

# ROMANS

*A Daily Devotional  
Study Guide*



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## WEEK 9

## Day 1

**Study:** Romans 5:3-9

**Reading:** John 15:9-17, II Corinthians 5:16-21

**Memory:** Matthew 5:14

Charles Wesley grew up in a strict religious home and was deeply involved in missionary service, but he didn't have any joy in his life. Shortly after a disappointing time of missionary service in America, he met a group of Moravians who displayed a love and hope that he didn't have. It was then that he realized he was a sinner and placed his trust in Jesus Christ. Shortly after that experience he wrote the words to the song, "How Can It Be." Contemplating his salvation experience, Wesley wrote these words:

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?

Chorus: Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace! Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race.

No condemnation now I dread; I am my Lord's and He is mine: Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine.

## What Does the Bible Say?

All believers can rejoice because of the hope they have knowing they will spend eternity with God because of His grace towards them. On top of that, every believer can rejoice in the trials and tribulations that come into their lives because they trust in an almighty, all knowing God. God allows difficult times in our life because He knows that it will build our character and help produce perseverance in our lives (vs 3). As we persevere, we are building character in our life as we learn to place our faith and trust in God. This faith and trust increases our hope in what God will do for us because we will experience His power in our lives and will understand that He always keeps His Word. This will allow us to avoid disappointment in our lives because we can feel the love of God being poured out upon our lives through the power of the Holy Spirit (vs 4-5).

This love can be seen in the fact that Christ died for all sinners when they were helplessly lost in their sins (vs 6). Paul illustrated the love of God by describing how a person would have a hard time sacrificing his life for an outstanding individual, though there might be a few people who would be willing to die for another person they loved. But we weren't good people. We were enemies of the cross of Christ and were followers of the Devil when God displayed His love towards us and sent Jesus Christ to die for our sins (vs 7-8). Jesus died on the cross for one purpose. His shed blood and His death upon the cross paid the penalty for our sin and enabled us to be declared righteous by God. This declaration will save us from the wrath that God will bring upon all sinners who fail to repent from their sin and place their trust in God (vs 9).

### **How Does this Apply to Me?**

Think of the person that you dislike the most. Think of all the things he or she has done to hurt you and lead to problems and anger in your life. Now imagine that this person was about to die and you chose to step in and die in his or her place. This is what God chose to do for you!

Isn't the love of God amazing? Doesn't the thought of what God has done for you thrill you? Though the love of God is so amazing, it is easy for the thought of it to become too common in our lives. It is easy to forget that we were helpless without any hope before we came to know Christ. It is easy to take for granted the sacrifice that God made. When this happens in your life, it will be easy for you to get lazy in your spiritual life and become complacent in your service for God. Take some time today to examine your attitude about the love of Christ and make changes where needed.

### **Suggestions for Prayer**

- \* *Thank God for the love that He displayed towards you.*
- \* *Ask God to help you live a life of thankfulness to Him.*
- \* *Praise God because He is love.*

### **Thought for the day**

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## ***Day 2***

**Study:** Romans 5:10-14

**Reading:** Ephesians 2:14-22, Colossians 1:12-20

**Memory:** Matthew 5:14

**W**hen I was just starting out as a young adult, I would receive a statement from the bank that gave the details of the transactions I made that month. This was not always a fun time for me, because I would often look through the statement and see several transactions that I failed to record in my checkbook. I would then begin the task of reconciliation to make sure that all the debts that I had occurred had been paid and were accounted for. The goal in the end was to have the statement match up to my checkbook and have the two balance with each other. I am thankful for online banking nowadays so I can check on a more regular basis.

Though my financial time of reconciliation is no fun for me, thinking about my spiritual reconciliation thrills me. I think of how I owed a debt to God because of my sins, yet He chose to send Jesus to pay that debt so I no longer owe anything on my account. Today, we are going to see how our sin accounts have been reconciled by Jesus Christ.

