

ENGAGING GOSPEL DOCTRINE (EPISODE 162)

LESSON 36

[“Beloved of God, Called to Be Saints”](#)

Hook	Page for page, Paul’s letter to the Romans may be one of the most influential writings in the history of Western civilization.
Manual Goal	To remind class members that they are children of God and to encourage them to live worthy of their divine inheritance.
EGD Goal	To encourage class members to nurture their best, divine natures and internalize the principles of the gospel.

Outline of Romans (From Raymond Brown, An Introduction to the New Testament)

Formal Division

- A. Opening Formula: 1:1-7
- B. Thanksgiving: 1:8-10
- C. Body: 1:11-15:13
- D. Concluding Formulas (15:14-16:23 plus Doxology (16:25-27)

Division according to Contents

- 1:1-15: Address/greeting, Thanksgiving, and Proem about Paul’s wish to come to Rome
- 1:16-11:36: Doctrinal Section
 - Part I: 1:16-4:25: Uprightness of God revealed through the gospel
 - 1:18-3:20: God’s wrath and sins of Gentiles and Jews
 - 3:21-4:25: Justification by faith apart from the Law
 - Part II: 5:1-8:39: God’s salvation for those justified by faith
 - Part III: 9:1-11:36: God’s promises to Israel
- 12:1-15:13 Hortatory Section
 - Part I: 12:1-13:14: Authoritative advice for Christian living
 - Part II: 14:1-15:13: The strong owe love to the weak
- 15:14-33: Paul’s travel plans and a blessing
- 16:1-23 Recommendation for Phoebe and greetings to people at Rome
- 16:25-27: Concluding doxology

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I. Sunday School

- a. Significance of Romans
- b. Review the Reading
- c. Discussion of Adam Miller's commentary
- d. Does this whole “Jewish Law” discussion matter to us? (yes, because there is an LDS corollary of being “saved by works”) (GRACE talk about forgiveness, sexual assault, arousal)
- e. Our “old self” being crucified in Christ
- f. Flesh and spirit
- g. “all things work together for the good of those who love God (8:28)
- h. Don't judge
- i. Conclusion I: Take aways from Romans

II. Scripture Study

- a. One of these letters is not like the others: The distinctive context of Romans
- b. Why Paul goes on so much about the Law
- c. Paul and the salvation of Israel
- d. Paul and Jerusalem and Spain (what do we know about these?)
- e. Book Recommendation: Anything by Adam Miller. Most pertinent to this episode, “Grace is not God's backup plan: An urgent paraphrase “ Love the word “urgent” applied to this.

III. Study Notes

- a. Homosexuality and the Bible (Romans 1 is the only mention of lesbians...)
- b. Does flesh/spirit dualism have meaning with a scientific worldview?
- c. Conclusion II