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Romans

Romans 1

Romans 1:1

ULT

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called {to be} an apostle, having been set apart for the gospel of God,

UST

¹ {I,} Paul, who serve the Messiah Jesus, {am writing this letter to the church in the city of Rome}. Jesus summoned me to personally represent him and specially chose me to proclaim God's good news.

By what means had God promised the gospel before Paul's time? (vv1-2)

God had promised the gospel before by his prophets in the holy scriptures.

Romans 1:2

ULT

² which he promised beforehand by his prophets in the holy scriptures,

UST

² God previously promised this good news. God's spokesmen prophesied about this good news {that was recorded} in the sacred writings.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:3

ULT

³ concerning his Son—who was born from a seed of David according to the flesh,

UST

³ {This good news is} about God's Son. As it relates to his Son's human nature, he was born a descendant of King David.

God's Son was born out of which descendants according to the flesh?

God's Son was born out of the descendants of David according to the flesh.

Romans 1:4**ULT**

⁴ who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by the resurrection of the dead—Jesus Christ our Lord,

UST

⁴ {As it relates to his divine nature,} God {the Father} powerfully demonstrated Jesus to be his divine Son by resurrecting him after he died. The Holy Spirit confirmed the divine nature of God's Son! {God's Son is} Jesus the Messiah, who is our Lord.

By what event was Jesus Christ declared to be the Son of God?

Jesus Christ was declared to be the Son of God by the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 1:5**ULT**

⁵ through whom we received grace and apostleship for obedience of faith among all the Gentiles, for the sake of his name,

UST

⁵ Jesus favored us by authorizing us to personally represent him, in order that all the nations would become obedient {to God} by trusting {in Jesus the Messiah, and} in order to make his name famous.

For what purpose did Paul receive grace and apostleship from Christ?

Paul received grace and apostleship for obedience of faith among all the nations.

Romans 1:6**ULT**

⁶ among whom you also are called of Jesus Christ.

UST

⁶ Jesus the Messiah has also summoned you who are {living} among the nations.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:7**ULT**

⁷ To all those being in Rome, beloved of God, called {as} saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

UST

⁷ {I want} all of you {believers in Christ} who live in Rome to know that God loves you. He summons you to live like those who belong to him. I pray that God our Father and the Lord Jesus the Messiah {will continue to} act graciously toward you. I also pray that they {will continue to} keep you safe and secure.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:8**ULT**

⁸ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ concerning all of you, because your faith is being proclaimed throughout the whole world.

UST

⁸ {Now, the} first {thing to tell you, is how much} I am constantly thanking my God for all of you {believers in the Messiah}. I {can only} thank my God because Jesus the Messiah chose me to personally represent him. I thank my God because {people} throughout the whole inhabited world are proclaiming how you trust {in God}.

For what does Paul thank God concerning the believers in Rome?

Paul thanks God because their faith is proclaimed throughout the whole world.

Romans 1:9**ULT**

⁹ For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of his Son, how I continually make mention of you,

UST

⁹ Certainly it is God whom I devoutly serve, by proclaiming the good news about his Son. God testifies that I am telling the truth, {when I say that} I constantly mention you,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:10**ULT**

¹⁰ always requesting in my prayers if somehow now at last I will be successful by the will of God to come to you.

UST

¹⁰ whenever I pray. I {keep} begging God that somehow he would now finally will that I journey so that I can visit with you.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:11**ULT**

¹¹ For I long to see you so that I may give to you some spiritual gift, to strengthen you,

UST

¹¹ {I pray for this} because I deeply desire to see you {in person}, so that I can share some gracious gift with you from the Holy Spirit, that will help spiritually support you.

Why does Paul desire to see the believers in Rome?

Paul desires to see them in order to give them some spiritual gift in order to establish them.

Romans 1:12**ULT**

¹² and that is to be mutually encouraged with you through each other's faith, both yours and mine.

UST

¹² In other words, {I want to share some gracious gift with you} so that we can mutually help one other. Both you and I can help each other by sharing how we mutually trust in God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:13**ULT**

¹³ Now I do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, that I often intended to come to you (but I was hindered until now), so that I might have some fruit among you also, just as also among the rest of the Gentiles.

UST

¹³ My fellow believers in Messiah, I certainly want you to know that many times I planned to visit you. But until the present time, {God} has prevented me from visiting you. I planned to visit so that I could help you to spiritually grow, the same way {the churches} among the rest of the nations {have} also {grown spiritually}.

Why had Paul been unable to visit the believers in Rome until now?

Paul had been unable to visit because he was hindered until now.

Romans 1:14**ULT**

¹⁴ I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

UST

¹⁴ I am obligated {to proclaim the good news}: to people who are culturally Greek and people who are not culturally Greek, to people who are culturally sophisticated and people who are culturally unsophisticated.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:15**ULT**

¹⁵ So, as it depends on me, {I am} eager to proclaim the gospel also to you who {are} in Rome.

UST

¹⁵ So then, if it was my choice, I would also be ready and willing to preach the good news to you believers in the Messiah who live in Rome.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:16**ULT**

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, both to the Jew first and to the Greek.

UST

¹⁶ Certainly, I am deeply honored to proclaim God's good news! Because when his good news is proclaimed, God demonstrates how powerfully he saves any type of person who continues to trust in him. God first proclaimed the good news to save the Jews, now he proclaims the good news to save the pagans too.

What does Paul say the gospel is?

Paul says the gospel is the power of God for salvation for every one who believes.

Romans 1:17**ULT**

¹⁷ For the righteousness of God is revealed in it from faith to faith, just as it has been written, "But the righteous will live by faith."

UST

¹⁷ Indeed, whenever God's good news is proclaimed, God continues to show how he makes people right with himself: trust {in God's promises} leads to trust {in God's good news}. This is what the holy scriptures mean when they say, "But the person God makes right with himself will live by trusting in God."

What scripture does Paul quote concerning how the righteous will live?

Paul quotes the scripture, "The righteous will live by faith".

Romans 1:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who through unrighteousness are holding back the truth,

UST

¹⁸ Indeed, from where God dwells, he is showing how furious he is. He is furious with all people who reject God and refuse to become right with him. By refusing to become right with him, these same people are {actually} suppressing the things that God says are true.

What do the ungodly and unrighteous do even though that which is known about God is visible to them? (vv18-19)

The ungodly and unrighteous hold back the truth even though that which is known about God is visible to them.

Romans 1:19**ULT**

¹⁹ because that which {is} known about God is visible to them, for God made it visible to them.

UST

¹⁹ In fact, what {all nations} acknowledge about God is obvious to these people. Because God has made it obvious to them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:20**ULT**

²⁰ For his invisible qualities, both his eternal power and divine nature, are clearly seen from the creation of the world, being understood through the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

UST

²⁰ Indeed, {although} people cannot see God with their eyes, {all} people can clearly perceive what he is like by observing what he made. Since the time when God first created the universe, {he has shown how} he ceaselessly controls {all things}. {He has shown that} he is {the only} God. For this reason, none of these people can excuse themselves {from acknowledging that God exists}.

How are the unseen things about God clearly visible?

The unseen things about God are clearly visible through the created things.

What characteristics of God are clearly visible?

God's everlasting power and divine nature are clearly visible.

Romans 1:21**ULT**

²¹ For having known God, they did not glorify him as God, nor did they give him thanks. Instead, they became foolish in their thoughts, and their senseless heart was darkened.

UST

²¹ Although these people know that there is {one} God, they do not honor him as God. They also refuse to thank him. On the contrary, they ponder worthless things {about him}. They also are unable to understand spiritual things.

What happens to the thoughts and hearts of those who do not glorify God nor give him thanks?

Those who do not glorify God nor give him thanks become foolish in their thoughts and their hearts are darkened.

Romans 1:22**ULT**

²² Claiming to be wise, they became foolish,

UST

²² {By} asserting that they are wise, they become morons!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:23**ULT**

²³ and exchanged the glory of the imperishable God for a likeness of an image of perishable man, and of birds, and of four-footed beasts, and of creeping things.

UST

²³ So they stop glorifying the God who can never perish, so that they can glorify perishable idols that resemble: people, birds, four-footed animals, and creatures that creep and crawl.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:24**ULT**

²⁴ Therefore, God gave them over to the lusts of their hearts for uncleanness, to dishonor their bodies among themselves;

UST

²⁴ So, God permits these people to indulge in the lustful acts that they deeply desire, causing these people to become controlled by these acts. Then these people become impure when they {sexually} dishonor their bodies with one another.

What does God do to those who exchange his glory for the images of perishable men and animals?

God gives them over to the lusts of their hearts for uncleanness, for their bodies to be dishonored among themselves.

Romans 1:25**ULT**

²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie and worshiped and served the creation instead of the Creator, who is blessed to eternity. Amen.

UST

²⁵ These people stop believing what is true about God and start believing what is false about God. They reverently honor and religiously worship things that God creates, instead of the God who creates those things. {They did these things, even though} people should always praise God. May it be so!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:26**ULT**

²⁶ For this reason, God gave them over to passions of dishonor, for both their females exchanged natural use for those contrary to nature,

UST

²⁶ Because {these people exchange what is true about God for what is false, God permits them to become controlled {by what is false}. This happens when they dishonor themselves by lusting after whatever they desire. In fact, their females exchange natural {sexual} acts {with males} for unnatural {sexual} acts {with females}.

For what dishonorable passions do these women and men burn in their lust? (vv26-27)

The women burn in their lust for one another, and the men burn in their lust for one another.

Romans 1:27**ULT**

²⁷ and likewise, the males also, having left the natural use of the female, burned in their lust for one another, male with male bringing about shameless acts and receiving in themselves the penalty they deserved for their error.

UST

²⁷ Similarly, the males also abandon the natural sexual acts with females. They begin to intensely lust for other males. They commit homosexual acts. {This kind of behavior is} morally indecent. They are repaid by receiving what they deserve in their own bodies. They are penalized for how they pervert {God's natural sexual acts}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:28**ULT**

²⁸ And just as they did not approve of having God in {their} awareness, God gave them up to a disapproved mind, to do those things that are not proper.

UST

²⁸ These people think it is worthless to acknowledge God. So, God allows them to become controlled by being inclined toward worthless things. As a result, they practice inappropriate things.

What does God do to those who do not approve of having him in their awareness?

God gives them up to a depraved mind, to do those things that are not proper.

Romans 1:29**ULT**

²⁹ Having been filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, {and} malice, {they} are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, {and} evil intentions. {They are} gossips,

UST

²⁹ These people have become completely controlled {by inappropriate things}: they refuse to be made right with God, they are wicked, they are greedy, they are evil. They are totally inclined: to envy others, to murder, to argue, to act deceptively, to commit evil deeds. They gossip,

What are some of the characteristics of those who have a depraved mind?

Those who have a depraved mind are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, and evil intentions.

Romans 1:30**ULT**

³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

UST

³⁰ they slander. They hate God, they are violent. They are arrogant, they boast. They invent {new kinds of} evil things. They disobey their parents.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:31**ULT**

³¹ senseless, faithless, heartless, {and} merciless.

UST

³¹ These people are unreasonable, they break promises. They do not care {about anyone except themselves}, they do not show mercy {to others}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 1:32**ULT**

³² Who, having understood the righteous decree of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, they not only do these things, but they also approve of those who practice them.

UST

³² These people fully understand the kind of right living that God requires, {and} that people who keep doing such {inappropriate} things deserve to die. Even though they fully understand these things—they still continue to live inappropriately. Not only that, but they even fully approve of those people who practice such {inappropriate} things!

What do those with a depraved mind understand about God's requirements?

Those with a depraved mind understand that those who practice such things are worthy of death.

Even though those with a depraved mind understand God's requirements, what do they do anyway?

They do unrighteous things anyway, and approve of those who practice them.

Romans 2

Romans 2:1

ULT

¹ Therefore, you are without excuse, O man—anyone who judges—for in that which you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.

UST

¹ This is why any of you who judges another person is defenseless when God will judge you. This is because when you judge someone else, you are actually condemning yourself—since you who judge someone else do the exact same things as they do!

Why are some people without excuse in their judging?

Some people are without excuse in their judging because what they judge in another they practice themselves.

Romans 2:2

ULT

² But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth upon those who practice such things.

UST

² Certainly, we acknowledge that it is entirely fair that God will finally judge those people who keep doing such {inappropriate} things.

How does God judge when he judges those who practice unrighteousness?

God judges according to truth when he judges those who practice unrighteousness.

Romans 2:3

ULT

³ But do you think this, O man who judges those who are practicing such things and you are doing the same things, that you will escape from the judgment of God?

UST

³ You who judge, you actually think that you will be able to escape when God finally judges! You keep judging the people who practice such {inappropriate} things—even though you keep doing the same things yourself!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:4**ULT**

⁴ Or do you scorn the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

UST

⁴ You actually despise {how} lavishly kind, and tolerant, and patient he is! You know that when God shows how kind he is, {it is meant} to lead you to change how you live.

What is God's patience and goodness meant to do?

God's patience and goodness is meant to lead a person to repentance.

Romans 2:5**ULT**

⁵ But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart, you are storing up for yourself wrath on the day of wrath and of the revelation of the righteous judgment of God,

UST

⁵ Instead, you stubbornly refuse to deeply repent. This is why God will severely punish you. {This will happen} at the final time God punishes and reveals how justly he judges.

What are those with hard, unrepentant hearts toward God storing up for themselves?

Those with hard, unrepentant hearts are storing up for themselves wrath for the day of God's righteous judgment.

Romans 2:6**ULT**

⁶ who will pay back to each according to his deeds:

UST

⁶ God will repay each and every person for whatever they do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:7**ULT**

⁷ on the one hand, eternal life to those who according to endurance of good work are seeking glory and honor and incorruptibility;

UST

⁷ Indeed, living eternally {is how God repays} those people who persist in doing good. {These are} the people who keep striving to glorify {him}, to honor {him}, and to preserve themselves.

What do those receive who have done consistent, good actions?

Those who have done consistent, good actions will receive eternal life.

