

One Year Bible – Week 29

Summary: Romans Reading

The book of Romans was written by Paul to the church in Rome, whom he has never met, in anticipation of his visiting. It is a letter rich in detail of the theology of Christianity. In Romans, Paul lays out a whole story of Jesus and what his death and resurrection means for us. Romans 1:16-17 is thought of as the theme of the whole book. The reading this week addresses the heart of the gospel – justification by faith.

Summary: 1 Chronicles Reading

The reading for this week covers the life of David. Attention is given to bringing the Ark of YHWH to Jerusalem and David's preparation for the temple.

Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:

- *NT* – Biblical Scholars have multiple thoughts about what is meant by Paul's reference to "righteousness from God" in Romans 1:17. Is the righteousness from God that is being revealed his own attribute, just like his love or faithfulness? Is it his activity of making people righteous? Maybe it is referring to the gift of righteousness that God imputes upon us through Jesus? Each of these suggestions, including any combination of them, are plausible within the context of the verse. Whatever Paul may be specifically stating here, one thing is for sure – the gospel reveals a righteousness from God. Whatever this righteousness is, it is seen through the gospel, which is the power of God through salvation. Spend some time meditating on the power of the gospel; for it is not merely a cliché church word, it is an unveiling of the magnificence of God. – *July 12*
- *NT* – Paul takes a chapter to discuss the concept of justification by faith, not by works. (Ro 4) How does your religious background relate to what Paul writes here? How do you view religious works? Pray and ask God to give you a deeper understanding of what it means to be justified by faith and not by works.

Small Group Questions:

- 1) *NT* – Read Romans 2:1-5. In this passage Paul is continuing a discussion about people who live in wickedness. What do you

observe about how Paul describes God in these verses? This verse tells us that God's kindness is to lead us to repentance. (Rom 2:4) What are some other ways that people might interpret God's kindness? What makes these interpretations write or wrong? Describe in your own words what Paul means by "stubbornness" and "unrepentant heart" in verse 5; share any examples that come to mind. From this passage, what do you see God wanting for you? – *July 14*

- 2) *NT* – Read Romans 3:20-26. What is the relationship between God's law and sin? If "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," what does that mean about the way we view ourselves? View others? – *July 16*
- 3) *NT* – Read Romans 4:18-5:5. Explain in your own words your understanding of the parallel Paul makes between Abraham and those who believe in Jesus. Spend some time in discussion of verses 5:1-2. What is meant by the following phrases from these verses: "justified through faith," "peace with God," and "gained access by faith?" Summarize in your own words what Paul is saying in verses 3-5. When you hear the word suffering, what do you think of? How are we to respond to suffering? Why? – *July 18*

Journal the Psalms this week:

"How long, O YHWH? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have sorrow in my heart?" (Ps 13:1-2) Have you ever felt this way? Sometimes it feels like we are waiting for God to intervene; for him to give us the help that we desperately seek. Journal about any similar experiences that you have had. Journal about what comes to mind as you read the remainder of Psalm 13. – *July 17*

Reading Schedule:

1Ch = 1 Chronicles / Ro = Romans / Ps = Psalms / Pr = Proverbs



July 12 – 1Ch 12:19-14:17 / Ro 1:1-17 / Ps 9:13-20 / Pr 19:4-5
July 13 – 1Ch 15:1-16:36 / Ro 1:18-32 / Ps 10:1-15 / Pr 19:6-7
July 14 – 1Ch 16:37-18:17 / Ro 2:1-24 / Ps 10:16-18 / Pr 19:8-9
July 15 – 1Ch 19:1-21:30 / Ro 2:25-3:8 / Ps 11:1-7 / Pr 19:10-12
July 16 – 1Ch 22:1-23:32 / Ro 3:9-31 / Ps 12:1-8 / Pr 19:13-14
July 17 – 1Ch 24:1-26:11 / Ro 4:1-12 / Ps 13:1-6 / Pr 19:15-16
July 18 – 1Ch 26:12-27:34 / Ro 4:13-5:5 / Ps 14:1-7 / Pr 19:17