Introduction: Romans (Part 5)

The passages in Romans presented in this study guide are some of the most theologically rich passages in the entire Bible. Unfortunately, many of the concepts in these passages are also among the most hotly debated in all of God’s Word. The mere use of the words election and predestination cause anxiety in many people’s lives. And yet, as we approach the passages in Romans that deal with these issues, I think it is important that we wrestle through them biblically and in Christian love.

We know that many of the doctrines to be studied within the pages of this guide can be divisive, and yet I am confident that division was not Paul’s intention when he wrote these words. Concerning the doctrine of election, Russell Moore writes, “Now, Christians have argued for almost the entire history of the church about the relationship of God’s sovereignty to human freedom, but whatever the doctrine of election means, we can be sure of this: God’s election in Scripture is meant to make people more, not less, secure in God’s faithfulness.”

It is with this thought in mind that I hope we as a church family can approach God’s Word to us in the next seven weeks. We know that Paul, the great missionary to the gentiles was filled with passion and zeal to see both the gentiles and his kindred Israelites come to faith in Christ. We also know that Paul was fully convinced that God had not failed in his purposes and that God’s plans would be fulfilled. The book of Romans is a book about God, specifically, about a God who looked at a helpless humanity and sent his son to save them. Romans is about the God of the gospel and about his divine rescue plan to set the world back into its original working order through the shed blood of his son.

Romans eight and nine are no less gospel-centered than the rest of the book of Romans. Nor are the other pages of Romans any less concerned to show God’s power to accomplish his purposes. Romans one shows us that the gospel is the power of God for salvation. Romans eight and nine serve to show us that the God who set in place a plan to redeem the world will not be thwarted and his children can rest assured that their salvation is not dependent upon any work on their part, but on “God who has mercy.” In these weeks we will see the assurance that Romans one will be fulfilled. Thanks be to God that he has had mercy on our helpless estate and provided salvation through Christ!

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When we study books of the Bible, it is important to understand some basic background about the book. Many of these pieces of information like who wrote it, when was it written, to whom was it written and why was it written (i.e. – the “Explore” section of our Bible study map) can help us to better comprehend God’s truth. Here is some background information for the book of Romans:

**Author**
Romans 1:1 clearly identifies the author of Romans as the Apostle Paul. It is also worth noting that like several of Paul’s letters, he used an amanuensis or scribe to write Romans (Rom 16:22). Some speculate that Paul had an eyesight problem that caused him to rely on a scribe to write down his dictations (see Gal 6:11).

**Date**
Unlike some of the letters in the New Testament, most scholars agree on the date of Romans. From the book of Romans, we know that Paul was headed to Jerusalem to bring an offering for poor (Rom 15:25-26). He was hoping that this offering would help the relationship between the Jewish and Gentile Christians (Rom 15:27). Paul then intended to go from Jerusalem to Rome and then from Rome to Spain.

The context clues that we see in Romans would indicate that Paul wrote this letter towards the end of his third missionary journey (Acts 18:22-21:17). Some of the people mentioned in Romans 16 would lead us to believe that Paul letter from Corinth which would date it around A.D. 57 during his time in Greece (Acts 20:2-3).

**Destination**
Paul identifies the recipients of this letter in as “those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints” (1:7). We do not know much about how the church at Rome was started. Some traditions indicated Peter and/or Paul as having started the church at Rome, but biblical and historical evidence discredits this theory. However, using statements by the Roman historian Suetonius, we believe that there were Christians in Rome by AD 49.

The Roman church was comprised of both Jewish and Gentile Christians and there was apparently some disunity and struggles between the two groups. In A.D. 49, Emperor Claudius’s expelled all Jews (including Jewish Christians) from Rome. Later, when the edict was lifted and Jews were allowed back, there were some understandable conflicts as the Jewish believers returned to a now-Gentile church. These conflicts appear to be part of the background behind Paul’s reasons for writing this letter.

**Purpose**
Paul identifies the recipients of this letter as “those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints” so he was writing to the church at Rome (1:7). From his letter, we know that Paul had several reasons as to why he wrote to them. First, he desired for there to be no tensions between the Jews and Gentiles. This is why Paul spends significant portions of Romans discussing the issue of the Old Testament law and its relation to sin, salvation, and the gospel.