### **What Does the Bible Say?**

Jesus didn't die on the cross for us because we were good people whom He felt sorry for, but He died for us when we were His enemies who were full of evil. The death of Jesus on the cross helped reconcile us to God. The word reconcile describes how God brought us into His favor by balancing out the debt that we owed. This is a wonderful term that tells us that God no longer looks at us as enemies, but as His own children. If God was willing to send Jesus to die when we were His enemies, how much is He willing to do for those who are His children (vs 10). This reconciliation that God gives us should cause us to exalt God as we realize what He has really done for us. In fact, this exalting is one of the evidences that will be displayed in the life of a believer (vs 11).

This need for reconciliation is present in all men, because all men are sinners. When Adam and Eve chose to sin in the Garden of Eden, they

brought upon themselves the curse that God had promised and part of that curse was that they would physically die. Death is one thing that is for sure in the life of every person because all men have sinned (vs 12). Even before the Law was given to Moses, there was no question that the people of the world were filled with sin. Though the Law wasn't needed to point out the specifics of sin, as the people of the world chose to trust in themselves and not in God, their sin was evident (vs 13). Men couldn't sin the same way Adam and Eve had committed the first sin because they no longer had the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, but they sinned with the same mind set which involved a trust in one's self. Paul said that Adam was a "type of Christ," not because Christ was a sinner like Adam, but because one man's actions had a profound affect on all the world (vs 14).

### **How Does this Apply to Me?**

How do you exalt God because of your salvation? Are you moved by the verses that you read about what God has done for you, or are they just a nice thought? One of the biggest mistakes that most believers make is allowing their salvation to become too common to them. They forget what Christ has really done and forget how special an act Jesus Christ performed for them. This often happens when we get too caught up in the things of this world, even good things. This is why you need to continually choose to make time to refocus on God and what He has done for you. You need to meditate on His Word and let the truth sink into your mind. As you do this, your life will reflect your thankfulness because you will have a constant reminder of how sinful you were and how great your salvation is.

### **Suggestions for Prayer**

- \* *Thank God for your salvation.*
- \* *Ask God to help the thought of salvation never become old to you.*
- \* *Praise God because He has the ability to reconcile all men.*

### **Thought for the day**

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## ***Day 3***

**Study:** Romans 5:15-21

**Reading:** Galatians 3:19-25, Ephesians 1:3-14

**Memory:** Matthew 5:14

**I** once watched a news report that was uncovering how much bacteria exists in houses. For part of the report, the reporter went into the house of a family that appeared to be very clean. The lights were shut off and some special spray and a special light was used to illuminate the bacteria that was in the house. The owners, who prided themselves in their clean house, were amazed when they realized how much their cleaning practices only cleaned the surface, failing to remove some of the harmful bacteria.

Today, we are going to see how the Law was like that spray and light, except the law revealed something greater. The law helped reveal the awesomeness of God's grace.

### **What Does the Bible Say?**

Paul wanted his readers to understand that all men are sinners and that because of Adam, we all have a sin nature. We are not only born as sinners, but we also choose to sin. The emphasis in this passage is placed on the fact that the act of one man helped lead to the condemnation of all men, but the act of another man helped lead to the deliverance of all who would believe. Death had dominion over all men because of the sin of Adam. This sin nature was passed down from generation to generation. No man can save himself because of the acts that he does. The only way to receive justification is by faith in the work of Jesus Christ. This justification is not obtained by any work that a man can do, but is given as a gift by God for all men (vs 15-17).

One act was all that was needed to deliver all men from sin. That act was nothing that any human could perform because all humans are sinners. That act could only come from one who was perfect and holy. This was the opposite of the one act that caused all men to be sinners and face death. This one act would allow eternal life for all who believe. This was a direct contradiction to much of the Jewish teaching that insisted a person needed to follow the law and be good in order to receive salvation. It isn't the

continual acts of a person that justifies him, but the one act of Jesus Christ that allows all men to be declared righteous (vs 18-19).

