



SIN...It is Real and More Dangerous Than We Realize

September 13, 2020

The Book of Romans

- Part 1: Orthodoxy (Right Belief, Romans 1-11)
- Part 2: Orthopraxy (Right Living, Romans 12-16)
- Key - You can't do part 2 until you understand part 1

You Should Go To... Mooloolaba!

You can run fast to get somewhere, but if you have no idea where it is, you will never arrive!

Romans is a road map to the [best life](#) now and for [eternity](#)!

Meeting the Author of Romans (The apostle Paul)

- Paul wrote about 30 years after Jesus died, rose, and ascended.
- Paul was a rabbi and scholar and zealous Jew who persecuted Christians before He became one!
- Paul was controversial (Think bad press on social media). Wrong picture!
- Paul understood the good news and the bad news (Sin and grace)

Romans 1:1

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—

Romans 1:7

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul's Love and Longing (Romans 1:8-10)

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. 9 God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you 10 in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you.

Who do you love and long for...and do you let them know?

The call and mission of every Christian! (Romans 1:16-17)

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. 17 For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." [f]

The first truth, doctrine, Paul focuses on: SIN

God's judgment of sin (and sinful people) is justified ... because we know! (Romans 1:18-20)

18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

The Downward Spiral of Sin in our lives and the world...Picture it

Cycle One...(Romans 1:21-23)

21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

Cycle Two... (Romans 1:24-25)

24 Therefore **God gave them over** in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

Cycle Three... (Romans 1:26-27)

26 Because of this, **God gave them over** to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. 27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

Cycle Four...(Romans 1:28-31)

28 Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so **God gave them over** to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. 29 They have become filled with **every kind of wickedness**, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy.

The bottom of the drain... (Romans 1:32)

32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

On this journey to right living, we must begin with right thinking and belief (Orthodoxy). Paul's first word is: SIN

Key Passage: Romans 1