A second reason for Paul writing Romans was to unpack how theology drives actions. Paul spends the first 11 chapters of Romans unpacking the good news of the gospel. Then in Romans 12:1, Paul writes, “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.” Our beliefs influence our actions. Lastly, Paul wrote to the Romans with the future hope that he would be able to come visit them so that they could provide spiritual and material resources that would help him take the gospel to Spain (Rom. 15:24, 28).
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<td>Oct-11</td>
<td>Secure in Christ</td>
<td>Romans 8:26-30</td>
<td>In many places, the Bible assures believers of the security of their salvation. In this passage, Paul shows that even the bad things of life work within God’s good plan. Paul also emphasizes that God has a sure plan to sanctify believers. <strong>Big Question:</strong> What does your salvation guarantee?</td>
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<td>The Love of God</td>
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<td>Nov-1</td>
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<td>Our theology should always result in a greater love for God and a desire to share his love with others. We should especially be concerned for those we know best who do not live as Christians. <strong>Big Question:</strong> Do you have a heart for the lost?</td>
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<td>Romans 9:6-13</td>
<td>Paul anticipated that some would assume that God had failed in fulfilling his promise since most Jews remained unbelieving. Paul shows that God’s promises never fail and that Christianity is consistent with Old Testament Belief. <strong>Big Question:</strong> How do God’s promises affect you?</td>
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<td>Nov-15</td>
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<td>The Mercy of God</td>
<td>Romans 9:14-18</td>
<td>There is a temptation on the part of some to take a false sense of pride in their salvation, as if they somehow were more worthy than others of God’s love. Paul shows that salvation depends on God alone. <strong>Big Question:</strong> Is God required to save anyone?</td>
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<td>Free to Choose and Assured of Salvation</td>
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<td>Paul anticipated objections to his writings. If God is in control, then how can anyone be found guilty. Ultimately Paul’s answer is that even though God is in control, he is not responsible for human sinfulness. <strong>Big Question:</strong> Is God fair?</td>
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<td>Why are the gentiles experiencing God’s salvation in greater proportion than the nation of Israel? Because Israel pursued God by works, the gentiles have pursued God by faith. <strong>Big Question:</strong> Are you following by faith?</td>
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</table>
Secure in Christ (Romans 8:26-30)
Week 1 – October 11, 2015

Sermon and Other Notes

Use this space to write down notes from the sermon or your personal study.
BIG THOUGHT

You can trust God.

INTRODUCTION

“A group of botanists went on an expedition into a hard-to-reach location in the Alps, searching for new varieties of flowers. One day as a scientist looked through his binoculars, he saw a beautiful, rare species growing at the bottom of a deep ravine. To reach it, someone would have to be lowered into that gorge. Noticing a local youngster standing nearby, the man asked him if he would help them get the flower. The boy was told that a rope would be tied around his waist and the men would then lower him to the floor of the canyon. Excited yet apprehensive about the adventure, the youngster peered thoughtfully into the chasm. "Wait," he said, "I'll be back," and off he dashed. When he returned, he was accompanied by an older man. Approaching the head botanist, the boy said, 'I'll go over the cliff now and get the flower for you, but this man must hold onto the rope. He's my dad!'”

(Source: *Our Daily Bread*)

Relationships make all the difference. You can trust God because he is your creator and Heavenly Father. He knows what is best.

EXAMINE

1. Why did Paul want the Roman believers to know that the Holy Spirit would pray on their behalf and teach them how to pray?

2. What is the timeless truth of Romans 8:26-30?

ENGAGE

3. How does this passage encourage you to trust God more fully? How does Romans 8:28 help you to rely more upon God?

4. How does God's control of creation give you confidence as you face difficult times in your life? How does Romans 8:28 help you to find courage to face trials?

5. To what has God predestined believers according to Romans 8:29? In what ways do you see God at work in sanctification in your life?
6. What are some other passages of Scripture that talk about us trusting God in the midst of trials?

EXECUTE

7. In what ways should your prayer life change in light of these verses?

8. How can you use Romans 8:29-30 to encourage fellow believers who are struggling to believe that God can use them to do His will?

Prayer Requests
The Love of God (Romans 8:31-39)
Week 2 – October 18, 2015

Sermon and Other Notes

Use this space to write down notes from the sermon or your personal study.
Discussion Guide – October 25

BIG THOUGHT

Nothing can separate you from God's love.

