

CHRISTIAN LIVING

INTRODUCTION



“Romans” so far

- The entire world is guilty before God.
- God counts righteousness to those who believe.
- The believer has victory over sin and suffering.
- God’s plan for Gentile and Jewish salvation.

Final Topic: “Christian Living” (Ch.12-16)

- A practical outworking of the previous 11 chapters.
- Note: Good doctrine produces good living.

CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOUR – CHAPS. 12-13

1] Being a sacrifice & using the gifts (12:1-8)

- Presenting our bodies as living sacrifices. (vv.1 -2)
- Humbly serving the church (Christ’s body) with differing gifts.¹ (vv.3-8)



You can best do this by committing yourself to one church. Why is this?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2] Overcoming evil with good (12:9-21)

- Evil should be hated and good desired – love heads up a list of virtues. (vv.9-16)
- Evil must be overcome by good – respond with kindness not evil. (vv.17-21)



Write down at least one way in which evil could be overcome by doing good.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

¹ Compare 1Peter 4:10, and the miraculous gifts of the Early Church in 1Corinthians 12.

3] Giving to all men their due (chap.13)

- Governments should be honoured as God-appointed agents for our good. ² (vv.1-7)
- Christians should love all men, cast off sin, and put on Christ's character. (vv.8 -14)



Explain why Christians are likely to be better citizens than most.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

WELCOME BELIEVERS IN LOVE – CHAPS.14-15:13

1] Receive them without despising or judging (14:1-13)

- Don't criticise over food (v.2) or days (v.5), as they are God's servants. (vv.4-9)
- *All* must appear before Christ, so examine *yourself* instead! (vv.10-13)



Why do we find it so easy to criticise others and not ourselves? ³

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2] Receive them without hurting or hindering (14:14-23)

- No food is wrong to eat, though some may think it is. (v.14)
- But it *is* wrong to eat anything that damages another. (v.15-23)



**Love stops us doing what is right for us, if it injures another. ⁴
Give a modern example.**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

3] Receive them as Christ received us (15:1-13)

- Christ pleased others not Himself, so bear with those easily offended. (vv.1 -6)
- Christ received us (Gentile outsiders), so receive each other. (vv.7-13)

² Compare Matt 22:17-21.

³ Mary was criticised but Jesus defended her. Mark 14:6,8: "But Jesus said, 'Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? ... She has done what she could.'"

⁴ Compare 1Corinthians 8:9.



Love “bears all things”.⁵ Give an example of Christ’s patience towards His disciples.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

PAUL’S FINAL REMARKS – 15:14-16:27

1] His reason & authority for writing (15:14-21)

- They need to be reminded of gospel truth. (v.15)
- As the Apostle to Gentiles he has the authority to write. (v.16-21)



Why is the teaching in Paul’s letter to the Romans so important today?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

2] His plans for visiting them (15:22-33)

- He will visit on his way to Spain. He must first deliver the Gentile gift. (vv.22-28)
- He begs prayer for deliverance, so that nothing may delay his visit. (vv.29 -33)



The greatest Christians need our prayers. What does this tell us about their natural strength?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3] Greetings, warnings, and God’s praise (chap 16)

- He greets friends he has met in other places. (vv.1 -16)
- He warns about division, and concludes with greetings and praise. (vv.17 -27)

⁵ 1Corinthians 13:7.



Why do you think dividing churches is one of Satan's best tactics?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

FINAL CONCLUSION

These practical chapters remind us that although faith alone saves, the faith that saves is not alone, but full of love & good works.