

POWER FOR SUCCESSFUL LIVING



A STUDY OF ROMANS

#1: THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL—1:1-17

JIM HINTON

I. GOD HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE ME

1. He is the God of “new things”

Look, I will make new heavens and a new earth, and people will not remember the past or think about those things. My people will be happy forever...

Isaiah 65:17-18a (NCV)

2. He is the God who provides me with the power to change

I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength.

Philippians 4:13 (NCV)

3. Positive transformation is what the book of Romans is about

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

Romans 1:16-17 (NIV)

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

II. BACKGROUND OF ROMANS

1. The place

2. The people

- Writer
- Recipients

3. The purpose

- Explain what the Christian life is all about

Chapters 1-11: What a Christian should believe

Chapters 12-16: How a Christian should live

- **Themes of Romans: law, grace, righteousness, faith, sin, works, salvation, justification, sanctification, calling, the Gospel, Israel and more**

- **Outlines**

From Chuck Swindoll

Salutation (1:1-17)

The Wrath of God (1:18-3:20)

The Grace of God (3:21-5:21)

The Faithfulness of God (6:1-8:39)

The Majesty of God (9:1-11:36)

The Righteousness of God (12:1-15:13)

The Community of God (15:14-16:27)

From Warren Wiersbe:

I. INTRODUCTION (1:1–17)

II. SIN—RIGHTEOUSNESS DEMANDED (1:18—3:20)

A. The Gentiles guilty—1:18–32

B. The Jews guilty—2:1–3:8

C. The whole world guilty—3:9–20

III. SALVATION—RIGHTEOUSNESS DECLARED (3:21—5:21)

A. Justification stated—3:21–31

B. Justification illustrated in Abraham—4

C. Justification explained in Adam—5

IV. SANCTIFICATION—RIGHTEOUSNESS DEFENDED (6—8)

A. Victory—the flesh—6

B. Liberty—the Law—7

C. Security—the Spirit—8

V. SOVEREIGNTY—RIGHTEOUSNESS DECLINED (9—11)

A. Israel's past riches—9

B. Israel's present rejection—10

C. Israel's future restoration—11

VI. SERVICE—RIGHTEOUSNESS DEMONSTRATED (12:1—15:7)

A. In the church body—12

B. In society—13

C. Toward the weaker believer—14:1—15:7

VII. CONCLUSION (15:8—16:27)

4. The promise—I can change for the better forever

The might worshipping and power-hungry Romans had never seen power until they had met up with the gospel. He who had walked the gutters of Corinth and by the gospel liberated men from lust and debauchery, from murder and treachery, would be eager to preach in Rome also. He had the cure for the world's ills. He had seen it work. Hadn't God taken him (Paul) captive in Christ? If the gospel could work on Paul it could work with anyone.

Jim McGuigan

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength to do his work. He considered me trustworthy and appointed me to serve him, even though I used to blaspheme the name of Christ. In my insolence, I persecuted his people. But God had mercy on me because I did it in ignorance and unbelief. Oh, how generous and gracious our Lord was! He filled me with the faith and love that come from Christ Jesus. This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all.

1 Timothy 1:12-15 (NLT)

III. THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL—ROMANS 1:1-17

The Apostle Paul...

1. Clarifies who he is (v.1)

- **A servant of Christ**

Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ

Philippians 3:8 (NLT)

- **An Apostle of Christ**

2. Describes what he has—The “Good News” (v.3-5)

3. Explains why he serves (v.6-17)

- To encourage you
- To fulfill my obligation
- To transform you