INTRODUCTION

“When I was a student at Harvard Divinity School, I learned preaching from Dr. Gardner Taylor, a pastor in New York City. I'll never forget those lectures. I remember him telling a story from when he was preaching in Louisiana during the Depression. Electricity was just coming into that part of the country, and he was out in a rural church that had just one little light bulb hanging down from the ceiling to light up the whole sanctuary. He was preaching away, and in the middle of his sermon, the electricity went out. The building went pitch-black, and Dr. Taylor didn't know what to say, being a young preacher. He stumbled around until one of the elderly deacons sitting in the back of the church cried out, “Preach on, preacher! We can still see Jesus in the dark.”

Sometimes that’s the only time we can see him – in the dark. And the good news of the gospel is that whether or not we can see him in the dark, he can see us in the dark.”

(Source: Timothy George, “Unseen Footprints,” Preaching Today Audio, No. 290)

EXAMINE

1. How would believers in the church who had been ostracized by others have been encouraged by Romans 8:31?

2. What is the timeless truth of Romans 8:31-39?

ENGAGE

3. “If God is for us, who can be against us?” – How does that question affect the way that you approach the day-to-day affairs of your life?

4. What does Paul mean when he writes that we are “more than conquerors?” Who brings about our victory?

5. Read John 10:11-12. How do these verses relate to Paul’s words in Romans 8:37-39?
EXECUTE

6. Who do you know that needs to hear that God loved them enough to send his own Son for our sin?

7. How can you use verses like Romans 8:35 to minister to those in difficult situations (ex. persecution, terminal illness, etc.)?

Prayer Requests
A Heart for the Wayward (Romans 9:1-5)
Week 3 – October 25, 2015

Sermon and Other Notes

Use this space to write down notes from the sermon or your personal study.
Discussion Guide - November 1

BIG THOUGHT

Our theology should always result in a greater love for God.

INTRODUCTION

“One of the most unique sporting events in the world did not begin as a sporting event. Each year riders and their dogs race more than 1,000 miles for several days through the Alaskan snow from Anchorage to Nome for Iditarod, the famous dogsled race. While an intriguing event that even allows fans to track the teams online, the genesis of Iditarod was something very serious.

In 1925, hundreds of children in Nome had been exposed to diphtheria. At this point in history, children around the world died from the highly contagious disease because widespread vaccinations had not yet been introduced. The only serum to combat the disease was far away in Anchorage. To get the serum to Nome quickly, it was first carried by train to Nenana. Then teams of riders (known as mushers) and their dogs, strategically placed along the path, carried the serum to Nome via a relay.

More than 150 dogs and 20 mushers were involved in the heroic efforts, which became called "The Great Race of Mercy." With passion and intensity, the mushers hurtled the 300,000 units of life-saving serum across the Alaskan countryside, arriving in Nome in only 127 hours—a record that has yet to be broken. By combining the right medicine with radical effort, an entire generation was rescued, and the riders and their dogs became heroes.

While the Iditarod had an amazing origin, it is now just another sporting event. The teams race a similar path, but the motivation is different. They still tie sleds behind dogs, but they are not racing to save lives anymore. The same is often true of our churches. If we are not intentional, what was once a life-saving mission can become much less...without a sense of the life-giving message and mission we have been given. The race is on, and the stakes are high.”

(Source: Creature of the Word, 137-138, 156)

EXAMINE

1. How would different groups within the Roman Church (i.e. – the Jewish and gentile believers) have reacted to Paul’s words in Romans 9:1-5?

2. What is the timeless truth of Romans 9:1-5?

ENGAGE

3. If Paul was this broken over the Jews in his day who were not in Christ, what should be our reaction to those who are not in Christ today?
4. How should Paul’s passion for his fellow Jews affect Christians and their passion for non-believers in the 21st Century?

5. Paul points out that the Jews are his kinsmen according to the flesh. In what ways are Christians related to each other?

EXECUTE

6. What are you doing to cultivate your passion for the lost?

7. Are you concerned for and broken over any non-Christian friends or family members in your life? How are you working to share the gospel with them?

8. How does your theology (your understanding of God) drive you to have a heart for missions and evangelism?

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Prayer Requests
The Assurance of the Promise (Romans 9:6-13)
Week 4 – November 1, 2015

Sermon and Other Notes

Use this space to write down notes from the sermon or your personal study.
BIG THOUGHT

God always fulfills his promises.