Romans 2:8**ULT**

⁸ but on the other hand, wrath and fierce anger to those who {are} from selfish ambition and who are disobeying the truth but obeying unrighteousness.

UST

⁸ But, God is fiercely furious with those people who are hostile towards what he says is true. {God is} also {fiercely furious} with those people who {continually} refuse to do what he says is true. In fact, these people {continually} refuse to become right with God.

What do those receive who obey unrighteousness? (vv8-9)

Those who obey unrighteousness receive wrath, fierce anger, tribulation, and distress.

Romans 2:9**ULT**

⁹ Tribulation and distress will be on every human soul that brings about evil, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

UST

⁹ {God will cause} every human being who {habitually} acts evil to become distressed and troubled. {This will happen} first to the Jew who {habitually} acts evil, and also to the pagan.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:10**ULT**

¹⁰ But glory and honor and peace will be to everyone who practices good, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

UST

¹⁰ But God will glorify, and honor, and reconcile every person who {habitually} acts good. {This will happen} to the Jew first, and also to the pagan.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:11**ULT**

¹¹ For there is no favoritism with God.

UST

¹¹ Because God is impartial {when he judges}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:12**ULT**

¹² For as many as have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and as many as have sinned under the law will be judged by the law.

UST

¹² Certainly, whoever sins without knowing what God has legislated {through Moses}, when they die they will not be held responsible for what they did not know. And whoever sins knowing what God has legislated {through Moses}, God will judge them according to what he has legislated.

How does God show no partiality in his judgment between Jew and Greek?

God shows no partiality because those who sin, either Jew or Greek, will perish.

Romans 2:13**ULT**

¹³ For the hearers of the law {are} not righteous before God, but the doers of the law will be justified.

UST

¹³ This is because God does not make right with himself the people who {only} hear his law {that he gave through Moses}. But, God will make right with himself those people who live by his law.

Who is justified before God?

The doers of the Law are justified before God.

Romans 2:14**ULT**

¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature the things of the law, they, not having the law, are a law to themselves.

UST

¹⁴ There are nations who do not possess the rules that God made in his law. {But, they still} instinctually follow the rules of his law. {Although} these nations do not possess God's law-whenver they do what his law says-it is certain that God considers them obedient to the rules in his law.

How do Gentiles show that they do have a law to themselves?

Gentiles show that they have a law to themselves when they do by nature the things of the Law.

Romans 2:15**ULT**

¹⁵ They show the deeds of the law to be written in their hearts, the conscience bearing witness to them, the thoughts between themselves both accusing or even defending them

UST

¹⁵ {By instinctually following the rules of God's law,} these people demonstrate that God has made each person consciously aware of how to obey his law. When they act according to God's law, these actions {also} testify to them. Meanwhile, what a person thinks will either accuse or even defend them {at the time when God finally judges humanity}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:16**ULT**

¹⁶ on the day when God will judge the secrets of men, according to my gospel, through Christ Jesus.

UST

¹⁶ {This will happen} at the time when God {finally} judges the hidden thoughts that people have. {God's} good news that I proclaim teaches that he will judge {humanity} through Jesus, the Messiah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:17**ULT**

¹⁷ But if you name yourself a Jew and rely upon the law and boast in God,

UST

¹⁷ Now, you consider yourself a Jew. You identify yourself with God's law. You boast {that you know} God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:18**ULT**

¹⁸ and know {his} will and approve of what is excellent, being instructed from the law;

UST

¹⁸ You are familiar with what God desires. Also, since you have been educated by God's law, you approve of what is superior.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:19**ULT**

¹⁹ and you are convinced that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those in darkness,

UST

¹⁹ You have even convinced yourself that you can spiritually guide the pagans. {You are convinced that} you can clarify to those who are unaware what God says in law.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:20**ULT**

²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of little children, having in the law the form of knowledge and of the truth,

UST

²⁰ {You have convinced yourself that} you should instruct people who believe foolish things. {You have convinced yourself that} you should teach {people who know as little as} infants. {You have convinced yourself that} you fully understand what is true, since you think you own the rights to God's law.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:21**ULT**

²¹ then you, who teach others, do you not teach yourself? You, who preach not to steal, do you steal?

UST

²¹ So {since you actually have convinced yourself about all these things}, why don't you do what you teach others to do?! You keep telling others that they should not steal, but you steal!

What challenge does Paul give to those Jews who rest upon the Law and teach others?

Paul challenges them that if they teach others the Law, they should also teach themselves.

Which sins does Paul mention that the Jewish teachers of the Law should stop doing? (vv21-22)

Paul mentions the sins of stealing, adultery, and the robbery of temples.

Romans 2:22**ULT**

²² You, who says not to commit adultery, do you commit adultery? You, who hate idols, do you rob temples?

UST

²² You keep telling {people} not to engage in adultery, {but} you engage in adultery! You {supposedly} detest {worship of} idols, {but} you ransack temples!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:23**ULT**

²³ You, who boast in the law, do you dishonor God by breaking the law?

UST

²³ You boast in {your knowledge of} God's law, {but} you degrade God by violating his law!

Why is the name of God dishonored among the Gentiles because of the Jewish teachers of the Law? (vv23-24)

God's name is being dishonored because the Jewish teachers of the Law are transgressing the Law.

Romans 2:24**ULT**

²⁴ For "the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you," just as it has been written.

UST

²⁴ In fact, it is exactly as the {holy} scriptures say, "The nations defame God's name because of {how} you {act}."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:25**ULT**

²⁵ For circumcision indeed benefits if you obey the law, but if you are transgressors of the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision.

UST

²⁵ Because it is certain, that being circumcised can benefit you if you practice God's law. But, if you violate God's law, being circumcised no longer benefits you at all.

How does Paul say a Jewish person's circumcision can become uncircumcision?

Paul says that a Jewish person's circumcision can become uncircumcision if that person is a violator of the Law.

Romans 2:26**ULT**

²⁶ If, then, the uncircumcised one keeps the requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be considered as circumcision?

UST

²⁶ So then, if the uncircumcised person obeys what God requires in his law, God will regard that uncircumcised person as being circumcised.

How does Paul say that a Gentile person's uncircumcision can be considered circumcision?

Paul says that a Gentile person's uncircumcision can be considered circumcision if that person keeps the requirements of the Law.

Romans 2:27**ULT**

²⁷ And the one who, by nature uncircumcised, fulfills the law, will condemn you as a transgressor of the law, though having the letter and circumcision!

UST

²⁷ The person who is physically uncircumcised and fully performs God's law, will judge you {Jews}! Although you are circumcised and know the written rules in God's law, the uncircumcised person will judge you {Jews} for violating God's law!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 2:28**ULT**

²⁸ For he is not a Jew who {is} one outwardly; neither is circumcision that which {is} outward in the flesh.

UST

²⁸ Indeed, being outwardly marked does not reveal who is a true Jew. {Similarly,} you can not reveal true circumcision by marking a body.

Who does Paul say is a true Jew? (vv28-29)

Paul says that a true Jew is a Jew inwardly, with a circumcision of the heart.

Romans 2:29

ULT

²⁹ But the one who {is} inwardly a Jew, and circumcision of the heart in the Spirit, not in the letter; of him the praise {is} not from men but from God.

UST

²⁹ Actually, a true Jew is inwardly marked by being spiritually circumcised. The Holy Spirit spiritually circumcises a person, not God's written rules. A true Jew only cares that God praises him, not other people.

From whom does a true Jew receive praise?

A true Jew receives praise from God.

Romans 3

Romans 3:1

ULT

¹ What then {is} the advantage of the Jew, or what {is} the benefit of the circumcision?

UST

¹ Then {perhaps you might say,} "What makes a Jew special?" Or "How does circumcision benefit a person?"

What is first of all among the advantages of the Jew? (vv1-2)

First of all among the advantages of the Jew is that they were entrusted with revelation from God.

Romans 3:2

ULT

² Great in every way! For first of all, that they were entrusted with the sayings of God.

UST

² {I would say, "Being a Jew} is quite special! {It actually benefits a person} in many ways!" In fact, the first benefit is that God entrusted the Jewish people to preserve what he announced through prophetic messages.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:3

ULT

³ For what if some were unfaithful? Their unbelief will not abolish the faithfulness of God, will it?

UST

³ {Perhaps you might say,} "But what if some {of these Jews} acted faithless {toward God}? Faithless people cannot actually invalidate how faithful God is, can they?!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:4**ULT**

⁴ May it never be! Instead, let God be true, but every man a liar. Just as it has been written, "That you might be shown to be righteous in your words, and that you might prevail when you are judged."

UST

⁴ {I would say, "Of course not!" In fact, God {will always} be trustworthy, even if every person is not. {This is} exactly what is written in the holy scriptures, "This is so that people will acknowledge that you are right when you speak. This is so that you are victorious when people {try to} judge you."

Even though every man is a liar, what is God found to be?

Even though every man is a liar, God is found to be true.

Romans 3:5**ULT**

⁵ But if our unrighteousness shows the righteousness of God, what will we say? God {is} not unrighteous for imposing {his} wrath, {is he}? (I speak according to men.)

UST

⁵ What does this mean then: those of us Jews who refuse to become right with God, are {actually} confirming that God is right? {It can} not {possibly mean} that God is wrong when he punishes! (When I talk like this, it is meant to express how human beings think).

Because God is righteous, what is he able to do? (vv5-6)

Because God is righteous, he is able to judge the world.

Romans 3:6**ULT**

⁶ May it never be! Otherwise, how will God judge the world?

UST

⁶ Of course not! If God is somehow wrong when he punishes, then God could not judge the world!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:7**ULT**

⁷ But if the truth of God through my lie abounds to his glory, why am I still judged as a sinner?

UST

⁷ But {perhaps you might say,} "When I act untrustworthy, this further demonstrates how trustworthy God is. So, how can God still judge me as if I am sinning?"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:8**ULT**

⁸ And not—just as we are blasphemed and just as some affirm us to say—"Let us do evil, so that good may come"? Their condemnation is just.

UST

⁸ You might as well spread slanderous reports against us like some people do! You might as well be like some people who accuse us of saying, "Let's do what is evil, so that what is good can happen!" It is right {for God} to condemn people {who speak and act} like this!

What comes on those who say, "Let us do evil, that good may come."?

Judgment comes on those who say, "Let us do evil, that good may come".

Romans 3:9**ULT**

⁹ What then? Are we excusing ourselves? Not at all. For we have already accused both Jews and Greeks, all of them, to be under sin.

UST

⁹ So then, we {who are Jews} are certainly not superior! In fact, we previously charged that all Jews and Greek pagans are guilty of sinning.

What is written in the Scriptures about the righteousness of all, both Jews and Greeks? (vv9-10)

It is written that there is none righteous, not one.

Romans 3:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Just as it is written: "There is none righteous, not even one.

UST

¹⁰ This is confirmed by what the holy scriptures say, "There is not even one type of person who wants to be right with God!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:11**ULT**

¹¹ There is none who understands. There is none who seeks God.

UST

¹¹ Not one of these people understands who God is. Not one of them is committed to know him.

According to what is written, who understands and seeks after God?

According to what is written, none understand and none seek after God.

Romans 3:12**ULT**

¹² They all have turned away. They together have become useless. There is none doing good—there is not even one."

UST

¹² All types of people have swerved away {from trying to know God}. As a whole, they are {spiritually} damaged. Each type of person damages {others}. Up to the last person—each of these types of people damages {others}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:13**ULT**

¹³ "Their throat {is} an open grave. Their tongues have deceived. The poison of asps {is} under their lips."

UST

¹³ Like a grave {without a tombstone}, their throat is always wide open {so they can slander}! They constantly {try to} deceive {people} with their tongues! What they say harms others, similar to how harmful the venom of an asp is when it bites!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:14**ULT**

¹⁴ "Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness."

UST

¹⁴ Their mouths constantly curse others and always speak harshly.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:15**ULT**

¹⁵ "Their feet {are} swift to pour out blood.

UST

¹⁵ They rush eagerly to slaughter people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Destruction and suffering {are} in their paths.

UST

¹⁶ Wherever they go, they destroy lives and make people miserable.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:17**ULT**

¹⁷ And they have not known a way of peace."

UST

¹⁷ These {types of} people do not know how to live peacefully.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:18**ULT**

¹⁸ "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

UST

¹⁸ They are not terrified that God is watching everything they do!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those under the law, so that every mouth may be shut, and the whole world may become accountable to God.

UST

¹⁹ Certainly, we are convinced that whatever God's law says applies to the Jews{, to whom God gave his law}. This is so that no type of person can excuse themselves {from being judged by God. This is} also so that God could justly punish every person in the world as guilty {of breaking his law}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:20**ULT**

²⁰ {This is} because no flesh will be justified by the works of the law in his sight; for through the law {is} the knowledge of sin.

UST

²⁰ In fact, God will not make a single person right with himself, {simply} because they do what God's law says. This is because people clearly realize how sinful they are when they know what God's law requires.

Who will be justified by the works of the Law?

No flesh will be justified by the works of the Law.

What comes through the Law?

The knowledge of sin comes through the Law.

Romans 3:21**ULT**

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been made known. It was witnessed by the Law and the Prophets;

UST

²¹ But now God has chosen to reveal how he makes people right with himself. {Becoming right with God} does not depend on whether or not we do what God's law says. Yet, what God's law says and what his prophets spoke {long ago} continue to testify to the way he makes people right with himself.

By what witnesses has a righteousness without the Law now been made known?

By the witnesses of the Law and the Prophets has a righteousness without the Law now been made known.

Romans 3:22**ULT**

²² but the righteousness of God {is} through faith in Jesus Christ to all those who believe, for there is no distinction.

UST

²² In other words, God reveals how he makes people right with himself: through trusting in Jesus the Messiah. God will make all {types of} people right with himself if they continue to trust {in him}. This is because God does not distinguish {between different types of people}.

What is the righteousness without the Law that has now been made known?

The righteousness without the Law is the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe.