The law, which the Jews attempted to follow for their salvation, was given to reveal how sinful man really was. The Law also revealed how great God's grace was in that He was willing to send His son to die for those who were His enemies. At one time, sin reigned in the hearts and lives of men, but because of the gift of grace, righteousness can now reign in the hearts of all men (vs 20-21).

## **How Does this Apply to Me?**

Do you feel like you have to continually earn favor with God? Do you view God as someone who you have to constantly try to please? Though you should want to please God because you love Him, you don't have to live a life of continual fear and guilt, wondering if you are doing a good enough job for Him. He has given you His grace as a free gift and nothing you can do will earn greater favor with Him. You were not only saved by grace, but grace reigns continually in your life because of the one time act of Jesus Christ. No one should feel that they have to continually work for God to be found worthy of Him because the worth of a person is only found in the righteousness of Christ. The one act that Jesus did on the cross has more value than all the good works of all men put together. It is in that work that you as a believer can find all your hope and joy.

## **Suggestions for Prayer**

- \* *Thank God for the free gift He has given you.*
- \* *Ask God to help you live in grace in your daily life.*
- \* *Praise God because He is a God of grace.*

## **Thought for the day**

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# ***Day 4***

**Study:** Romans 5:1-11, James 1:1-8

**Reading:** Colossians 1:15-23

**Memory:** Matthew 5:14

**Romans 5:1-11,**

What does it mean to be justified (vs 1)?

*\*\*\*This is a judicial term which means to be declared righteous.*

What do you have as a result of your justification (vs 1)?

What have you also obtained access to (vs 2)?

Why can you rejoice (vs 2)?

How are these things accessed (vs 2)?

How does the grace of God allow us to respond to our sufferings (vs 3)?

What is produced in you through your sufferings (vs 4)?

What will hope not do (vs 5)?

*\*\*\*Biblical hope is not a wish, but a certainty. We can count on the fact that God will not disappoint us. The suffering is worth it because of what God is doing through it and what we will have as a result of it.*

How does the Holy Spirit play a role in our lives through our suffering (vs 5)?

When did Christ die for you according to verse 6?

What does verse seven reveal about a sacrificial death?

How did God show His love for you (vs 8)?

Why are verses 6-8 so significant to understanding the concept of grace?

What have we been justified by (vs 9)? What does this save us from (vs 9)?

How can you understand verse 9 in the context of what had been declared in chapters 1-3?

*\*\*\*The first part of this book revealed how all men are condemned and subject to face the wrath of God.*

What were you before you chose to accept the grace of God (vs 10)?

What is the point over verses 10-11?

*\*\*\*If God was willing to die for His enemies, how much more will He be willing to assist and help those who are His children. You can rejoice and have hope even through the darkest times of your life when you understand the truth of grace.*

### **James 1:1-8**

Who was James writing to and why (vs 1)?

*\*\*\*The Christian Jews had been scattered because of persecution.*

What are believers commanded to do (vs 2)?

How are you able to follow the command given in verse 2 (vs 3-4)?

What are you to do when you feel like you can't fulfill the command (vs 5)?

How are you to ask (vs 6)?

How does this correspond with Romans 5?

### **Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

## *Day 5*

**Study:** Romans 5:12-17, Ephesians 2:1-10

**Reading:** Genesis 3:1-24

**Memory:** Matthew 5:14

### **Romans 5:12-17**

Why is the word "therefore" significant when studying this passage (vs 12)?

*\*\*\*In some Bibles, there is a title above this new paragraph which may give the idea that it is a new thought. Though the thought may be different than what was just talked about, the word "therefore" indicates that what is about to be read is based off of what was just written.*

Sum up what Paul had been writing about in verses 1-11?

How did sin come into the world (vs 12)? What was the result of that sin?

What is related about sin and the law in verse 13? What point was being made?

What reigned over man from the time that Adam first sinned (vs 14)?

