

In-Depth Romans Study

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Handout 2

Romans – A Review of Acts

BASICS

The letter to the believers at Rome begins with the word, “Paul.” If we are to understand the letter we need to understand the writer. Perhaps the easiest way to do that is to look at his life as it is presented in the Acts of the Apostles. Before we do however I’d like to begin to nail down a couple of things.

First – What is the major difference between Jew and Gentile? What keeps them apart? What divides them?

Second – When we talk of the “law” we must keep in mind a couple of things.

- a. The word “law” translates the Hebrew word Torah which, although it contains rules and regulations, it is known in Judaism as “instruction.” It was the translators of the Hebrew scriptures who selected the word “law” (Greek: nomos). There are many and varied reasons for the choosing this word but the bottom line is that though the Torah contains the conditions of a legal covenant (and a divine one at that) it has been traditionally been seen as God’s “instructions,” to His people on how to live within the covenant.
- b. The “law” deals a great deal with the concept of “purity.” There are two kinds of purity addressed, ritual and moral. We will look at this later but it is important to realize that ritual impurity could be corrected and was not seen as sin where moral impurity demanded repentance and sacrifice.

On to Paul and Acts:

Acts 7:58 and 9:1

Acts 20:15&16, 20&21

Acts 9:15& 16, 20, 22&23,26-31

Acts 21:17-26, 39&40

Acts 13:1-3, 13-15, 26, 42-48

Acts 22:12&13, 17

Acts 14:1&2, 19&20, 23

Acts 23:6-9, 16

Acts 15:1&2, 4-11, 19-21, 24&25,28, 38&39

Acts 24:10-20, 24&25

Acts 16:1-5

Acts 25:7-12, 18-20

Acts 17:1-7, 10-12, 16-17

Acts 26:1-11, 19-28

Acts 18:1-4, 7&8, 11-16, 19

Acts 28:17-25

Acts 19:8-10, 23

Php3:3-6 (ff)