

## *Outline of the Book of Romans*

### INTRODUCTION: 1:1-17

1. Paul's obligation to preach the gospel in Rome, 1:1-15
2. The theme of the epistle: "He who through faith is righteous shall live"  
RSV, 1:16-17

### I. HE WHO THROUGH FAITH IS RIGHTEOUS, 1:18 - 4:25

- A. Under the wrath of God, 1:18-3:20
  1. The wrath of God against unrighteousness, 1:18-32
    - a. The unrighteousness of the heathen
    - b. The reaction of God's wrath
  2. The wrath of God against the righteousness of the Law, 2:1-3:20
    - a. The Jews are without excuse,
    - b. The law does not protect against the wrath of God
    - c. Circumcision does not shield from the wrath of God
    - d. The result: the whole world lies in guilt before God.
- B. The Righteousness of God, 3:21-4:25
  1. The righteousness of God revealed through Christ, 3:21-31
    - a. The righteousness of God is not by the law
    - b. The righteousness of God is the righteousness of faith
    - c. How the righteousness of faith was revealed
    - d. The righteousness of faith excludes boasting
  2. The righteousness of God witnessed to by the Law and the Prophets, 4:1-25
    - a. Abraham's righteousness was the righteousness of faith
    - b. Not through circumcision was Abraham righteous
    - c. Not through the Law was Abraham righteous
    - d. Abraham is the type of him "who through faith is righteous"

### II. "HE WHO THROUGH FAITH IS RIGHTEOUS SHALL LIVE" 5:1 - 8:39

- A. Free from the wrath of God, 5:1-21
  1. Saved from the wrath of God by God's love, 5:1-11
    - a. Peace with God
    - b. God's love
    - c. Saved through Christ from the wrath to come.
  2. Adam and Christ, 5:12-21
    - a. Adam the prototype of "him who should come"
    - b. The kingdoms of death and of life
    - c. The intervention of the law
- B. Free from sin, 6:1-23
  1. Free from sin through baptism, 6:1-14
  2. Free from sin to serve righteousness, 6:15-23
- C. Free from the Law, 7:1-25
  1. "Dead to the Law" through Christ, 7:1-6
  2. The power of the Law to provoke and increase sin, 7:7-13
  3. The weakness of the Law to call forth the good, 7:14-25

- D. Free from death, 8:1-39
  - 1. Free from death through the Spirit, 8:1-11
  - 2. Free from death that we may have life, 8:12-17
  - 3. The suffering of the present age and the glory of future, 8:18-30
    - a. the groaning of creation
    - b. The Christian's groaning
    - c. The intercession of the Spirit
    - d. The consummation of God's eternal purpose
  - 4. Conclusion: Victory through the love of God in Christ, 8:31-39
  
- III. THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF FAITH IS NOT AGAINST THE PROMISE OF GOD. 9:1-11:36
  - A. The promise only to believers, 9:1-29
    - 1. The sad state of the Jews, 9:1-5
    - 2. In the very promise of God shows his sovereignty, 9:6-29
    - 3. God's sovereignty in mercy and in wrath, 9:14-29
  - B. Israel's rejection her own fault, 9:30-10:21
  - C. Israel's rejection not final, 11:1-36
    - 1. Even now there is a remnant, 11:1-10
    - 2. Israel's fall became the Gentile's salvation, 11:11-24
    - 3. Rejection is God's way to Israel's possible salvation, 11:25-36
  
- IV. THE LIFE OF HIM WHO THROUGH FAITH IS RIGHTEOUS, 12:1-15:13
  - A. Conduct in the Christian Age, 12:1-13:14
    - 1. The basis rule of Christian living, 12:1-2
    - 2. To walk in Christ, 12:3-8
    - 3. To walk in love, 12:9-21
    - 4. The conduct of the Christian in the orders of this world, 13:1-7
    - 5. Love, the fulfillment of the Law, 13:8-10
    - 6. Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, 13:11-14
  - B. The weak and the strong, 14:1-15:13
  - C. Conclusion, 15:14-16:27
    - 1. Paul's travel plans, 15:14-33
    - 2. Greetings and concluding words, 16:1-27

\*This outline is adapted from Anders Nygren, Commentary on Romans,