*\*\*\*Though the Law had not yet been given, all men were subject to die because of their sin. Sin was more than just eating of the tree as Adam first did. Others were not subject to die because they committed the same sin that Adam had, but they were subject to die because they had not obeyed God in other ways.*

### **Ephesians 2:1-10**

What was your condition before you met Christ (vs 1)? Why?

What course of life did you naturally follow before you trusted in Christ (vs 2)?

Who was your master before you made Christ your master (vs 2)?

Why is this hard for many people to come to grips with?

What do natural men care about (vs 3)?

What does it mean that “by nature” you were a “child of wrath” like everyone else (vs 3)?

How does this correspond with what Paul has been describing in Romans 5?

How does your condition before salvation reveal how rich the mercy of God is (vs 4)?

What is the significance of the fact that God chose to reach down to us and give us life “even” when we were dead in our sins (vs 5)?

What does it mean to be “saved by grace” (vs 5)?

What is a great privilege that you have been given (vs 6)?

*\*\*\*You have been given a new nature as a believer. You are no longer trapped in the realm of the devil (prince of the power of the air), but are now in the realm of God.*

What is God’s plan for you in the future (vs 7)?

What is emphasized in verses 8-9?

What are we given a new life to do (vs 10)?

### **Personal Application**

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

## ***Day 6***

**Study:** Romans 5:18-21,

**Reading:** Galatians 3:1-29

**Memory:** Matthew 5:14

### **Romans 5:18-21**

What did the one sin of Adam lead to (vs 18)?

*\*\*\*This does not mean that it is all Adam’s fault (or Eve’s fault). You don’t have to suffer directly for Adam’s sin, but it is his sin that caused you to be born with a sinful nature. You are responsible for your own sin, but you are born condemned because you are born into sin.*

How will many people be justified (vs 18-19)?

What point is Paul trying to make in verse 18-19?

*\*\*\*Deliverance from sin is not some long, drawn out act, just like the introduction of sin was not a long process.*

What obedience is Paul referring to (vs 19)?

Where does the law fit into what Paul has been talking about (vs 20)?

*\*\*\*Paul knew that the Jews reading the book would be wondering about the law’s role in the whole process. He had been making reference to Adam and Christ, skipping past the law. Now he reintroduces the law and described how the law brought further condemnation because now all men could fully understand they were sinners by breaking the law.*

What does the law show about the great grace of God (vs 20-21)?

*\*\*\*Just as the amount of sin that was revealed by the law was massive, the amount of grace that is revealed in salvation is even greater.*

What does the grace of God allow you to have (vs 21)?

## I John 2:1-6

What should your salvation encourage you to avoid (vs 1)?

What has God put in place, knowing that you will still sin (vs 1)?

How is Jesus described (vs 2)?

*\*\*\*Depending on your translation, Jesus Christ here is described as the “propitiation” for your sin. The word means “appeasement” or “satisfaction.” Though you can not appease God’s wrath on your own because you are a sinner who can not be righteous, the righteousness of Christ is placed on your account. Even when you sin as a believer, you are not under the wrath of God, because Christ’s sacrifice had satisfied God’s demand for payment.*

What will a true believer desire to do (vs 3)?

What does verse 4 reveal about the difference between those who talk about being believers and the true believers?

Why does this not settle well with many people who have relatives who are living away from the Lord?

*\*\*\*It is easy to want to believe that a relative is saved because they prayed a prayer. Yet, Scripture is clear that actions reveal what is in a person’s heart. Instead of making excuses for the outward actions of others, we need to pray that God will change their hearts.*

What does a desire to be obedient to God reveal about a person’s heart (vs 5)?

How should believers desire to walk (vs 6)?

### Personal Application

What can you learn about God from this passage?

How can you apply what you have learned to your everyday life?

# Day 7

## **Reading: Romans 5:1-21**

(Take time to read this passage again, letting the truths you have studied this week sink into your mind. You are encouraged to go online and read it through a few times in different versions.)

[www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

### Bible Memory

*Matthew 5:1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. 8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. 13 “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. 14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.*