Understanding the New Testament

Romans
Epistle as a Genre

• What is an Epistle?
• What is the basic form of an Epistle?
• What was involved in sending a letter in the First Century?
The Epistles are to the Gospels what the Prophets are to the Torah
## Pauline Epistles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Epistles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundational Epistles</td>
<td>Romans 1st &amp; 2nd Corinthians Galatians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison Epistles</td>
<td>Ephesians Philippians Colossians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prophetic Epistles</td>
<td>1st &amp; 2nd Thessalonians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastoral Epistles</td>
<td>1st &amp; 2nd Timothy Titus Philemon*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Romans

The “big idea” in the Epistle to the Romans?

The Righteousness of God
The Righteousness of God has been revealed…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapters 1-8</th>
<th>Chapters 9-11</th>
<th>Chapters 12-16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Righteousness of God has been revealed…</strong></td>
<td><strong>In saving believers</strong></td>
<td><strong>In the lives of those who follow Him</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In judging sinners</td>
<td>In His dealings with Israel</td>
<td>Practical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Doctrinal</strong></td>
<td><strong>Obedience of Faith (1:5)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Obedience of Faith 16:26</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am not ashamed of the gospel…

- *It is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes*
- *In it the righteousness of God is revealed*

How is the righteousness of God revealed in the gospel?

- In the wrath of God toward those who sin (Romans 1-3)
- In the grace of God toward those who believe (Romans 4-8)
The Righteousness of God is revealed…

- In judging the pagans who rejected Him (Chapter 1)
- In judging the Jews who disobeyed Him (Chapter 2)
- In judging all men who have sinned against Him (Chapter 3)
For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood...
We sinned

God’s grace

Propitiation

Redemption

Justification

How is a person Justified?
What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? 2 For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God.
For what saith the Scripture?
“Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.”
Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. 5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness,
Imputation

Reckoned

Our sinfulness
Christ’s Righteousness Reckoned

Our sinfulness

Reckoned
The Righteousness of God is revealed...

- In reckoning men as righteous by crediting them with the righteousness of Christ
- In declaring men to be righteous on the basis of the reckoning described in the previous chapter
Romans 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned--
Romans 5:13-14

...for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam’s transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.
Why did people die between Adam and Moses?

If death comes through sin

If sin is not reckoned without law

and

and

If the law did not come until Moses

then
Adam’s sin was imputed to all men
Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of on the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.
The Righteousness of God is revealed...

- In reckoning men as righteous by crediting them with the righteousness of Christ (Chapter 4)
- In declaring men to be righteous on the basis of the reckoning described in the previous chapter (Chapter 5)

What about sin?
- Can we continue to live in sin? (6)
- What about the sin that is still in our lives? (7)
- In adopting us as His children (Chapter 8)
What about Israel?

How can we see God as righteous when His own chosen people do not believe and receive His promises?

- Not all Israel is Israel
- God is sovereign with His plan for Israel
- Salvation is offered to all who believe
- Israel’s unbelief has resulted in blessings to the Gentiles
- God has not cast them off forever
I Beseech you…

- To present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice
- Do not be conformed to this world
- Be transformed by the renewing of your mind