

WHEN IN ROMANS (PART I)

WHAT HAVE THE ROMANS EVER DONE FOR US? SO ASKED MONTY PYTHON IN THE LIFE OF BRIAN. BUT, WHEN IT COMES TO THE CHURCH, IT TURNS OUT THE ANSWER IS – A LOT! FOR THE BOOKS OF ROMANS HAS HAD MORE IMPACT ON THE SHAPE AND HISTORY OF THE WESTERN CHURCH THAN JUST ABOUT ANY OTHER SECTION OF THE BIBLE. IT WAS UPON READING THE BOOK OF ROMANS IN THE SUMMER OF 386 THAT ST AUGUSTINE FAMOUSLY HAD THE CONVERSION EXPERIENCE THAT WOULD LEAD HIM TO BE A BISHOP OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH. IT WAS ON THE PAGES OF ROMANS THAT THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION BEGAN, AS THE GERMAN MONK, MARTIN LUTHER BECAME CONVINCED OF THE CENTRALITY OF GRACE AND FAITH TO SALVATION. AND, IN A CHURCH CALLED WESLEY, WHO CAN FORGET THAT IT WAS UPON HEARING LUTHER’S COMMENTARY ON ROMANS READ IN A MORAVIAN MEETING HOUSE ON ALDERSGATE STREET IN LONDON THAT THE FATHER OF METHODISM, JOHN WESLEY, FELT HIS HEART “STRANGELY WARMED.”



‘THE MORE THOROUGHLY IT [ROMANS] IS TREATED, THE MORE PRECIOUS IT BECOMES, AND THE BETTER IT TASTES.’

- MARTIN LUTHER



FROM 7 JUNE THROUGH TO 23 AUGUST, WE WILL EMBARK UPON A TWELVE-WEEK SERMON SERIES, TITLED ‘WHEN IN ROMANS (PART I)’. THIS SERIES STARTS WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND TAKES US UP TO THE THEOLOGICAL HEART OF PAUL’S LETTER TO THE ROMANS—CHAPTER 8 (WE WILL EXPLORE THE REMAINDER OF ROMANS AT A FUTURE DATE). AS PART OF THE SERIES, WE ALSO HOPE TO GET A COUPLE OF BIBLE STUDY GROUPS UP AND RUNNING. IN ORDER TO HELP YOU ENGAGE MORE FULLY WITH THE SERIES, PLEASE FIND ON THE BACK PAGE THE SCHEDULE OF SCRIPTURE FOR EACH SUNDAY. IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF A BIBLE STUDY GROUP, PLEASE LET DANIEL OR ANNIE KNOW.



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When in Romans (Part I) Schedule

7 June	The Church at Rome	Romans 16
14 June	God's Gospel and God's righteousness	Romans 1.1 – 17
21 June	The challenge for God's righteousness I	Romans 1.18 – 2.16
28 June	The challenge for God's righteousness II	Romans 2.17 – 3.18
5 July	God's faithfulness I	Romans 3.19 – 31
12 July	God's faithfulness II	Romans 4.1 – 25
19 July	From faith to hope	Romans 5.1 – 21
26 July	Baptism and freedom	Romans 6.1 – 23
2 August	The life the law could not give	Romans 7.1 – 25
9 August	God gives life through the Son and the Spirit	Romans 8.1 – 17
16 August	The renewal of all things	Romans 8.18 – 30
23 August	Nothing will separate us from God's love	Romans 8.31 – 39
