



Romans One through Eight

God's Story Meets Our Story

COURSE HIGH- LIGHTS

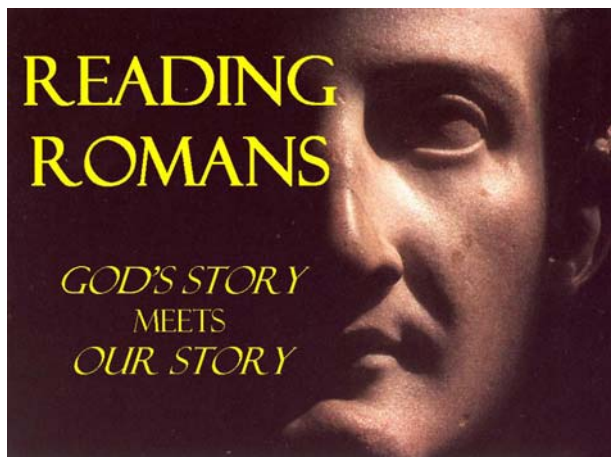
- Explore the Background to Romans
- Explore Paul's insights into the character of God
- Explore Paul's diagnosis of and prognosis for our deepest problems: ourselves

FOR EVERYTHING THAT WAS WRITTEN IN THE
PAST WAS WRITTEN TO TEACH US, SO THAT
THROUGH ENDURANCE AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT
OF THE SCRIPTURES WE MIGHT HAVE HOPE.
ROMANS 15:4

What This Course Is About

The Epistle to the Romans is the Apostle Paul's most celebrated writing. It's a summary of the whole of his thinking. Theologically, when we jump into Romans we realize we're in the deep end of the pool.

But there's more than that to this epistle. Romans is skillful pastoral writing. This epistle — one that Paul wrote to a church he had never even visited — is a clarion call for people to stop redefining the Christian faith around their own agendas and preferences. In Rome, believers from varied backgrounds are reducing God's grand story to their own private stories. Paul responds with a mini-course on "Christianity 101." The "apostle to the nations" writes to help believers reconnect their little stories to God's grand story — the story of Adam, Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus — and us. In a world of competing "isms" and ideologies, Romans points us to the amazing power of God — the power to rescue the lost, to make us part of his worldwide family, and to continue his campaign to reclaim his wrecked creation through us.



Roman Issues

How to understand the centrality of God's character to all of life.

How to factor God's judgments on all our alternatives to his designs for us.

How to receive in Jesus Christ the gift of eternal life with God.

How to find help in our inability to change.

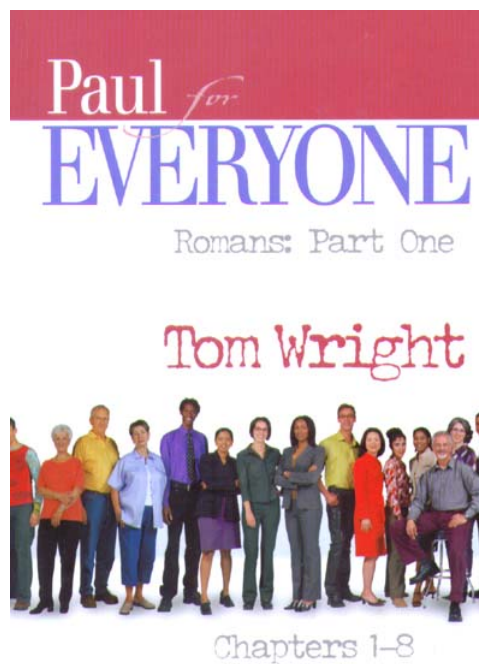
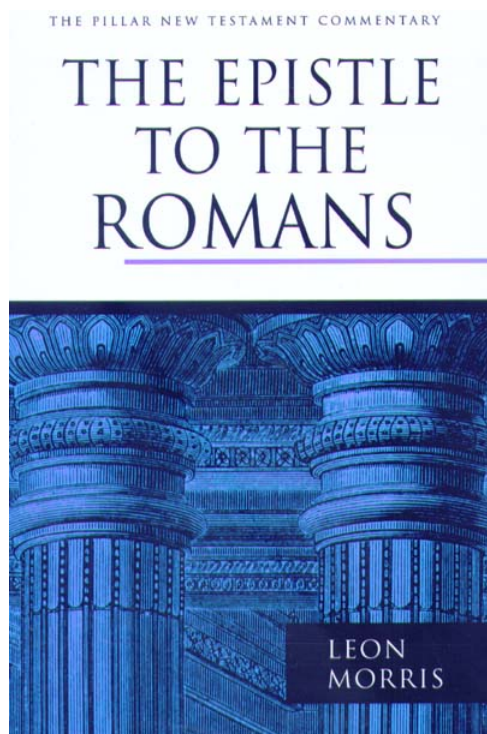
Course Reading

During this course, you will want to read the whole of Romans at least twice; and chapters one through eight at least five more times. This is the most important reading.

You will also find the following commentaries and books helpful:

- ⇒ Leon Morris, *The Epistle to the Romans* (Leicester, England: Apollos; Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1988)
- ⇒ N. T. Wright, *Paul for Everyone: Romans Part One, Chapters 1-8* (London: SPCK; Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2004)
- ⇒ A. Katherine Grieb, *The Story of Romans: A Narrative Defense of God's Righteousness* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002)
- ⇒ Francis A. Schaeffer, *The Finished Work of Christ: The Truth of Romans 1-8* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1998).

The professor will meet with individuals who want to take the course for credit, to outline a personalized set of assignments.



How We Will Cover Romans 1-8

The Apostle Paul on Christianity 101:

- Feb. 22 *What's Romans All About?*
- Mar. 1 *Rom. 1 — God's Power to Save;
God's Wrath Against Sin*
- Mar. 8 *Rom. 2 — God Must Judge Justly*
- Mar. 22 *Rom. 3 — How God Can Be Just and
Justly Justify*
- Mar. 29 *Rom. 4 — Taking It on Faith*
- Apr. 5 *Rom. 5 — Restoring Broken Things,
Part 1*
- Apr. 12 *Rom. 6 — So, Why Not Still Sin?*
- Apr. 19 *Rom. 7 — When We Can't Not Sin*
- Apr. 26 *Rom. 8 — Restoring Broken Things,
Part 2*
- May 3 *Where's Romans Going? Then & Now*

“FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED
OF THE GOSPEL, FOR IT IS
GOD’S POWER FOR SALVA-
TION TO EVERYONE WHO
BELIEVES, TO THE JEW
FIRST AND ALSO TO THE
GREEK. FOR THE RIGHT-
EOUSNESS OF GOD IS RE-
VEALED IN THE GOSPEL
FROM FAITH TO FAITH,
JUST AS IT IS WRITTEN,
“THE RIGHTEOUS BY
FAITH WILL LIVE.”
ROMANS 1:16
(NET)