

“Romans, etc.: The Letters and Teaching of St. Paul”

Junior Religion, Semester 2, 2025

Teacher: Pastor John Henry

Objectives

- To equip students to read, hear, understand, and apply the writings of St. Paul and the other Epistles of the New Testament, which can be very confusing and intimidating.
- To equip students to apply Scriptural stories and patterns to understand and solve problems in our time, as St. Paul did in his time.
- To show students that Scripture presents not just a disconnected sayings, verses, sentiments, and aphorisms, but a complete body of doctrine and deposit of truthful teaching, which can be studied and applied according to its whole or in its parts and articles.

Class Structure

- In-Class Bible Study and Discussion
- Reading Homework
- Occasional Reading Quizzes and Short Writing Assignments
- Unit Essay Tests (Open Book, Open Notes, Open-Ended Questions)

Material Covered

Note: This is a very ambitious outline. We will certainly cover the main texts in **Romans** (bold); we will likely not be able to cover all of the *ancillary texts* (italics) in class.

1. Introducing Paul, His Ministry, His Gospel, His Righteousness, His Letters

- *Review of Acts 6-9, Stephen, the Gentile Mission, Conversion of Saul/Paul*
- *Review of the Itinerary of his Missionary Journeys*
- *Galatians 1-2, Paul's Call and Ministry*
- *Philippians 3:1-11, Paul's Life, Conversion, Righteousness*
- *1 Corinthians 1-2, Ministry, Division, Wisdom, Christ*
- *1 Timothy 1:12-17, Paul is Chief of Sinners*
- *Colossians 1:15-23, Christ's Person and Work, Paul's Ministry*
- *2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Ministry, Suffering, and Resurrection*
- *2 Corinthians 5:16-21, Ministry of Reconciliation*

2. Romans 1-5: Original Sin, Atonement, Justification by Grace & Faith Alone, Law and Gospel

- *Genesis 1-11, the problem with the world*
- *Teachings of Jesus on His Atonement, Justification, Forgiveness of Sins*
- *The Story of Abraham, The Story of David and Bathsheba, Penitential Psalms*
- *Galatians 3-4, Justification and Abraham*

- *Ephesians 1-2, the Plan of Salvation*
- *2 Corinthians 3:4-4:6, Law & Gospel*
- *1 Timothy 1:8-11, Lawful Use of the Law*
- *Hebrews 11:1-12:2, By Faith*
- *Hebrews 12:18-24, Sinai & Zion*
- *Titus 3:4-5*

3. Romans 6-8: Sacraments, Struggle with Sin & Sanctification, Suffering

- *Galatians 5:16-25, Flesh and Spirit*
- *Ephesians 6:10-20, Armor of God*
- *Philippians 2:4-11, Humility and Exaltation of and in Christ*
- *Philippians 4:4-9, Rejoice, Think, Peace of God, etc.*
- *Colossians 2:8-19, Christ and Baptism vs. Philosophy*
- *Colossians 3:1-17, Put to Death, Put on Christ...*
- *1 Corinthians 10:1-22, Idolatry and Communion*
- *1 Corinthians 11:17-34, Authentic Communion*
- *2 Corinthians 12:1-10, Weakness and Grace*

4. Romans 9-11: Applying Scripture's Salvation Story to Church Life Today

- *Background stories: Isaac & Ishmael, Jacob & Esau, the Hardening of Pharaoh, Elijah & the Prophets of Baal & the Remnant, Isaiah & Hosea as cited in Romans*

5. Romans 12-16: Living as the One Body of Christ in a Diverse and Fractured World

- *Ephesians 5:15-6:8, Table of Duties*
- *1 Timothy 2:8-15, 3:1-13, 4:11-16, 5:17-22, Pastoral Office and other ministries; men and women in ministry, etc*
- *1 Corinthians 5, Sexual Immorality and Excommunication*
- *1 Corinthians 7:17-24, Calling and Vocation*
- *1 Corinthians 11:2-16, Order of Creation, Men & Women*
- *1 Corinthians 12:12-13:13, One Body, Love*
- *2 Corinthians 8:1-15, Give Generously*
- *1 Timothy 2:1-7, Pray for All*

6. Last Things

- *1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11, Return of Christ and Resurrection*
- *2 Thessalonians 2:13-17, Called by the Gospel, Faithful to the End*
- *2 Timothy 4:1-8, Timothy, Paul's Death, Crown of Righteousness*
- *1 Corinthians 15, About the Resurrection*