all of the time. (7:18-19, 21)
 - 6. Deliverance from our body of death is required if we are to be totally free to obey God completely. (7:24)
 - 7. A believer has a mind set on the Spirit, and is in the Spirit. (8:5-6, 14)
 - 8. An unbeliever has his mind set on the flesh, and cannot please God. (8:7-8, 13)
 - Compare Galatians 5:17. The Spirit and the flesh are at war with each other in order to gain control of the believer's life. (Note: The flesh is not the old nature.)
 - 9. Creation and all believers await the redemption of the body (rapture or physical death), which will finally deliver the believer from all sin and temptation. (8:23)
 - 10. While the believer is awaiting this deliverance (8:23) and deals with the sin brought on by the flesh, he is secure in his salvation because nothing can separate the believer from the Lord of Christ. (8:38-39).

- E. Israel's eventual reception of Jesus (Rom. 11:26)
 - 1. Israel did not exercise faith and stumbled in their relationship with God. (9:31-33)
 - 2. One must confess Jesus to be Lord and believe that God raised Him from the dead to be saved. (10:9-10)
 - 3. God saves those he chooses and hardens the rest. (11:7)
 - 4. The sins of the Jews became a chance for salvation for the Gentiles. (11:11)
 - 5. The Jews were cut off due to their unbelief. Gentiles will also be cut off if they do not believe in God and His Son. (11:20-21)
 - 6. Eventually Israel will be saved because God keeps His promises. (11:25-29)

II. THE APPLICATION OF THE THEOLOGY IN ROMANS (CHAPTERS 12-16)

- A. Present your body a living sacrifice, and do not let the world shape your life. (12:1-2)
- B. Judge yourself properly and function as a member of the body of Christ. (12:4-8)
- C. Love one another while serving the Lord. (12:9-13)
- D. Never pay back evil for evil, and never take your own revenge. (12:17-19)
- E. Overcome evil with good. (12:21)
- F. Be in subjection to the government. (13:1-5)
- G. Love your neighbor as yourself. (13:8-10)
- H. When there is no clear instructions from the Lord, follow your conscience. (14:5b, 14, 22a)
- I. Do not force your preferences upon another if the issue isn't clear in the Scriptures. (14:6-8, 10, 12, 15)
- J. Seek to edify your neighbor not yourself. (15:1-2)