INTRODUCTION

Adoniram Judson was a missionary to Burma, modern-day Myanmar, in the early 1800s. Prior to leaving for Burma, Judson was reportedly asked whether the heathens would be open to the gospel and be converted. His reply was, "The prospects are just as bright as the promises of God."

Over the next 37 years, Judson faced unimaginable hardships and difficulty. He spent three years studying the Burmese language, sometimes spending as much as twelve hours a day in study. It took six years before he saw the first salvation among the people and after eleven years of work, the church only had eighteen believers. During this time he lost his first wife to a fever-induced death followed by his infant daughter six months later. He also spent seventeen months in a squalid prison when war broke out between Burma and the British.

Yet, in the midst of these trials, tribulations, and sufferings, Judson pressed on. As a result of his trusting in the promises and sovereignty of God, Judson translated the entire language into Burmese and today there are over one million Baptists in modern-day Myanmar.

God’s plans are not thwarted by men’s efforts. His promises are true, and in Christ all the promises of God find their yes and their amen (2 Corinthians 1:20).

EXAMINE

1. Why might Paul’s Jewish readers have believed that God had failed to fulfill his promises to Israel?

2. What is the timeless truth of Romans 9:6-13?

ENGAGE

3. Read Genesis 16:1-4 and Genesis 17:15-21. How is Isaac shown to be the child of promise rather than Ishmael? Why does one represent a covenant of grace and the other an effort to satisfy God through works?

4. How does this passage serve as a warning to people who were raised in the church but who do not live for Christ?
5. This passage speaks specifically of God’s “purpose of election.” Many times discussions focus on the “how” of election. Rather than get hung up on the “how,” which God doesn’t reveal, talk about “why” election is important and how this doctrine informs the way you live your Christian life?

**EXECUTE**

6. Paul assures his readers that the Word of God has not failed. How does the assurance of God's word give you courage to live faithfully as a Christian?

7. Abraham attempted to accomplish God’s purposes in his own strength. How are you tempted to do God’s work in your own strength?

8. Paul’s words in Romans 9 would have been shocking to his Jewish readers. Most of them believed that all who were ethnic Jews were assured of salvation. In what ways do people in our culture find a false assurance of salvation? How can we help them to see the truth?

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**Prayer Requests**
The Mercy of God (Romans 9:14-18)
Week 5 – November 8, 2015

Sermon and Other Notes

Use this space to write down notes from the sermon or your personal study.
Discussion Guide – November 15

BIG THOUGHT

Salvation is God’s free and unmerited gift.

INTRODUCTION

“A story is told about Fiorello LaGuardia, who, when he was mayor of New York City during the worst days of the Great Depression and all of WWII, was called by adoring New Yorkers ‘the Little Flower’ because he was only five foot four and always wore a carnation in his lapel. He was a colorful character who used to ride the New York City fire trucks, raid speakeasies with the police department, take entire orphanages to baseball games, and whenever the New York newspapers were on strike, he would go on the radio and read the Sunday funnies to the kids. One bitterly cold night in January of 1935, the mayor turned up at a night court that served the poorest ward of the city. LaGuardia dismissed the judge for the evening and took over the bench himself.

Within a few minutes, a tattered old woman was brought before him, charged with stealing a loaf of bread. She told LaGuardia that her daughter’s husband had deserted her, her daughter was sick, and her two grandchildren were starving. But the shopkeeper, from whom the bread was stolen, refused to drop the charges. "It’s a real bad neighborhood, your Honor," the man told the mayor. "She’s got to be punished to teach other people around here a lesson." LaGuardia sighed. He turned to the woman and said "I've got to punish you. The law makes no exceptions--ten dollars or ten days in jail." But even as he pronounced sentence, the mayor was already reaching into his pocket. He extracted a bill and tossed it into his famous sombrero saying: "Here is the ten dollar fine which I now remit; and furthermore I am going to fine everyone in this courtroom fifty cents for living in a town where a person has to steal bread so that her grandchildren can eat. Mr. Bailiff, collect the fines and give them to the defendant." So the following day the New York City newspapers reported that $47.50 was turned over to a bewildered old lady who had stolen a loaf of bread to feed her starving grandchildren, fifty cents of that amount being contributed by the red-faced grocery store owner, while some seventy petty criminals, people with traffic violations, and New York City policemen, each of whom had just paid fifty cents for the privilege of doing so, gave the mayor a standing ovation.”