Romans 3:23**ULT**

²³ For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

UST

²³ This is because all {types of} people sin and fail to properly glorify God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:24**ULT**

²⁴ being freely justified by his grace through the redemption that {is} in Christ Jesus;

UST

²⁴ These people become right with God as his free gift, because he is so kind. This gift from God is received when people are united to Jesus the Messiah, who rescued humanity {from being enslaved to living sinfully}.

How is a person justified before God?

A person is justified before God freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:25**ULT**

²⁵ whom God presented as a propitiation through faith in his blood for a demonstration of his justice, because of the overlooking of the sins that happened previously

UST

²⁵ God displayed Jesus the Messiah as the one who atones {for humanity's sins}. When people trust in his sacrificial death they are rescued from being enslaved to living sinfully. God exhibited that Jesus the Messiah atones {for humanity's sins} in order to demonstrate how God makes people right with himself. {This happened} because God disregarded the sins that humanity had previously committed.

For what purpose did God provide Christ Jesus?

God provided Christ Jesus as a propitiation through faith in his blood.

Romans 3:26**ULT**

²⁶ in the forbearance of God, for the demonstration of his righteousness at this present time, so that he could be just, and the justifier of the one who {is} of faith in Jesus.

UST

²⁶ At this definitive time in history, because he is so tolerant, God is demonstrating how he makes people right with himself. This is for the purpose of demonstrating that he is right and to show that God makes people right with himself {if} they are characterized by trust in Jesus {the Messiah}.

What did God show by all that happened through Jesus Christ?

God showed that he is the one who justifies anyone because of faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:27**ULT**

²⁷ Where then {is} boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? Of works? No, but through the law of faith.

UST

²⁷ So then, {because God makes people right with himself-}there is absolutely no one who can boast. {The truth is, no one can make themselves right with God} by doing {what} his law {commands}. Instead, {people become right with God} by trusting {in Jesus the Messiah}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:28**ULT**

²⁸ For we reckon a man to be justified by faith apart from works of the law.

UST

²⁸ Indeed, we are convinced that a person is made right with God by trusting {in Jesus the Messiah}. Being made right with God does not depend on doing what God's law {says}.

What role do the works of the Law have in justification?

A person is justified by faith without the works of the Law.

Romans 3:29**ULT**

²⁹ Or {is} God of Jews only? {Is he} not also of Gentiles? Yes, of Gentiles also.

UST

²⁹ Certainly, God is not only the God of the Jews. He is most certainly the God of {all} the nations too!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 3:30**ULT**

³⁰ If, indeed, God {is} one, he will justify the circumcision by faith, and the uncircumcision through the faith.

UST

³⁰ It is certain that there is one God {of all the nations}. God will make right with himself {both} the Jews who are circumcised if they continue to trust {in Jesus the Messiah} and {the Pagans} who are uncircumcised, if they continue to trust in {Jesus} the Messiah.

How does God justify the circumcised Jew and the uncircumcised Gentile?

God justifies both by faith.

Romans 3:31**ULT**

³¹ Do we then nullify the law through faith? May it never be! Instead, we uphold the law.

UST

³¹ So, to be clear, we would never say that God's law is invalid because he makes people right with himself if they continue to trust in Jesus the Messiah. Actually, we are confirming what God said in his law {about trusting in Jesus the Messiah}.

What do we do with the Law through faith?

We uphold the Law through faith.

Romans 4

Romans 4:1

ULT

¹ What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, has discovered?

UST

¹ So, we can apply this to Abraham, the physical ancestor of us Jews. Abraham himself found out that what God said in his law {about trusting in Jesus the Messiah} is true.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:2

ULT

² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has a reason to boast, but not before God.

UST

² Certainly, if Abraham became right with God based on doing {what God's law requires}, then Abraham could boast {to himself about it}. Yet, {Abraham could} not {boast} to God {about it}.

What would have given Abraham reason to boast?

Abraham would have had reason to boast if he had been justified by works.

Romans 4:3

ULT

³ For what does the scripture say? "But Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness."

UST

³ Certainly, the holy scriptures tell {us}, "Then Abraham trusted in God, and God considered Abraham to be right with himself."

What do the scriptures say about how Abraham was justified?

The scriptures say that Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.

Romans 4:4**ULT**

⁴ Now to the one who works, the wage is not counted as a gift, but as an obligation.

UST

⁴ Indeed, when a person works, he does not consider the wage he earns as grace. Instead, the person working considers the wage he earns, as what his employer owes him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:5**ULT**

⁵ But to the one who does not work, but believes in the one who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.

UST

⁵ Now, {let's say that there is} a person who does not do {what God's law requires}, but continues to trust in the God who {even} makes the impious person right with himself. If such an impious person continues to trust in him, God considers {even} that person right with himself.

What kind of people does God justify?

God justifies the ungodly.

Romans 4:6**ULT**

⁶ Even as David also speaks of the blessing of the man to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

UST

⁶ This is also the same thing King David says {in the holy scriptures. He speaks about how happy people are when God considers them right with himself, even though they do not do {what God's law requires}}.

According to David, in what way is a man blessed by God? (vv6-8)

According to David, blessed is the man whose sins are forgiven and whose sins are not counted by the Lord.

Romans 4:7**ULT**

⁷ "Happy {are} those of whom {their} lawless deeds are forgiven, and of whom {their} sins are covered.

UST

⁷ People are so happy when God forgives their lawless acts! People are so happy when God no longer acknowledges their sins!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:8**ULT**

⁸ Happy {is} the man of whom the Lord will certainly not count sin."

UST

⁸ The man whom the Lord never again considers sinful is so happy!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:9**ULT**

⁹ Then {is} this blessing to the circumcision, or also to the uncircumcision? For we say, "Faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness."

UST

⁹ So then, these happy people come from the circumcised Jews, or even uncircumcised people who are not Jews! As proof, we quote {the holy scriptures, "Since} Abraham trusted in God, God considered Abraham as right with himself."

**Was Abraham's faith counted as righteousness before or after he was circumcised?
(vv9-10)**

Abraham's faith was counted as righteousness before he was circumcised.

Romans 4:10**ULT**

¹⁰ How then was it counted? Being in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? {It was} not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision.

UST

¹⁰ So then, I ask you to recall if Abraham was circumcised or uncircumcised when God considered Abraham as right with himself. It was not while Abraham was circumcised, but while he was still uncircumcised.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:11**ULT**

¹¹ And he received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness of the faith that {was} in {his} uncircumcision, so that he would be the father of all those who believe through uncircumcision, so as to be counted for them as righteousness;

UST

¹¹ When Abraham was circumcised {in his body} as God {commanded him}, it was {like} a sign {that displayed how he faithfully obeyed God}. God considered it a mark of being right with himself, because Abraham trusted in God even while he was uncircumcised. God considered how Abraham trusted in God as a mark {to show} that Abraham is the {spiritual} ancestor of all those people who trust in God even while they are uncircumcised. This was also to show that God can consider even uncircumcised people as being right with himself.

Abraham is the father of which groups of people? (vv11-12)

Abraham is the father of all who believe, both the uncircumcised and the circumcised.

Romans 4:12**ULT**

¹² and the father of circumcision to those who {are} not only from the circumcision, but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith of our father Abraham while uncircumcised.

UST

¹² So, Abraham is the ancestor {of two kinds} of circumcised people. He is not only the {physical} ancestor of the {physically} circumcised {Jews}. But, Abraham is also the {spiritual} ancestor of those {spiritually circumcised Pagans} who conform the way they live to trust in God, like our ancestor Abraham did even while he was uncircumcised.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:13**ULT**

¹³ For the promise to Abraham or to his seed that he would be heir of the world {was} not through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

UST

¹³ This is because what God promised to Abraham or his descendants does not come through God's law. God promised {to bless} Abraham so that he would {spiritually} inherit {people from} the {whole} world. Instead, {God accomplishes what he promised to Abraham} through making people right with himself when they trust in him.

What promise was given to Abraham and his descendants through the righteousness of faith?

It was promised to Abraham and his descendants that they would be heirs of the world.

Romans 4:14**ULT**

¹⁴ For if those from the law {are} heirs, faith has been made empty, and the promise has been nullified.

UST

¹⁴ In fact, if people can inherit {what God promises} by doing what his law says—trusting in God becomes useless! What God promises would also become invalid.

What would be true if the promise to Abraham had come through the law?

If the promise had come through the law, then faith would be empty and the promise not true.

Romans 4:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For the law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, neither {is there} transgression.

UST

¹⁵ This is because God's law is intended to punish {those who violate it}. But, where God's law does not exist, no one can violate {it}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:16**ULT**

¹⁶ For this reason {it is} by faith, in order that according to grace, the promise might be certain to all the seed—not only to those from the law, but also to those from the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all,

UST

¹⁶ This is why what God promised comes through trusting in him, in order to show how kind he is. {God is so kind} that he secured what he promised to all {Abraham's spiritual} descendants. Abraham's {spiritual} descendants are not only those {Jews} associated with Abraham through God's law. But, Abraham's {spiritual} descendants are also those {nations} associated with Abraham through trusting {in what God promised}. This is because Abraham is the {spiritual} father of all {types of people who God makes right with himself when they trust in him}.

For what reasons is the promise given by faith?

The promise is given by faith so that it is by grace, and so that it is sure.

Romans 4:17**ULT**

¹⁷ just as it is written, "I have appointed you the father of many nations," in the presence of God whom he trusted, who gives life to the dead and calls the things not existing into existence;

UST

¹⁷ This is exactly what God says in the holy scriptures, "I have chosen you as a {spiritual} father for numerous nations." {Abraham is our spiritual father} in God's presence (the God whom Abraham trusted). God brings those people who are dead back to life. He also summons what does not exist, then it exists.

What two things does Paul say God does?

Paul says that God gives life to the dead and calls things that do not exist into existence.

Romans 4:18**ULT**

¹⁸ who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to what he had been told, "So will your seed be."

UST

¹⁸ Abraham trusted {in God} by hoping {in God}, despite what seemed hopeless. {He trusted} that he would become a {spiritual} father for numerous nations. {He trusted} because of what God had promised {him}, "Your descendants will become just as numerous {as the stars in heaven}."

How did Abraham respond to God's promise even with these outward circumstances?

Abraham confidently trusted God and did not hesitate in unbelief.

What outward circumstances made it difficult for Abraham to believe God's promise that he would be the father of many nations? (vv18-19)

When God made the promise to Abraham, Abraham was about a hundred years old and Sarah's womb was dead.

Romans 4:19**ULT**

¹⁹ And not having become weak in the faith, he considered his own body as already having died (being about a hundred years old)—and the deadness of the womb of Sarah.

UST

¹⁹ Abraham perceived that {he was so old that it was as if} his body was already dead. He was about one hundred years old! And {since} Sarah {had never been able to become pregnant,} it was as if her womb was dead. {Despite all of these things,} he did not weaken in how he trusted {in God}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:20**ULT**

²⁰ But toward the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, having given glory to God,

UST

²⁰ Indeed, Abraham did not faithlessly doubt what God promised. Instead, while glorifying God, Abraham empowered himself by trusting in God.

How did Abraham respond to God's promise even with these outward circumstances?

Abraham confidently trusted God and did not hesitate in unbelief.

Romans 4:21**ULT**

²¹ and fully convinced that what he had promised, he is also able to do.

UST

²¹ So God totally assured Abraham that he is also powerful enough to accomplish what he had promised.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:22**ULT**

²² Therefore, this was also counted to him as righteousness.

UST

²² That is also why God considered Abraham right with himself.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:23**ULT**

²³ Now it was not written only for his sake, that it was counted to him,

UST

²³ Yet, when the holy scriptures say, "God considered Abraham {to be right with himself}," {these words} do not only refer to Abraham.

For whom was the account of Abraham written? (vv23-24)

The account of Abraham was written for his benefit, and for our benefit.

Romans 4:24**ULT**

²⁴ but also for our sake, to whom is about to be counted, to those who believe in the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,

UST

²⁴ But, these words to Abraham also refer to us {now}. God appoints that he will consider right with himself those people who continue to trust in him who resurrected our Lord Jesus from where dead people are.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 4:25

ULT

²⁵ who was delivered up for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

UST

²⁵ God handed over our Lord Jesus {to die} because all humanity has morally offended God. God also resurrected our Lord Jesus because he wanted to make all humanity right with himself.

What do we believe God has done for us?

We believe God has raised Jesus from the dead, who was delivered up for our sins and raised for our justification.

Romans 5

Romans 5:1

ULT

¹ Therefore, having been justified by faith, let us have peace ^[1] with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

UST

¹ So then, because God makes us right with himself when we trust in him, we can live peacefully with God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

What do believers have because they are justified by faith?

Because they are justified by faith, believers have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:2

ULT

² through whom we also have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

UST

² Our Lord Jesus the Messiah also allows us to {continually} experience how kind God is by trusting in him. Because God is so kind, he confirms that we can continue to experience how kind he is. So, we can confidently boast about how glorious God is.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:3

ULT

³ And not only this, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering brings about endurance,

UST

³ This is not the only thing about which we can confidently boast. But, we can also confidently boast when we are distressed. This is because we know that when we are distressed, God is accomplishing what will help us to endure.

What are three things that suffering produces? (vv3-4)

Suffering produces endurance, approval, and confidence.

Romans 5:4**ULT**

⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.

UST

⁴ And if we endure {when distressed}, {God} approves {us}. And {when God} approves {us, we become} confident.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:5**ULT**

⁵ And that hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

UST

⁵ And when we become confident, we are assured. This is because God demonstrates {how much} he loves us by abundantly giving us the Holy Spirit deep within ourselves.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:6**ULT**

⁶ For we still being weak, yet at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

UST

⁶ In fact, at just the right time—while we were still {spiritually} incapacitated—{our Lord Jesus} the Messiah died for the sake of impious people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:7**ULT**

⁷ For someone will hardly die on behalf of a righteous man. Perhaps, though, someone might even dare to die on behalf of a good person.

UST

⁷ Indeed, rarely would someone consider dying for the sake of a person who is {in a} right {relationship} with God. Although possibly someone might even courageously consider dying for the sake of a good person.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:8**ULT**

⁸ But God proves his own love toward us, in that, we still being sinners, Christ died for us.

UST

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love towards us {human beings} by this fact: while we were still {a} sinful {human race—our Lord Jesus} the Messiah died for our sake!

How does God prove his love toward us?

God proves his love toward us, because while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:9**ULT**

⁹ Much more then, now that we have been justified by his blood, we will be saved through him from the wrath.

UST

⁹ God already makes us right with himself because {our Lord Jesus} the Messiah died {for our sake}. {If God already makes us right}, it is even more certain then, that God will save us when he {finally} judges {humanity}. It is through the Messiah {that God will save us}.

Being justified by Christ's blood, from what are believers saved?

Being justified by Christ's blood, believers are saved from the wrath of God.

Romans 5:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For if, being enemies, we have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

UST

¹⁰ Indeed, while we were God's enemies, God reconciled us with himself because his Son {Jesus} died for our sake. So then, since God reconciled us with himself—it is even more certain that he will save us because his {Son Jesus} resurrected {from death}.

What relationship do unbelievers have with God before they are reconciled to God through Jesus?

Unbelievers are enemies of God before they are reconciled to God through Jesus.

Romans 5:11**ULT**

¹¹ Not only this, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we now have received this reconciliation.

UST

¹¹ Yet, these are not the only things {God does for us}. But, we also boast about God because of {what} our Lord Jesus the Messiah {does for us}. God has already reconciled us with himself because our Lord Jesus the Messiah {died for our sake}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:12**ULT**

¹² Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and through sin, death, so also death spread to all people, concerning which all sinned.

UST

¹² So then, one man caused sin to enter the world. As the one man sinned, {so people began} to die. This is also how death spread throughout the whole human race. Because of this, all people started sinning.

What happened because of one man's sin?

Because of one man's sin, sin entered the world, death entered through sin, and death spread to all people.

Romans 5:13**ULT**

¹³ For until the law, sin was in the world, but sin was not charged, being no law.

UST

¹³ This is why people throughout the world sinned, even before {God gave his} law {to the Jews}. However, God did not legally regard it as sinning, since the law did not yet exist {to identify what it means to sin}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Nevertheless, death ruled from Adam until Moses, even over those who have not sinned like the transgression of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who is coming.

UST

¹⁴ However, death dominated from {the time of the first man} Adam until Moses{, who gave the Jews God's law}. Death even dominated over those people who did not sin by violating the same command God gave to Adam. Adam is a type of {God's perfect} human who would come.

Who was the one man through whom sin entered the world?

Adam was the one man through whom sin entered the world.

Romans 5:15**ULT**

¹⁵ But not like the trespass, so also {is} the gift. For if by the trespass of one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound for the many!

UST

¹⁵ But God's gracious gift does not exactly correspond to how Adam rejected {God's command}. This is because the one man {Adam} rejected {God's command}, so all people die. {But,} God even more showed how kind he is. God's kind gift that comes because of the one man Jesus the Messiah extends to all people!

How is God's free gift different than Adam's sins?

By Adam's sin many died, but by God's free gift many abounded.

Romans 5:16**ULT**

¹⁶ And the gift {is} not as through the one having sinned. For indeed, the judgment followed one unto condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses unto justification.

UST

¹⁶ Yet, God's gift does not come the same way as the one man {Adam} sinned. Indeed, it is certain that God judged the one man {Adam after he sinned}, causing God to condemn. But, God's gracious gift after many people rejected {his commands}, causes God to make people right with himself.

What resulted from Adam's sin, and what resulted from God's free gift?

The judgment of condemnation resulted from Adam's sin, but justification resulted from God's free gift.

Romans 5:17**ULT**

¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one, death ruled through the one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ.

UST

¹⁷ Indeed, one man {Adam} rejected {God's command}. Because of one man {Adam} death {now} dominates. But, those people who accept how abundantly kind God is and those people he makes right with himself {benefit} even more. Because of one man Jesus the Messiah, those people will dominate {death} and live eternally.

What ruled from Adam's sin, and what ruled through God's gift of righteousness?

Death ruled from Adam's sin, and those who receive God's gift rule through the life of Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:18**ULT**

¹⁸ So then, as through one trespass to all men unto condemnation, so also through one righteous act to all men unto justification of life.

UST

¹⁸ In summary, {Adam} wrongly rejected {God's command}, causing God to condemn all humanity. In the same way, {Jesus the Messiah} rightly enacted {God's command}, causing God to make all humanity right with himself, so that they can live {eternally}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 5:19**ULT**

¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one will the many be made righteous.

UST

¹⁹ In fact, the one man {Adam} disobeyed {God's command}, appointing many people to become sinful. In the same way, the one man {Jesus the Messiah} obeyed {God's command}, so God will appoint many people to become right with himself.

What were many made through Adam's disobedience, and what will many be made through the obedience of Christ?

Many were made sinners through Adam's disobedience, and many will be made righteous through the obedience of Christ.

Romans 5:20**ULT**

²⁰ Now the law came in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin abounded, grace abounded even more,

UST

²⁰ When {God} added {his} law, then people rejected {his commands} even more. But {even though} people began to sin even more, God exceedingly showed how kind he is!

Why did the Law come in alongside?

The Law came alongside in order that the trespass might abound.

What abounded more than the trespass?

God's grace abounded more than the trespass.

Romans 5:21**ULT**

²¹ so that just as sin ruled in death, so also grace might rule through righteousness unto everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

5:1 ^[1] some ancient manuscripts read

UST

²¹ Since death has spread throughout the whole human race, sin dominates {people's lives}. So in the same way, God decided to make how kind he is dominate {people's lives}. {God powerfully shows how kind he is} because our Lord Jesus the Messiah makes us right with God. Being right with God leads to eternal life.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6

Romans 6:1

ULT

¹ What then will we say? Should we continue in sin so that grace may abound?

UST

¹ As a result, we certainly must not continue to sin! We should not think that {if we continue to sin, somehow} God will show how kind he is even more!

Should believers continue in sin so that God's grace may abound? (vv1-2)

May it never be.

Romans 6:2

ULT

² May it never be! We who died to sin, how will we still live in it?

UST

² Of course {we should} not {think like this}! We who are no longer controlled by sinning, must not live like people who are still controlled by sinning!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:3

ULT

³ Or are you ignorant that as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

UST

³ God unites to the Messiah Jesus whoever is baptized. {At the same time}, God unites whoever is baptized to the death of the Messiah Jesus. Certainly, you are not unaware {of these facts}!

Into what were people baptized who were baptized into Christ Jesus?

People baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into Christ's death.

Romans 6:4**ULT**

⁴ We were buried, then, with him through baptism into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.

UST

⁴ So, when we are baptized into Jesus the Messiah's death, it is as if God buries us {in the tomb} together with {Jesus} the Messiah. {God} the Father resurrected the Messiah to glorify himself. In the same way, when we are baptized, God resurrects those of us {who are united to the Messiah's death}. This is so that we too can live {spiritually} renewed.

What should believers do since Christ was raised from the dead?

Believers should walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:5**ULT**

⁵ For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we will also certainly be united with {his} resurrection;

UST

⁵ God has identified us with Jesus the Messiah's death, as if we {physically} died with him. Because of this, it is certain that God will also identify us with how Jesus the Messiah resurrected from death.

In what two ways are believers united to Christ through baptism?

Believers are united to Christ in his death and resurrection.

Romans 6:6**ULT**

⁶ knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, in order that the body of sin might be destroyed, that we might no longer be enslaved to sin.

UST

⁶ We acknowledge that at the same time Jesus the Messiah was crucified, God also cancelled out how we were associated with {death that comes from} Adam. This was so that God could totally remove how we are prone to sinning. Then we would no longer serve as slaves to sinning.

What was done for us so that we should no longer be slaves to sin?

Our old man was crucified with Christ, so that we should no longer be slaves to sin.

Romans 6:7**ULT**

⁷ For the one having died is declared righteous from sin.

UST

⁷ Certainly, God vindicates the person from {being enslaved through} living sinfully. This already happens {when the person is baptized. At that time,} the person dies {to being enslaved through living sinfully}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:8**ULT**

⁸ But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live together with him,

UST

⁸ Certainly, we ceased {serving as slaves to sinning} when God united us to the Messiah. This is why we are persuaded that we will also live {eternally} with the Messiah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:9**ULT**

⁹ knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, no longer dies; death no longer has authority over him.

UST

⁹ We are convinced that since God resurrected the Messiah from death, he can never die again. Death can never again {claim} to dominate the Messiah!

How do we know that death no longer rules over Christ?

We know that death no longer rules over Christ because Christ has been raised from the dead.

Romans 6:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For in that he died, he died to sin once for all. But in that he lives, he lives for God.

UST

¹⁰ This is because when Jesus the Messiah died, he died one time, {for the purpose of removing humanity's slavery} to sinning forever. Now, He lives his {resurrected} life with God forever.

How many times did Christ die to sin, and for how many people did he die?

Christ died to sin once for all.

How should a believer think of himself with respect to sin? (vv10-11)

A believer should think of himself as dead to sin.

For whom does a believer live his life? (vv10-11)

A believer lives his life for God.

Romans 6:11**ULT**

¹¹ In the same way, you also must consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

UST

¹¹ So then, you too should regard yourselves as free from {the spiritual} death that comes from sinning. Indeed, you should regard yourselves as alive with God, because you are united to the Messiah Jesus.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:12**ULT**

¹² Therefore, do not let sin rule in your mortal body, to obey its lusts.

UST

¹² This is why you must not permit your physical bodies to become dominated by living sinfully, so that you submit your bodies to lusting.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:13**ULT**

¹³ And do not present your members as tools of unrighteousness unto sin. But present yourselves to God, as living from death, and your members to God as tools of righteousness.

UST

¹³ Do not use your body parts in order to sin. Do not use your body parts for living wickedly. Instead, use yourselves for God's purposes, like people who are resurrected from death. Also, use your body parts in order to live in a right relationship with God.

To whom should a believer present the members of his body, and for what purpose?

A believer should present the members of his body to God as tools for righteousness.

Romans 6:14**ULT**

¹⁴ So do not allow sin to rule over you. For you are not under law, but under grace.

UST

¹⁴ Certainly, sinning must not dominate any of you. This is because God's law does not control you, but you are free {from how the law controls} because of how kind God is.

What does a believer live under, which allows him to rule over sin?

A believer lives under grace, which allows him to rule over sin.

Romans 6:15**ULT**

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace? May it never be!

UST

¹⁵ So then, of course we should not sin, since God's law does not control us! Neither should we sin, since we are free because of how kind God is!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves to obey {as} slaves, you are slaves to whom you obey—whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

UST

¹⁶ Certainly you realize that if you submit yourselves for use as slaves to a thing or person—you become slaves to that thing or person you submitted yourselves! You could enslave yourselves to living sinfully, leading to your death. Or you could submit yourselves to God, leading to a right relationship with him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:17**ULT**

¹⁷ But thanks be to God! For you were slaves of sin, but you have obeyed from the heart the pattern of teaching unto which you were given.

UST

¹⁷ You used to serve as slaves to living sinfully. But now you are sincerely submissive to the type of {apostolic} teaching God gave us to pass on to you. So, we give thanks to God!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Now having been freed from sin, you have been enslaved to righteousness.

UST

¹⁸ Indeed, since God liberated you from living sinfully, you are now serving God in a right relationship.

What is the end result for a person who makes himself a servant of God? (vv18-19)

The end result of a person who makes himself a servant of God is righteousness.

Romans 6:19**ULT**

¹⁹ I speak as a man because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and to more and more lawlessness, in the same way, now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto sanctification.

UST

¹⁹ I {Paul} am speaking in human terms, because you are spiritually immature. Certainly, you previously used your body parts by serving as slaves to living impurely. {This led you} to increasingly break God's law. In the same way, you must now use your body parts by serving as slaves in a right relationship with God. {This will lead you} to live like God's people should.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:20**ULT**

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free from righteousness.

UST

²⁰ This is because when you were slaves to living sinfully, you were not in a right relationship with God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:21**ULT**

²¹ So what fruit then did you have from that of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things {is} death.

UST

²¹ So, formerly you derived no benefit from those {sinful} things that now embarrass you. This is because the final result of those things is death.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 6:22**ULT**

²² But now, having been freed from sin and having been enslaved to God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and the result {is} eternal life.

UST

²² But at the present time, you are free from the slavery of living sinfully. Now, you serve as slaves to God himself. You derive what is beneficial, that leads you to live devoted to God. Indeed, eternal life is the final result {for those who live devoted to God}.

Slaves of God have their fruit for what purpose?

Slaves of God have their fruit for sanctification.

Romans 6:23**ULT**

²³ For the wages of sin {is} death, but the gift of God {is} eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

UST

²³ It is certain that living sinfully results in death. But God is so gracious that he gives eternal life to those who are united to our Lord, the Messiah Jesus.

What are the wages of sin?

The wages of sin are death.

What is the free gift of God?

The free gift of God is eternal life.

Romans 7

Romans 7:1

ULT

¹ Or do you not know, brothers (for I am speaking to ones knowing the law), that the law rules over the man for as long as he lives?

UST

¹ My fellow believers in the Messiah, you are well-aware that {God's} law has control over people for their whole life. I know that you are well-aware {of this fact}, because I am speaking to people who are familiar with God's law.

How long does the law control a person?

The law controls a person for as long as he lives.

Romans 7:2

ULT

² For the married woman has been bound by law to the living husband, but if the husband dies, she has been released from the law of the husband.

UST

² For instance, a married woman remains obligated to stay married to her husband for as long as he lives. But, if her husband dies, {God's} law cancels her marriage obligation to her husband.

How long is a married woman bound by the law of marriage?

A married woman is bound by the law of marriage until her husband dies.

Romans 7:3

ULT

³ So then, the husband being alive, if she is joined to another man, she will be called an adulteress. But if the husband dies, she is free from the law, so she is not an adulteress, having been joined to another man.

UST

³ So then, if she marries another man while her husband is alive, she will be identified as an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is free from what God's law requires of those who are married. Then she is not {considered} an adulteress if she marries another man.