(Source: Brennan Manning, The Ragamuffin Gospel, 107)

EXAMINE

1. Why might someone have accused Paul of claiming that God was unjust?

2. What is the timeless truth of Romans 9:14-18?

ENGAGE

3. How did God use Pharaoh’s hard heart for his own good purposes? What was the end result of Pharaoh’s disobedience?
4. According to Romans 9:16, who is responsible for salvation?

EXECUTE

5. How does this passage of Scripture drive you to praise God?

6. This is not an easy passage of scripture for some people to wrestle with, but it is still God's word. Why is it important for us to wrestle with hard passages of the Bible?

7. What was the purpose for which God used Pharaoh (Romans 9:17)? What is our ultimate purpose? How are you fulfilling your God-given purpose?

Prayer Requests
Free to Choose and Assured of Salvation
(Romans 9:19-29)
Week 6 – November 15, 2015

Sermon and Other Notes

Use this space to write down notes from the sermon or your personal study.
BIG THOUGHT

God is good.

INTRODUCTION

“C.S. Lewis’ celebrated children’s book, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, tells of the adventures of four children in the magical kingdom of Narnia. The story is fun, but it’s also an allegory of Christ and salvation, with Christ represented by the lion Aslan. When in Narnia, the children meet Mr. and Mrs. Beaver, who describe the mighty lion to them.

“Is he a man?” asked Lucy.

“Aslan a man!” said Mr. Beaver sternly. Certainly not. I tell you he is King of the wood and the son of the great emperor-beyond-the-sea. Don’t you know who is the King of the Beasts? Aslan is a lion – the Lion, the great lion.”

“ooh!” said Susan, “I’d thought he was a man. Is he – quite safe? I shall feel rather nervous about meeting a lion.”

“That you will, dearie, and no mistake” said Mrs. Beaver; “if there’s anyone who can appear before Aslan without their knees knocking, they’re either braver than most or else just silly.”

“Then he isn’t safe?” said Lucy.

“Safe?” said Mr. Beaver; “don’t you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? ‘Course he isn’t safe. But he’s good. He’s the King, I tell you.”

(Source: Storiesforpreaching.com; C.S. Lewis, The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe)

God is not fair and he is not safe, but he is good. A fair God would send everyone to hell and a safe God is not worthy of our praise and awe, but a good and mighty God, that is a God who offers salvation and deserves all of our praise.

EXAMINE

1. How do you think the Roman believers reacted to his words in Romans 9:19-29?

2. What is the timeless truth of Romans 9:19-29?

ENGAGE

3. Some would argue based on this passage that God is not fair. Why should be thankful that God is good, but not fair?
4. The idea of covenant runs throughout both the Old and New Testaments. How do Christians (the elect) experience God’s covenant love in a way different from those outside of Christ?

5. How is Hosea’s prophecy as recorded by Paul in Romans 9:25-26 finding fulfillment today? How did Hosea demonstrate God’s love to Israel? Does God love us with the same kind of passionate care and concern as he did Israel?

EXECUTE

6. Paul writes of God’s patience in Romans 9:22 in relation to those who will not be saved. What does Peter teach us in 2 Peter 3:9 about the purposes behind God’s patience?

7. According to Paul, what right have we to question God’s character and decisions? How have you questioned God’s decisions or his will in your own life? What do these questions reveal about what you think of yourself and what you think of God?

8. Paul quotes from Hosea and Isaiah in this passage and from many other Old Testament passages throughout the book of Romans. How much time do you spend studying the Old Testament? How can you focus more time in the Old Testament to help you better understand the New Testament?

Prayer Requests
The Righteousness of Faith (Romans 9:30-33)
Week 7 – November 22, 2015

Sermon and Other Notes

Use this space to write down notes from the sermon or your personal study.
BIG THOUGHT

Righteousness is found by faith.

INTRODUCTION

The following is an anecdotal story that has been passed around (even as a song):

“The following letter was found in a baking-powder can wired to the handle of an old pump that offered the only hope of drinking water on a very long and seldom-used trail across Nevada’s Armargosa Desert:

This pump is all right as of June 1932. I put a new sucker washer into it and it ought to last five years. But the washer dries out and the pump has got to be primed. Under the white rock I buried a bottle of water, out of the sun and cork end up. There’s enough water in it to prime the pump, but not if you drink some first. Pour about one-fourth and let her soak to wet the leather. Then pour in the rest medium fast and pump like crazy. You’ll git water. The well has never run dry. Have faith. When you git watered up, fill the bottle and put it back like you found it for the next feller.