What may a woman do once she is free from the law of marriage?

Once she is free from the law of marriage, a woman may marry another man.

Romans 7:4**ULT**

⁴ Therefore, my brothers, you were also made dead to the law through the body of Christ, for you to be joined to another, to the one who was raised from the dead, in order that we might produce fruit for God.

UST

⁴ {A similar thing happened} through {the death} of the body of the Messiah {for your sake}. As a result {of the Messiah's death}, my fellow believers in the Messiah, you too spiritually died to {being controlled by} God's law. Now you belong to another {"husband"}. You belong to the Messiah who God resurrected from death. {This happened} so that God's people would live in such a way as to produce deeds that bring him glory.

How are believers made dead to the Law?

Believers are made dead to the Law through the body of Christ.

Having been made dead to the Law, what are believers able to do?

Having been made dead to the Law, believers are able to be joined to Christ.

Romans 7:5**ULT**

⁵ For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions that were through the law were working in our members to bear fruit to death.

UST

⁵ Indeed, at one time, we were controlled by living sinfully. What God's law requires from us revealed in us just how much we lust after living sinfully. God's law also caused how much we lust after living sinfully to act within our body parts. As a result, this would {eventually} produce {our eternal} death.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:6**ULT**

⁶ But now we have been released from the law, having died to that by which we were being held, so that we might serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

UST

⁶ But now, God cancels what his law requires {for us}. God's law no longer controls us by suppressing people. So then, now we newly serve the {Holy} Spirit. We are no longer {required} to serve as slaves to God's old written law code.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:7**ULT**

⁷ What will we say then? {Is} the law sin? May it never be! However, I would not have known sin, if not through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law said, "Do not covet."

UST

⁷ We should not think that God's law is sinful! Of course not! Yet, without {God's} law, I would never have known {what it means to} sin. For instance, if God's law did not say, "You must not covet," I would never have known {what it means to} covet.

What function does the Law perform?

The Law makes sin known.

Is the Law sin?

No, the Law is not sin.

Romans 7:8**ULT**

⁸ But sin, having taken opportunity through the commandment, brought about every lust in me. For without law, sin {is} dead.

UST

⁸ In fact, {humanity tends toward} living sinfully {and} takes {every} opportunity to break God's command. {As a result,} all {sorts of} lust{ful activity} controls me. This is because if God's law did not exist, living sinfully would cease.

What does sin do through the commandment of the Law?

Sin, through the commandment of the Law, brings about every lust in a person.

Romans 7:9**ULT**

⁹ Now at one time I was alive without law, but the commandment having come, sin came to life again,

UST

⁹ Certainly, there was a time when I was living without {God's} law. But, when God instituted the command, how I tend toward living sinfully intensified.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:10**ULT**

¹⁰ but I died. And the commandment that was to be life, it was found to be death for me.

UST

¹⁰ But I became controlled by death. God's command was supposed to lead me towards {eternal} life. But, God's command led me to become controlled by death.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:11**ULT**

¹¹ For sin, having taken the opportunity through the commandment, deceived me, and through it, killed me.

UST

¹¹ In fact, {I tended toward} living sinfully {and} took {every} opportunity to break God's command. When I sinned, I was tricked. Then {breaking} God's command {spiritually} killed me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:12**ULT**

¹² So then, the law {is} holy, and the commandment {is} holy and righteous and good.

UST

¹² In summary: God's law is special, God's command is special, and just, and good.

Is the Law holy?

The Law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous, and good.

Romans 7:13**ULT**

¹³ So did what {is} good become death to me? May it never be! But sin, in order that it might be shown {to be} sin through what {is} good, bringing about death in me, so that through the commandment, sin might become sinful beyond measure.

UST

¹³ So, of course {God's law} which is good did not make me controlled by death! Instead, {how I tended toward} living sinfully activated {spiritual} death in me. This was to clearly exhibit how bad it is to live sinfully in comparison to doing what is good. This is {also} so that {how I tended toward} living sinfully would become excessively sinful through {how I broke} God's command.

What does Paul say sin does to him?

Paul says that sin, through the Law, brings about death in him.

Romans 7:14**ULT**

¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, having been sold into slavery under sin.

UST

¹⁴ Certainly, we {instinctively} realize that God's law is spiritual. But, I am {spiritually} frail. {It is as if} I sell {myself} to serve as a slave to living sinfully.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For what I bring about, I do not understand. For what I want, this I do not do. But what I hate, this I do.

UST

¹⁵ I simply do not understand what controls me! Indeed, what I do not desire, that is what I practice. But, what I hate, that is what I do.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:16**ULT**

¹⁶ But if what I do not want, this I do, I agree with the law that {it is} good.

UST

¹⁶ But since I do the very thing that I do not desire, I am consenting to the fact that God's law is superior.

What causes Paul to agree with the Law that the Law is good?

When Paul does that which he does not want, then he agrees with the Law that the Law is good.

Romans 7:17**ULT**

¹⁷ But now no longer I bring it about, but the sin living in me.

UST

¹⁷ This means that now I am no longer the one who controls {how I tend toward} living sinfully. Instead, {how I tend toward living sinfully} resides deep within me {and actually controls me}.

Who is doing the things that Paul does, but does not wish to do?

Sin that lives in Paul does the things that he does not wish to do.

Romans 7:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, lives nothing good. For the desire is present in me, but not the ability to bring about the good.

UST

¹⁸ Certainly I realize that there is nothing that resides within me that is good. In other words, I tend toward doing what is bad. Even though I actually deeply desire to do what is good, yet {how} I {tend toward doing what is bad makes me} unable to do what is superior.

What lives in Paul's flesh?

No good thing lives in Paul's flesh.

Romans 7:19**ULT**

¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want; but the evil I do not want, this I do.

UST

¹⁹ Indeed, I do not do the good thing I desire {to do}. Instead, I practice the very evil thing I do not desire {to practice}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:20**ULT**

²⁰ Now if what I do not want, this I do, I no longer bring it about, but the sin living in me.

UST

²⁰ So, since I do the thing that I do not desire, I am no longer the one who controls what I do. Instead, {how I tend toward living sinfully} resides within me and is responsible for why I sin.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:21**ULT**

²¹ I find, then, this law: the wanting to do good {is} in me, but that evil is present in me.

UST

²¹ So then, I have discovered a different {kind of} law: what is evil is actually present within me, although I desire to do what is superior.

What principle does Paul find at work in him?

Paul finds the principle in him that he wants to do what is good, but evil is actually present in him.

Romans 7:22**ULT**

²² For I rejoice in the law of God with the inner man.

UST

²² Certainly I am delighted with God's law as it relates to what I spiritually desire.

What attitude does Paul's inner man have toward the law of God?

Paul's inner man rejoices in the law of God.

Romans 7:23**ULT**

²³ But I see a different law in my members fighting against the law of my mind and taking me captive by the law of the sin that exists in my members.

UST

²³ Yet, I notice another kind of law present in my body parts. This law conflicts with the law that controls how I spiritually perceive. This {conflicting} law still remains in my body parts. It controls me, so that I become captivated by the law that makes me tend toward living sinfully.

What principle does Paul find in the members of his body?

Paul finds that in the members of his body the principle of sin takes him captive.

Romans 7:24**ULT**

²⁴ I am a miserable man! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

UST

²⁴ I am truly a wretched human being! {I feel as though there is no one} who could {possibly} rescue me from this body {that tends to do what brings} death!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 7:25

ULT

²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with the mind, but with the flesh, the law of sin.

UST

²⁵ I give thanks to God because of our Lord Jesus the Messiah! So, I actually do serve God's law with how I spiritually perceive. Yet in my body, I serve as a slave to that law that makes me tend toward living sinfully.

Who will deliver Paul from his body of death?

Paul thanks God through Jesus Christ for his deliverance.

Romans 8

Romans 8:1

ULT

¹ {There is} therefore now no condemnation for those who {are} in Christ Jesus.

UST

¹ Yet now, God's law is powerless to condemn those people who are united to Jesus the Messiah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:2

ULT

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.

UST

² This is because the Holy Spirit's law leads to {eternal} life. This law liberates you who are united to Jesus the Messiah. The Holy Spirit's law also liberates people from sin's law, and liberates a person from death.

What has made Paul free from the principle of sin and death?

The principle of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made Paul free from the principle of sin and death.

Romans 8:3

ULT

³ For what the law was unable to do, being weak through the flesh, God did, having sent his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

UST

³ In fact, because we as weak human beings tend toward living sinfully, God's law became powerless {to help us}. But God personally did what his law could not do. God sent his own Son {to become a human being}. His Son experienced what it is like to live in a human body that tends toward living sinfully. God sent his Son for the sake of {removing humanity's} sin. {By sending his Son} God condemned {how} sinning {controls} humanity. This happened} through {the crucifixion of} the body {of his Son}.

Why was the Law unable to set people free from the principle of sin and death?

The Law was unable because it was weak through the flesh.

Romans 8:4**ULT**

⁴ so that the righteous deeds of the law might be fulfilled in us, those walking not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

UST

⁴ {God did these things} so that we could rightly accomplish what his law requires. We rightly accomplish what his law requires when we live as those who are not controlled by living sinfully, but are controlled by the {Holy} Spirit.

Those who walk according to the Spirit pay attention to what? (vv4-5)

Those who walk according to the Spirit pay attention to the things of the Spirit.

Romans 8:5**ULT**

⁵ For those existing according to the flesh pay attention to the things of the flesh, but those according to the Spirit, to the things of the Spirit.

UST

⁵ This is because those people who are controlled by living sinfully, focus on those things that are related to living sinfully. But, those people who are controlled by the {Holy} Spirit, focus on those things that are related to the {Holy} Spirit.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:6**ULT**

⁶ For the mind of the flesh {is} death, but the mind of the Spirit {is} life and peace.

UST

⁶ Indeed, those who focus on living sinfully will {eternally} die. But those who focus on the {Holy} Spirit will live {eternally and} peacefully.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:7**ULT**

⁷ {This is} because the mind of the flesh {is} hostile toward God, for it has not been subjected to the law of God, for it is not able to do so.

UST

⁷ It is certain that those who focus on living sinfully are God's enemies. This is because they do not submit themselves to God's law. In fact, they are powerless to submit themselves to God's law.

What is the flesh's relationship to God and the Law?

The flesh is hostile toward God and is not able to be subject to the Law.

Romans 8:8**ULT**

⁸ But those existing in the flesh are not able to please God.

UST

⁸ But, those who are controlled by living sinfully are powerless to do what pleases God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:9**ULT**

⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. But if someone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of him.

UST

⁹ Yet, you {at Rome} are not united to living sinfully. Instead, you are united to the {Holy} Spirit, since God's Spirit lives among you. But if some person does not possess Jesus the Messiah's Spirit, this person does not belong to the Jesus the Messiah.

What are people lacking who do not belong to God?

People who do not belong to God lack the Spirit of Christ living in them.

Romans 8:10**ULT**

¹⁰ But if Christ {is} in you, the body {is} dead because of sin, but the Spirit {is} life because of righteousness.

UST

¹⁰ Now, the Messiah Jesus is among you. So, your bodies are dead because they are {slaves of} living sinfully. But, the {Holy} Spirit gives {eternal} life because you are right with God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:11**ULT**

¹¹ If indeed the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life also to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

UST

¹¹ It is certain that God resurrected Jesus from death, and God's Spirit lives among you {who are at Rome}. Because God resurrected Jesus the Messiah from death, he will also make your physical bodies live again through God's Spirit, who dwells among you.

How does God give life to the believer's mortal body?

God gives life to the believer's mortal body through his Spirit, who lives in the believer.

Romans 8:12**ULT**

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors—not to the flesh to live according to the flesh.

UST

¹² As a result, {my} fellow believers in the Messiah, we are obligated—but not to live united to being controlled by living sinfully.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:13**ULT**

¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you are about to die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

UST

¹³ It is certain that if you live controlled by living sinfully—you are destined to die {eternally}. But if the {Holy} Spirit empowers you to eradicate practicing what is sinful with your bodies—you will live {eternally}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:14**ULT**

¹⁴ For as many as are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

UST

¹⁴ This is because whoever God's Spirit guides, these people are God's {spiritual} children.

How are the sons of God led to live?

The sons of God are led by the Spirit of God.

Romans 8:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For you did not receive again a spirit of slavery unto fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption, by which we cry, "Abba, Father!"

UST

¹⁵ Certainly you {at Rome} did not allow a {demonic} spirit to terrify you into becoming its slave again. But, you allowed God's Spirit to {spiritually} adopt you. Through God's Spirit, you cry out, "Oh my Father!"

How is a believer included into God's family?

A believer is included into God's family by adoption.

Romans 8:16**ULT**

¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

UST

¹⁶ God's Spirit personally testifies along with our own spirits that we are God's children.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Now if children, then also heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

UST

¹⁷ Indeed, since we are {God's} children, we also become heirs. We inherit from God himself and also together with the Messiah Jesus. This is true only if we keep suffering together with the Messiah Jesus. Then God will also glorify us together with the Messiah Jesus.

As children of God, what other benefit do believers receive in God's family?

As children of God, believers are also heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ.

Romans 8:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time {are} not worthy {to be compared} with the glory that is about to be revealed to us.

UST

¹⁸ In fact, I regard that what we {fellow believers in the Messiah Jesus} suffer at this {definitive} time {in history}—is incomparable to what glorious things God destines to unveil for us {in the future}.

Why are the sufferings of the present time to be endured by believers? (vv18-19)

The sufferings of the present time are to be endured so that believers may be glorified with Christ when the sons of God are revealed.

Romans 8:19**ULT**

¹⁹ For the eager expectation of the creation waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

UST

¹⁹ Indeed, God's creation is watchfully waiting, eagerly expecting the time when God unveils who his {spiritual} children are.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:20**ULT**

²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of the one who subjected it, in hope

UST

²⁰ Indeed, God subjugated what he created so that it became useless. This was not what God originally intended for what he created. But, God subjugated what he created to insure:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:21**ULT**

²¹ that also the creation itself will be delivered from bondage to decay into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

UST

²¹ that God would also liberate what he created from being enslaved to corruption. Then God will gloriously liberate what he created together with God's {spiritual} children.

At the present time, under what kind of slavery is the creation?

At the present time, the creation is under the slavery of decay.

Into what will the creation be delivered?

The creation will be delivered into the liberty of the glory of the children of God.

Romans 8:22**ULT**

²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors in pain together until now.

UST

²² Indeed, we acknowledge that even to the present time, {what God created is eagerly expecting the time when God unveils who his spiritual children are}. Because of this, all of what God created keeps moaning and groaning together {like a mother in labor pains anticipates her child's birth}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:23**ULT**

²³ Not only that, but also we, having the firstfruits of the Spirit—even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for our adoption, the redemption of our body.

UST

²³ Certainly, it is not only what God created that groans! But, we too belong to those people who possess the first portion of the {Holy} Spirit. So, we also keep inwardly groaning. This is because we continue to eagerly wait for God to {spiritually} adopt us. When God {spiritually} adopts us, he will release our physical bodies {from decaying as well}.

How are believers to wait for the redemption of the body? (vv23-25)

Believers are to wait with confidence and patience for the redemption of the body.

Romans 8:24**ULT**

²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope being seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?

UST

²⁴ Certainly, God assures us that he will save us. If God had already saved us, then he would not need to assure us. This is because when God saves us, we no longer need God to assure us that he will save us.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:25**ULT**

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

UST

²⁵ But, since God assures us {that he will save us}, we do not need him to show us. We keep eagerly waiting {for God to save us} by persevering.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:26**ULT**

²⁶ Now in the same way, the Spirit also helps in our weakness. For we do not know what we should pray as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes with inexpressible groans.

UST

²⁶ Indeed, the {Holy} Spirit similarly assists us because of how weak we are. This is because we do not understand how to properly pray. But, the {Holy} Spirit personally obtains answers for what we pray, by groaning without words.

What does the Spirit himself do to help in the saints' weakness? (vv26-27)

The Spirit himself intercedes in behalf of the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 8:27**ULT**

²⁷ But the one who searches the hearts knows what {is} the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes on behalf of the saints according to the will of God.

UST

²⁷ In fact, God is the one who continues to investigate what is deep within us. God understands what the {Holy} Spirit intends. This is why the {Holy} Spirit obtains answers from God for {what the holy people {of God} pray}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:28**ULT**

²⁸ For we know that for those who love God, God works all things together for good, ^[1] for those who are called according to {his} purpose.

UST

²⁸ Indeed, we acknowledge that God makes all things that happen turn out for the good of those who love him. The people who love him are those God summons to participate in what he previously planned.

How does God work all things together for those who love God and are called according to his purpose?

God works all things together for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:29**ULT**

²⁹ Because those whom he foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

UST

²⁹ In fact, those who God knew in advance {would become his people}, he also chose in advance. {He chose them} in order to change them, so they would become exactly like his Son {Jesus. God did these things} so that his Son Jesus would become {like a} firstborn {brother} among many siblings.

What is the destiny that God has predetermined for those whom he foreknew?

God has predestined those whom he foreknew to be conformed to the image of his Son.

Romans 8:30**ULT**

³⁰ Now those whom he predestined, these he also called. And those whom he called, these he also justified. And those whom he justified, these he also glorified.

UST

³⁰ Certainly, the ones who God chose in advance {to become his people}, God also summoned to become his people. The ones who God summoned {to become his people}, he also made these people right with himself. The ones who God made right with himself, he also glorified these people.

What else did God do for those he predestined?

Those he predestined, God also called, justified, and glorified.

Romans 8:31**ULT**

³¹ What then will we say about these things? If God {is} for us, who {is} against us?

UST

³¹ This is how we should think about these things: since God {advocates} for us, no one {is powerful enough} to oppose us!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:32**ULT**

³² He who did not spare his own Son but delivered him up on behalf of us all, how will he not also with him freely give us all things?

UST

³² {To advocate for us}, God did not even spare his own Son. Instead, God handed him over {to death} for the sake of us all. So it is certain that God will also graciously give us, along with him, all we need!

How do believers know that God will freely give them all things?

Believers know that God will freely give them all things because God gave up his own Son on behalf of all believers.

Romans 8:33**ULT**

³³ Who will bring an accusation against the chosen ones of God? God {is} the one who justifies.

UST

³³ No one can {legally} accuse those whom God chose {to become his people. This is because} God is the one who makes people right with himself.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:34**ULT**

³⁴ Who {is} the one who condemns? Christ Jesus {is} the one who died—but more than that, having been raised, he also is at the right hand of God—he also intercedes for us.

UST

³⁴ No one can condemn {God's people}. The Messiah Jesus is the one who died. Even more, the Messiah Jesus is the one who resurrected {from death}. He now sits on God's throne ruling and obtaining answers for God's people {when we pray}.

What is Christ Jesus doing at the right hand of God?

Christ Jesus is interceding on behalf of the saints at the right hand of God.

Romans 8:35**ULT**

³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

UST

³⁵ No person {or thing} can separate {God's people} from how much the Messiah {Jesus} loves us. {Jesus' love protects God's people} when others afflict us. {Jesus' love protects God's people} when others distress us. {Jesus' love protects God's people} when others persecute us. {Jesus' love protects God's people} during times of famine. {Jesus' love protects God's people} if we have no shelter {from the weather}. {Jesus' love protects God's people} when danger comes. {Jesus' love protects God's people from death} by sword.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:36**ULT**

³⁶ Just as it is written, "For your benefit we are killed all day long. We were considered as sheep for the slaughter."

UST

³⁶ This is exactly what God says in the holy scriptures, "They put us to death throughout the whole day because of you. They count us in order to slaughter us like sheep."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:37**ULT**

³⁷ But in all these things we are more than conquerors through the one who loved us.

UST

³⁷ However, we completely conquer when all of these things happen. {Jesus protects us, so} we conquer because he loves us.

How are believers more than conquerors over tribulation, persecution, or even death?

Believers are more than conquerors through the one who loved them.

Romans 8:38**ULT**

³⁸ For I have been convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor governments, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

UST

³⁸ In fact, {Jesus' love} continues to persuade me that {none of these things}: whether being dead, or what happens while we are alive, or angels, or people who rule, or current events, or future events, or powerful forces,

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 8:39**ULT**

³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which {is} in Christ Jesus our Lord.

8:28 ^[1] some older versions read

UST

³⁹ or high places, or low places, or anything else God created—is powerful enough to separate God's people from how much he loves us. {God loves us} because we are united to our Lord Jesus, the Messiah!

What is Paul convinced that no created thing can do to the believer?

Paul is convinced that no created thing can separate the believer from the love of God.

Romans 9

Romans 9:1

ULT

¹ I tell the truth in Christ. I do not lie—my conscience bearing witness with me in the Holy Spirit—

UST

¹ I speak what is true {because I am authorized to represent the Messiah {Jesus}. I do not speak what is false. The Holy Spirit confirms what my conscience testifies within myself:

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:2

ULT

² that for me there is great sorrow and unceasing pain in my heart.

UST

² I am overwhelmed with sorrow! I constantly and deeply grieve!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:3

ULT

³ For I could wish that I myself would be cursed, set apart from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race according to the flesh;

UST

³ In fact, I could vow to God that he would personally curse me! I could vow that God would {even} separate me from {Jesus} the Messiah for the sake of {the salvation of} my {Israelite} kinsmen, who are my close relatives by natural lineage!

What would Paul be willing to do for the sake of his brothers according to the flesh, the Israelites?

Paul would be willing to be cursed by God for the sake of his brothers.

Romans 9:4**ULT**

⁴ who are Israelites, of whom {are} the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service, and the promises;

UST

⁴ These {kinsmen of mine} are the Israelites, who God {spiritually} adopted. God allowed them to experience how glorious he is. God made covenants with them. God gave them a code of law. God gave them the services that showed them how he wanted them to worship him. God made promises to them.

What do the Israelites have in their history?

The Israelites have adoption, the glory, the covenants, the Law, the worship of God, and the promises.

Romans 9:5**ULT**

⁵ of whom {are} the ancestors from whom also Christ {is} with respect to the flesh—he who {is} God over all, blessed to eternity. Amen.

UST

⁵ The Patriarchs {Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob} come from the Israelites. Even the Messiah is a physical descendant of the Israelites. {Yet}, the Messiah is God over all things. He is to be praised forever. May it be so!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:6**ULT**

⁶ But {it is} not as though the word of God has failed. For not all these who {are} from Israel {are} Israel.

UST

⁶ Certainly, it is not as if what God promised {to the Israelites} has become powerless {because as a nation they rejected the Messiah Jesus}. This is because not all people who are {physical descendants} of Israel are {true} Israelites.

What does Paul say is not true about everyone in Israel and all of Abraham's descendants? (vv6-7)

Paul says that not everyone in Israel truly belongs to Israel, and not all of Abraham's descendants are truly his children.

Romans 9:7**ULT**

⁷ Neither that all the children are the descendants of Abraham. But, "In Isaac your descendants will be called."

UST

⁷ It is not true either, that all the offspring who physically descended from Abraham are considered {Abraham's spiritual} children. Instead, {as God says to Abraham in the holy scriptures,} "Your {true} offspring will be named in {relation to} Isaac."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:8**ULT**

⁸ That is, the children of the flesh, these {are} not the children of God. But the children of the promise are regarded as descendants.

UST

⁸ In other words, God's {spiritual} children are not those children who are physically {descended from Abraham, like Ishmael}. Instead, {Abraham's true spiritual} offspring are those who God considers to be his {spiritual} children. This is based on what God promised {to Abraham}.

Who are not counted as the children of God?

The children of the flesh are not counted as the children of God.

Who are counted as the children of God?

The children of the promise are counted as the children of God.

Romans 9:9**ULT**

⁹ For this {is} the word of promise: "At this time I will come, and a son will be given to Sarah."

UST

⁹ Indeed, this is what God promised {would happen}, "At this set time {next year}, I will come and enable Sarah to give birth to a son."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Not only this, but Rebekah also conceived by one man, our father Isaac—

UST

¹⁰ Indeed, this is not the only way {that God showed who his true spiritual children are}. But even Rebekah became pregnant by this same man Isaac. {So, it is actually Isaac not Ishmael} who is the {spiritual} father of {all of} us {who are part of God's promise to Abraham}.

What was the cause behind the statement given to Rebecca, “The older will serve the younger,” before her children were born? (vv10-12)

The purpose of God according to choice was the cause behind the statement given to Rebecca.

Romans 9:11**ULT**

¹¹ for not yet having been born, not yet having done anything good or bad, so that the purpose of God according to {his} choice might endure,

UST

¹¹ In fact, Rebekah gave birth to {Jacob and Esau}. Even before they were born or had done anything right or wrong, God chose {Jacob to accomplish what he promised to Abraham}. This was so that what God previously planned would continue to happen.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:12**ULT**

¹² not because of actions, but because of the one who calls—it was said to her, “The older will serve the younger.”

UST

¹² God did not choose {Jacob} because he did {what God's law requires}. Instead, it was because God summons {those he chooses. This is why} God told Rebekah, “Your older son will become a slave to the younger son.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:13**ULT**

¹³ {It is} just as had been written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

UST

¹³ This is exactly what God says in the holy scriptures, "I love Jacob {the younger son}, but I do not love Esau {the older son}."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:14**ULT**

¹⁴ What then will we say? {There is} no unrighteousness with God{, is there}? May it never be!

UST

¹⁴ So then, of course we should not think that God is unjust {because he chose Jacob and not Esau}!

What is the cause behind God's gifts of mercy and compassion? (vv14-16)

The cause behind God's gifts of mercy and compassion is God's choice.

Romans 9:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion."

UST

¹⁵ In fact, God told Moses, "I will pity whoever I want to pity. I will be favorable to whoever I want to favor."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:16**ULT**

¹⁶ So then, {it is} not of the one who wills, nor of the one who runs, but of God, who shows mercy.

UST

¹⁶ So then, {who God choses to become part of his people does} not {depend} on {how strongly} someone desires, or {how much} effort a person exerts. Instead, {who God choses to become part of his people is based on} God who pities.

What is not the cause behind God's gifts of mercy and compassion?

The cause behind God's gifts of mercy and compassion is not the will or actions of the person receiving the gifts.

Romans 9:17**ULT**

¹⁷ For the scripture says to Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I raised you up, so that I might demonstrate my power in you, and so that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

UST

¹⁷ Indeed, this is what God says to Pharaoh in the holy scripture, "I allowed you {to become king in Egypt} for this very reason: so that I could exhibit how powerful I am in comparison to you. I also exhibited how powerful I am so that my fame would spread throughout the entire earth."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:18**ULT**

¹⁸ So then, he has mercy on whom he wishes, but whom he wishes, he makes stubborn.

UST

¹⁸ So then, God pities who{ever} he wants to pity. However, he makes obstinate who{ever} he wants to become obstinate.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:19**ULT**

¹⁹ You will say then to me, “Why then does he still find fault? For who has ever withstood his will?”

UST

¹⁹ So then, you must not object to me by saying, “Then God should not be able to keep blaming {people for what they do}! Because no one is able to oppose what{ever} he plans will occur!”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:20**ULT**

²⁰ O man, on the contrary, who are you who answers against God? The thing molded will not say to the one who molded it, “Why did you make me this way?” will it?

UST

²⁰ {This is how} a mere human being {would talk!} In fact, no {mere human being} should try to act like a judge against God. It would be quite silly for the shaped {pot} to complain to the {potter} who shaped it, “Why did you make me into a pot?”

What is Paul’s reply to those who would question if God is righteous because he finds fault in men?

Paul replies, “Who are you who answers against God?”

Romans 9:21**ULT**

²¹ Or does the potter not have authority over the clay to make from the same lump a container for honor, but another for dishonor?