~ Desert Pete.

P.S. Don’t go drinking the water first. Prime the pump with it and you’ll git all you can hold.”

Faith does not always make sense, but if we could see the end in sight, it would not be faith at all. In our finite minds, working to earn God’s favor makes sense, but in God’s economy, righteousness is found only by faith.

EXAMINE

1. How would these verses have been especially encouraging to gentile believers who did not keep the Old Testament law?

2. What is the timeless truth of Romans 9:30-33?

ENGAGE

3. Read Romans 1:16-17. By faith, whose righteousness are we covered in?

4. James writes that faith without works is dead (James 2:14-26). How does your salvation empower and drive you to do works of righteousness?
5. Who is the stumbling stone and the rock of offense that Paul writes about? Why was he an offense?

EXECUTE

6. How can Jesus be a stumbling stone today? What makes Jesus and his message offensive to non-believers?

7. How are you encouraged to know that believers in Jesus will not be put to shame? When will believers experience the ultimate victory in Christ?

8. Do you ever pursue your religion as if it were based on works and not on faith? How does this happen? How can you avoid falling into this temptation?

Prayer Requests
Recommended Resources

Book Resources

*Five Perspectives on Election* – One of the major themes in the book of Romans is God’s work of election. This book gives a great overview of five different views on election through a debate between five different theologians.

*Romans: The Randall House Bible Commentary* – F. Leroy Forlines writes as a free-will Baptist, but his commentary is approachable for students of all levels and well researched. The author has included several essays within the commentary that add to the study of Romans.

*The Epistle to the Romans: NICNT Commentary* – This is the expanded commentary by Dr. Douglas J. Moo who also wrote the NIV Application Commentary. This commentary delves deeper into the exegesis of the text.

*The Message of Romans* – John Stott has written what many consider to be the best popular-level commentary on the book of Romans. His approach is both pastoral and devotional and offers deep insights from a balanced perspective.

*Paul’s Letter to the Romans: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary* – Witherington focuses on the background of the readers to whom the book of Romans was original written.

*Hard Sayings of Paul* – Drawing on years of pastoral experience and study, Manfred Brauch takes on forty-eight of Paul’s hardest sayings. Brauch helps believers to understand and apply these difficult passages to their Christian Life.

*Systematic Theology* – Wayne Grudem’s textbook is among the most used by evangelicals today. Grudem clearly and systematically lays out the theological themes introduced by Paul.

*Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God* – Two of the overarching themes of Romans are God’s sovereignty and evangelism. J.I. Packer explores how the two concepts work together through God’s church. This is a classic work on evangelism.

Online Resources

*The Story* – If you are looking for an easy visual way to share the gospel, check out [viewthestory.com](http://viewthestory.com). This website unpacks God’s “big story” of salvation through the themes of creation, fall, rescue, and restoration in the Bible. It is a colorful and sensible way for people to understand our sin and need for a savior. You can even download a free app to your iPhone or Android phone.

*Blue Letter Bible* – The Blue Letter Bible is an online resource that offers multiple translations of the Bible, translations, and definitions from the original languages, and some commentaries. In addition to the website, there is an app you can download to your tablet or smartphone. [http://www.blueletterbible.org](http://www.blueletterbible.org).

*John Piper’s Sermons on Romans* - Dr. John Piper’s sermons on the book of Romans can be found at his ministry's website, [http://www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org). Dr. Piper is an example of a godly and patient pastor who spent many years working through the book of Romans. His sermons on this book serve as a model for many.

*Paige Patterson’s Lectures on Romans* – Southwestern Theological Seminary has made a series of lectures of Dr. Paige Patterson on Romans available on YouTube. Dr. Patterson was one of the leaders in the conservative resurgence in the Southern Baptist Convention and continues to be one of the convention’s leading voices. You can view the first lecture at [http://youtube.com/0Jqd7C1wu0s](http://youtube.com/0Jqd7C1wu0s) or by going to YouTube and searching for “Focused Study in Romans.”