UST

²¹ Certainly, the potter can shape the clay however he wants! The potter can make {whatever he decides} from the same lump {of clay}. The potter can either make an object for special use, or an object for ordinary use.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:22**ULT**

²² But what if God, willing to show {his} wrath and to make his power known, endured with much patience containers of wrath prepared for destruction;

UST

²² It is true that God desires to exhibit how he punishes {his enemies}. God also desires to demonstrate how powerful he is. {Yet,} God very patiently endures those {people who are like those potter's} objects {made for ordinary use}. {He endures them until he finally decides they} are ready for him to punish them. Then God will ultimately destroy them.

What did God do with those prepared for destruction?

God endured with much patience those prepared for destruction.

Romans 9:23**ULT**

²³ and so that he might make known the riches of his glory upon containers of mercy, which he had previously prepared for glory—

UST

²³ {God} also {desires} to demonstrate how richly he will glorify those {people who are like a potter's} special objects. He will pity them. God has already prepared these people to become glorified.

What did God do with those prepared for glory?

God made known to them the riches of his glory.

Romans 9:24**ULT**

²⁴ even us whom he called, not only from among the Jews, but also from among the Gentiles?

UST

²⁴ We are also {among} those people that God summons. God summons people from both the Jews and indeed {all} the nations.

From which peoples has God called those on whom he is having mercy?

God has called from both Jews and Gentiles those on whom he is having mercy.

Romans 9:25**ULT**

²⁵ As he says also in Hosea: "I will call those who were not my people, 'my people,' and the one who was not beloved, 'Beloved.'

UST

²⁵ God also says a similar thing to {the Prophet} Hosea, "I will give the name, 'My people,' to people who do not belong to me. I will also give the name, 'Loved one,' to people who I do not love.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:26**ULT**

²⁶ And it will be that in the place where it was said to them, 'You {are} not my people,' there they will be called 'sons of the living God.'"

UST

²⁶ Then it will happen, in the same location where it was previously said about them, 'You are not my people,' at that exact spot God will give them the name, 'Children of the living God.'

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:27**ULT**

²⁷ But Isaiah cries out concerning Israel, "Though the number of the sons of Israel might be as the sand of the sea, the remnant will be saved,

UST

²⁷ Indeed, the Prophet Isaiah shouts out about {the people} of Israel, "Even if there were as many people in Israel as grains of sand along the seashore—God will save {only} those who survive."

From all the children of Israel, how many will be saved?

From all the children of Israel, a remnant will be saved.

Romans 9:28**ULT**

²⁸ for the Lord will carry out {his} word on the earth, completely and without delay.”

UST

²⁸ “This is because the Lord will fully and decisively accomplish what he promised on the earth.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:29**ULT**

²⁹ And just as Isaiah had said previously, “If the Lord of hosts had not left us descendants, we would have become like Sodom, and we would have been made like Gomorrah.”

UST

²⁹ The Prophet Isaiah previously said this too in the holy scriptures, “The Lord, who commands the angelic armies, preserved a few descendants for us. If the Lord had not done this, the people of Israel would become a ruin like the city of Sodom or even like the city of Gomorrah.”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:30**ULT**

³⁰ What will we say then? That the Gentiles, who are not pursuing righteousness, obtained righteousness, but righteousness that {is} by faith.

UST

³⁰ So, we are saying that the nations are not seeking to be made right with God. {Yet,} God seeks out the nations in order to make them right with himself. Indeed, God makes people right with himself, because of how faithful he is.

How did the Gentiles, who were not pursuing righteousness, attain it?

The Gentiles attained it through the righteousness by faith.

Romans 9:31**ULT**

³¹ But Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not attain it through the law.

UST

³¹ However, the people of Israel keep seeking to become right with God by {obeying his} law. {But,} the people of Israel do not obtain a right relationship with God by {obeying his} law.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 9:32**ULT**

³² Why? Because it was not by faith, but as by works. They stumbled over the stone of stumbling,

UST

³² The reason for this is because they do not faithfully trust {in God}. Instead, the people of Israel think they can become right with God by relying on what they do. This {lack of trusting in God} makes them offended {at who God chose to be Messiah. It is as if the Messiah is} a stone that causes them to stumble {and fall}.

Why did Israel, although pursuing a law of righteousness, not arrive at it?

Israel did not arrive at it because they pursued it by works, and not by faith.

Over what did the Israelites stumble? (vv32-33)

The Israelites stumbled over the stone of stumbling and the rock of offense.

Romans 9:33**ULT**

³³ just as it has been written, "Behold, I place in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, and the one who believes in it will not be ashamed."

UST

³³ This is exactly what the holy scriptures say, "Look! I am putting {a person} on Mount Zion. {He will be like} a stone that causes people to stumble {and fall}. {He will be like} a rock that trips {people}. But, God will not humiliate {anyone} who continues to trust in him."

What happens to those who do not stumble, but believe?

Those who do not stumble, but believe, will not be ashamed.

Romans 10

Romans 10:1

ULT

¹ Brothers, the desire of my heart and {my} request to God {is} for them, for salvation.

UST

¹ But, my fellow believers in the Messiah, I deeply desire that God will save {the Israelites}. I even beg him {to save} them!

What is Paul's desire for his brothers, the Israelites?

Paul's desire is for the Israelites' salvation.

Romans 10:2

ULT

² For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.

UST

² Certainly, I can personally confirm that they are enthusiastic about God. However, they do not {understand what it means to} {truly} know {him}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:3

ULT

³ For they do not know the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, they did not submit to the righteousness of God.

UST

³ This is because they are ignorant of how God makes people right with himself. So, they continue striving to make themselves right with God. {This is why} they refuse to subject themselves to how God makes people right with himself.

What are the Israelites seeking to establish?

The Israelites are seeking to establish their own righteousness.

Of what do the Israelites not know?

The Israelites do not know of God's righteousness.

Romans 10:4**ULT**

⁴ For Christ {is} the fulfillment of the law for righteousness for everyone who believes.

UST

⁴ Indeed, {they do not understand} that {Jesus} the Messiah completes {the purpose that God has always intended for his} law. God makes anyone right with himself who continues to trust {in God}.

What has Christ done with respect to the Law?

Christ is the fulfillment of the Law for righteousness for everyone who believes.

Romans 10:5**ULT**

⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that {is} from the law: "The man who has done these things will live by them."

UST

⁵ This is what Moses {himself} wrote {in the holy scriptures} about {those who think they can be} right with God by {obeying his} law: "The person who practices {all} the things in God's law will stay alive this way."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:6**ULT**

⁶ But the righteousness from faith says this: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' (that is, to bring Christ down);

UST

⁶ However, God makes people right with himself by trusting in God. This is what the holy scripture means when it says, "Do not say to yourself, 'No one can go up to heaven!' (In other words, to try and bring down the Messiah).

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:7**ULT**

⁷ or, 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

UST

⁷ "Or say, 'No one can bring down {the Messiah} into the bottomless pit!' (In other words, to try to lead the Messiah up from death).

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:8**ULT**

⁸ But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart." That is the word of faith, which we proclaim.

UST

⁸ However Moses says this {in another passage of the holy scriptures}, "God's message is as close to you as your mouth and your heart!" In other words, we refer to God's message about trusting in him, that we {apostles} keep announcing.

Where is the word of faith which Paul is proclaiming?

The word of faith is near, in the mouth and in the heart.

Romans 10:9**ULT**

⁹ For if with your mouth you confess Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

UST

⁹ {This is God's message}: God will save {any type of person} who verbally acknowledges that Jesus is the Lord {over all things}. God will also save {any type of person} who deeply trusts that God resurrected Jesus from death.

What does Paul say a person does to be saved?

Paul says a person must acknowledge with the mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in the heart that God raised him from the dead.

Romans 10:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses unto salvation.

UST

¹⁰ This is because God makes {any type of} person right with himself, who continues to deeply entrust himself {to God}. God also saves {any type of person} who continues to verbally acknowledge {him}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:11**ULT**

¹¹ For the scripture says, "Everyone who believes on him will not be put to shame."

UST

¹¹ In fact, this is what the holy scripture says, "God will not humiliate {anyone} who continues to trust in him."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:12**ULT**

¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord {is} of all, being rich to all who call upon him.

UST

¹² Indeed, the Lord Jesus does not discriminate between Jew or Pagan. This is because Jesus is the same Lord over all people types. The Lord Jesus richly blesses all types of people who continue to invoke him {to save them}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:13**ULT**

¹³ For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

UST

¹³ Indeed, "God will save anyone who invokes the name of the Lord {Jesus}."

Everyone who does what will be saved?

Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

Romans 10:14**ULT**

¹⁴ How then would they call to whom they have not believed? And how would they believe in whom they have not heard? And how would they hear without someone preaching?

UST

¹⁴ Certainly, they could not invoke Jesus as Lord {unless} they {first} trust in him. And certainly they could not trust in Jesus {unless} they {first} hear {the message about him}. And certainly, they could not hear {the message about Jesus} unless someone {first} announces {who he is}.

What does Paul say is the series of steps which brings the good news to a person, so he can call on the name of the Lord? (vv14-15)

Paul says that first a preacher is sent, and the good news is heard and believed, so that a person can call on the name of the Lord.

Romans 10:15**ULT**

¹⁵ And how would they preach, unless they were sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful {are} the feet of those who proclaim good news of good things!"

UST

¹⁵ And certainly they could not announce the message about Jesus unless someone sends them out! This is exactly what the holy scriptures say, "It is a beautiful thing when people declare happy news about good things!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:16**ULT**

¹⁶ But not all of them obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed our message?"

UST

¹⁶ However, they have not all paid attention to the happy news {about Jesus}. Indeed, this is what the Prophet Isaiah says in the holy scriptures, "Lord, no one trusts what we say!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:17**ULT**

¹⁷ So faith {is} from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. ^[1]

UST

¹⁷ So then, a person can {only} trust in Jesus by hearing {about him}. And a person can {only} hear about Jesus through {those who announce} the message {that Jesus is} the Messiah.

What is heard which brings faith?

The word of Christ is heard, which brings faith.

Romans 10:18**ULT**

¹⁸ But I say, "Did they certainly not hear?" Yes, indeed. "Their sound has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world."

UST

¹⁸ However, this is what I say, "It is absolutely certain they heard!" It is a fact. {As the holy scriptures say,} "What they said spread throughout the entire earth. What they announced spread to the farthest parts of the {inhabited} world."

Did Israel hear the gospel?

Yes, Israel heard the gospel.

Romans 10:19**ULT**

¹⁹ But I say, "Did Israel certainly not know?" First Moses says, "I will provoke you to jealousy by {what is} not a nation; by means of a nation without understanding, I will provoke you to anger."

UST

¹⁹ However this is what I say, "It is absolutely certain that Israel understood!" God first says through Moses in the holy scriptures, "I will personally make you envious because of a nation that does not {belong to me}. I will make you furious because of a nation that does not know {me}."

How did God say he would provoke Israel to jealousy?

God said he would provoke Israel to jealousy by appearing to those who were without understanding.

Romans 10:20**ULT**

²⁰ Now Isaiah was very bold when he says, "I was found by those not seeking me; I appeared to those not asking for me."

UST

²⁰ Indeed, God also quite boldly declares through the Prophet Isaiah in the holy scriptures, "Those who were not searching for me found me. I manifested myself to those who did not ask about me."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 10:21**ULT**

²¹ But to Israel he says, "The whole day I reached out my hands to a disobedient and contradictory people."
10:17 ^[1] some ancient manuscripts read

UST

²¹ However, God tells Israel in the holy scriptures, "I stretch out my arms all the time {to embrace you}. {But, you} are a people who {constantly} disobeys and argues {with me}!"

What did God find when he reached out to Israel?

When God reached out to Israel, he found a disobedient and resistant people.

Romans 11

Romans 11:1

ULT

¹ I say then, God did not reject his people, did he? May it never be! For I also am an Israelite, from the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

UST

¹ The point of what I am saying is this—of course God did not discard his own people! In fact, I too am an Israelite. I am a {direct} descendant of {the patriarch} Abraham. I come from the {family} tribe of Benjamin {who was the son of the Patriarch Jacob}.

Has God then rejected the Israelites?

May it never be.

Romans 11:2

ULT

² God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Or do you not know what the scripture says about Elijah, how he pleaded with God against Israel?

UST

² God did not discard his people who he knew in advance {would belong to him}. You certainly know what the holy scripture says about the Prophet Elijah. Elijah appealed to God against Israel.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:3

ULT

³ “Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have broken down your altars, and I alone was spared, and they seek my life.”

UST

³ {This is what the Prophet Elijah said,} “Lord, they murdered {all of} your prophets {except for me}! They demolished all your altars! I am the very last surviving {prophet}! Now, they are trying to kill me {too}!”

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:4**ULT**

⁴ But what does the divine response say to him? "I have reserved for myself 7,000 men who have not bent the knee to Baal."

UST

⁴ But, this is how God replied to Elijah, "I have kept 7,000 people alive for my purposes. These men have not bowed down to {worship the idol} Baal."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:5**ULT**

⁵ Even so then, at this present time also there is a remnant according to the choice of grace.

UST

⁵ The same thing is also true at this time in history. God has graciously chosen that some (Israelites) would survive.

Does Paul say if there are any faithful Israelites remaining, and if so, how have they been preserved?

Paul says that there is a remnant remaining that has been preserved because of the choice of grace.

Romans 11:6**ULT**

⁶ But if by grace, {it is} no longer by works. Otherwise grace would no longer be grace. ^[1]

UST

⁶ Certainly, {God chooses his people} based on how gracious he is. So, {God} does not {choose his people} because they do {what God's law says}. {If God chose people because they do what the law says,} then how gracious he is would not be {revealed}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:7**ULT**

⁷ What then? The thing Israel seeks, it did not obtain, but the chosen obtained it, and the rest were hardened,

UST

⁷ So then, although Israel continues striving to make themselves right with God, they cannot attain this goal. Instead, those who God {graciously} chose {from Israel} become right with God. But, those God did not {graciously} choose {from Israel} stubbornly refused to become right with God.

Who among the Israelites obtained salvation, and what happened to the rest?

The chosen among the Israelites obtained salvation, and the rest were hardened.

Romans 11:8**ULT**

⁸ just as it is written: "God gave them a spirit of dullness, eyes not to see, and ears not to hear, to this very day."

UST

⁸ This is exactly what the holy scriptures say {about Israel}, "God allowed them to remain bewildered. Until this present day, God has made them completely unable to understand {how gracious he is}."

What did the spirit of dullness given by God do to those who received it?

The spirit of dullness made their eyes unable to see and their ears unable to hear.

Romans 11:9**ULT**

⁹ And David says, "Let their table become for a net and for a trap, and for a stumbling block and for a retribution for them.

UST

⁹ {King} David also prophesies in the holy scriptures, "{O God}, while they live luxuriously, catch them like a bird in a net or wild animal in a trap! Make them stumble and fall! Pay them back {for how luxuriously they live}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Let their eyes be darkened to not see, and make their backs bend continually."

UST

¹⁰ Cause them to become blind so they cannot see! Make them unable to raise their heads {to see how gracious you are}—forever!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:11**ULT**

¹¹ I say then, "They did not stumble so as to fall, did they?" May it never be! Instead, by their transgression, salvation {is} to the Gentiles, to provoke them to jealousy.

UST

¹¹ Yet, this is what I say, "Of course the Israelites are not completely rejected by God! But, God saves the nations because Israel failed {to make themselves right with God}. This is because God wants to make the people of Israel {so} jealous of the nations, {that they ask God to make them right with himself}.

What good has happened because of Israel's refusal to receive the gospel?

Salvation has come to the Gentiles.

What effect will the salvation of the Gentiles have on the Israelites?

The salvation of the Gentiles will provoke the Israelites to jealousy.

Romans 11:12**ULT**

¹² Now if their transgression {is} riches of the world, and their loss {is} riches of the Gentiles, how much greater {will} their completion {be}?

UST

¹² Indeed, the Israelites failed {to make themselves right with God}. God made how they failed turn into gain for the world. What they lost became gain for the nations. So, when the full number of Israelites become right with God, this will be even more gain {for all of God's people}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:13**ULT**

¹³ Now I speak to you Gentiles. As much therefore as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry,

UST

¹³ But now I am speaking to you who are from the nations. God made me his authorized representative to the nations. So, I glorify {God} by doing what he assigned to me.

In Paul's analogy of the olive tree root and the wild branches, who is the root and who are the wild branches? (vv13-17)

The root is Israel, and the wild branches are the Gentiles.

Romans 11:14**ULT**

¹⁴ if somehow I might provoke to jealousy those who {are} of my own flesh and might save some of them.

UST

¹⁴ If possible, I want to make my fellow-Israelites jealous about what the nations have {by announcing God's good news}, so that God will save some of them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For if their rejection {is} reconciliation of the world, what {is their} acceptance if not life from the dead?

UST

¹⁵ In fact, God reconciles the world because they reject {his good news}. So, when they accept {his good news} it will be as if God is making them alive after dying.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Now if the firstfruits {are} holy, the lump of dough also. And if the root {is} holy, the branches also.

UST

¹⁶ Indeed, {the first Israelites were special to God, just like} the first portion of a lump of dough is special. In the same way, {the current Israelites are still special to God, just like} the rest of a lump of dough is special because it comes from the first portion. Also, {the first Israelites were special to God, just like} the root of a tree is special. In the same way, {the current Israelites are still special to God, just like} the branches of a tree are special because they come from the root.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:17**ULT**

¹⁷ But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive branch, were grafted into them, and {became} partakers with them of the richness of the root of the olive tree,

UST

¹⁷ Indeed, {God has removed some of the Israelites from his people, like} they were branches broken off a tree. But, {those of you who were not part of God's people were joined to his people, like} wild olive branches are grafted in {to the native tree}. Now {you share together in benefitting from being part of God's people, like} grafted branches richly share in the olive tree root.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:18**ULT**

¹⁸ do not boast over the branches. But if you boast, you do not support the root, but the root, you.

UST

¹⁸ You nations must not boast against the removed Israelites, even though they are like broken off branches! Instead, if you do boast, you must realize that you do not sustain the Israelites. Indeed, they sustain you—just like the root sustains the branches!

What attitude does Paul say the wild branches must avoid?

Paul says the wild branches must avoid the attitude of boasting over the natural branches that were broken off.

Romans 11:19**ULT**

¹⁹ You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in."

UST

¹⁹ So then, you might say, "{God removed some of the Israelites from his people, like} breaking off branches from a tree. {God did this} so that {he could join} me to his people, like a branch} is grafted into a tree."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:20**ULT**

²⁰ {That is} true. They were broken off in {their} unbelief, but you stand firm in the faith. Do not think highly of yourself, but fear.

UST

²⁰ I say, "Well said! {Like broken off branches}, God removed some of the Israelites from being his people because they were unfaithful. However, you who are from the {other} nations {only} remain {part of God's people if} you remain faithful to him. Do not become arrogant about how smart you are, but fear {how powerful God is!}

What warning does Paul give the wild branches? (vv20-21)

Paul warns the wild branches that if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare the wild branches if they fall into unbelief.

Romans 11:21**ULT**

²¹ For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you.

UST

²¹ Certainly, God did not show pity to the {faithless Israelites, even though they were like} natural branches. So, he will not show pity to you {who are from the nations} if you become faithless!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:22**ULT**

²² See, then, kindness and severity of God: severity on those who fell, but kindness of God on you, if you continue in {his} kindness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

UST

²² Take note then, how kind and harsh God can be! God is harsh toward those who fail to remain faithful to him. However, God will show how kind he is toward you who are from the nations if you continue to accept how kind he is by remaining faithful. But, if you do not {remain faithful}, God will totally reject you{-like a severed branch}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:23**ULT**

²³ But they, if they do not continue in {their} unbelief, will be grafted in. For God is able to graft them in again.

UST

²³ However, if the Israelites do not remain faithless, God will allow them to {rejoin his people, like branches} grafted in. This is because God is powerful enough to graft in the Israelites again to rejoin his people.

What can God do with natural branches if they do not continue in their unbelief? (vv23-24)

God can graft back into the olive tree natural branches that do not continue in their unbelief.

Romans 11:24**ULT**

²⁴ For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and contrary to nature were grafted into a good olive tree, how much more will these, who {are} according to nature, be grafted back into their own olive tree?

UST

²⁴ Certainly, you were {removed from the nations, like} a branch cut off from a naturally wild olive tree. Then {God joined you to his people, like} a wild olive branch that is grafted into a cultivated olive tree. Since this true, {God} will certainly {join} any faithful Israelites {back into his people, like} a naturally cultivated olive branch that is grafted into its own olive tree.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:25**ULT**

²⁵ For I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers, in order that you might not be wise in yourselves, for a partial hardening has occurred in Israel, until the completion of the Gentiles might come in;

UST

²⁵ Indeed, my fellow believers in the Messiah, I do not want you to remain unaware of God's mysterious plan, so that you do not become conceited. Because God has allowed a portion of the Israelites to stubbornly refuse to be made right with himself. {This will happen} until all the people God has chosen from the nations join his people.

How long will the partial hardening of Israel last?

The partial hardening of Israel will last until the completion of the Gentiles comes in.

Romans 11:26**ULT**

²⁶ and thus all Israel will be saved, just as it is written: "From Zion will come the Deliverer. He will remove ungodliness from Jacob.

UST

²⁶ Then this is the way God will save all {of} Israel. This is exactly what is written in the holy scriptures, "God will send his rescuer from {Mount} Zion. {God's rescuer} will cause {Israel's descendants from} Jacob to stop rejecting God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:27**ULT**

²⁷ And this {will be} the covenant from me to them, when I will take away their sins."

UST

²⁷ {God says,} "This is the agreement I make with Israel, whenever I forgive their sins."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:28**ULT**

²⁸ According to the gospel, {they are} enemies for your sake, but according to election, {they are} beloved because of their forefathers.

UST

²⁸ As it relates to the good news, {the people of Israel are} the enemies of the {other} nations. However, as it relates to how God chose them to be his people, God loves {Israel} because of {how God loves Israel's} Patriarchs.

Despite their disobedience, why do the Israelites continue to be loved by God? (vv28-29)

The Israelites continue to be loved by God because of the ancestors, and because the call of God is unchangeable.

Romans 11:29**ULT**

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God {are} unchangeable.

UST

²⁹ This is because God does not revoke the things he graciously gives and who he summons {to be his people}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:30**ULT**

³⁰ For just as you were formerly disobedient to God, but now have received mercy in their disobedience,

UST

³⁰ In fact, there was a time when you who are from the nations did not obey God. However, now God has shown how merciful he is toward you, because Israel disobeyed God.

What have both Jew and Gentile been shown to be by God? (vv30-32)

Both Jew and Gentile have been shown to be disobedient.

What has God shown to the disobedient? (vv30-32)

God has shown mercy to the disobedient, both Jew and Gentile.

Romans 11:31**ULT**

³¹ thus also, these now have been disobedient, that by the mercy shown to you, they might also now receive mercy.

UST

³¹ In the same way, the Israelites have also now disobeyed {God}. They reacted to how merciful God is toward you {from the nations} by disobeying him. God did this{ so that he could now also show how merciful he is toward them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:32**ULT**

³² For God has shut up all into disobedience, in order that he might have mercy on all.

UST

³² Indeed, God allowed all {types of} people to become disobedient. He did this so that he could show how merciful he is to all {types of} people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:33**ULT**

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How unsearchable {are} his judgments, and his ways beyond discovering!

UST

³³ God's {plans} are so wise and intelligent! They are like a deep {mine full} of wealth! No one can search out what he determines! No one can track where he goes!

Who is able to search God's judgments and give him advice? (vv33-34)

No person can search God's judgments and give him advice.

Romans 11:34**ULT**

³⁴ "For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has become his advisor?"

UST

³⁴ {As the holy scriptures say,} "Indeed, {there is no one} who could {possibly} comprehend what the Lord intends! {There is no one} who could {possibly} advise him!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:35**ULT**

³⁵ Or who has first given anything to him, that he will be repaid by him?"

UST

³⁵ No one could possibly give God anything that would cause him to owe them something!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 11:36**ULT**

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him {are} all things. To him {be} the glory to the ages. Amen.

11:6 ^[1]

UST

³⁶ Certainly, all {these} things originated from God and are enacted by God, and lead to God's glory. This is why all types of people must glorify him forever. May it be so!

What are the three ways all things are related to God?

All things are from God, through God, and to God.

Romans 12

Romans 12:1

ULT

¹ I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which {is} your reasonable service.

UST

¹ So then, my fellow believers in the Messiah, I appeal to you because of how compassionate God is: offer your own bodies to God as if they were a live sacrifice. Set yourselves apart {this way} for God's purposes in order to please him. {God will consider this} your rational {religious} service {to him}.

What is the spiritual service to God for a believer?

A believer's spiritual service is to present himself a living sacrifice to God.

Romans 12:2

ULT

² And do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of the mind, for you to prove what {is} the good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

UST

² Do not align yourselves with {how sinful people live at} the current time. Instead, transfigure yourselves by renewing how you spiritually perceive {things}. Then you will be able to test and approve what God desires {you to do}. God desires that you do what is good, and pleasing, and flawless.

What does a transformed mind in the believer enable him to do?

A transformed mind enables a believer to know what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God.

Romans 12:3**ULT**

³ For I say, through the grace that has been given to me, to everyone who is among you to not think more highly of himself than what he ought to think, but to think with sound mind, as God has distributed to each one a measure of faith.

UST

³ Indeed, God graciously gave me {these words as one who God authorized to represent him. So,} I say that not even one of you must focus on being better than another person. Instead, you must focus on thinking moderately. {Keep focusing on} how God has portioned out to each person {what they need} to remain faithful {to him}.

How should a believer not think of himself?

A believer should not think of himself more highly than he ought to think.

Romans 12:4**ULT**

⁴ For just as we have many members in one body, but not all the members have the same function,

UST

⁴ Indeed, although each of our bodies have many parts, yet not all the parts function in the same manner.

How are the many believers related to each other in Christ? (vv4-5)

The many believers are one body in Christ, and individually members of each other.

Romans 12:5**ULT**

⁵ in the same way, the many are one body in Christ and individually members of each other.

UST

⁵ Similarly, there are many people united to the Messiah's one body. Indeed, like parts of a body, each one of his people are united to the Messiah's body.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:6**ULT**

⁶ But we have different gifts according to the grace that has been given to us: if prophecy, according to the proportion of {his} faith;

UST

⁶ And yet, since God is so kind, he has given {each of} us gracious gifts that differ. If {God has gifted you to be able} to prophesy. Then you should prophesy corresponding to how much you trust in God.

What should each believer do with the gifts God has given him?

Each believer should exercise his gifts according to the proportion of his faith.

Romans 12:7**ULT**

⁷ if service, in serving; if the one teaching, in teaching;

UST

⁷ If {God has gifted you} to serve, you should serve {others}. {If God has gifted you} to teach, you should teach {others}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:8**ULT**

⁸ if the one encouraging, in encouragement; the one giving, in generosity; the one leading, in diligence; the one showing mercy, with cheerfulness.

UST

⁸ If {God has gifted you} to encourage {others}, you should encourage {others}. If God has gifted you} to share {with others}, you should share generously {with others}. {If God has gifted you} to lead {others}, you should lead diligently. {If God has gifted you} to be merciful, you should be cheerfully merciful.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:9**ULT**

⁹ Let love be without hypocrisy, abhorring the evil, holding on to the good;

UST

⁹ {You must} love each other genuinely. {You must} detest what is wicked. {You must} retain what is good.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:10**ULT**

¹⁰ in love of the brothers, affectionate to one another; in honor, preferring one another;

UST

¹⁰ {You must} act tenderly affectionate toward each other, like fellow believers in the Messiah should love. {You must} try to be the first to honor other {fellow believers in the Messiah}.

How should believers treat one another?

Believers should be affectionate to one another and respect one another.

Romans 12:11**ULT**

¹¹ in diligence, not hesitant; in the spirit, being eager; serving the Lord;

UST

¹¹ {You must} not remain idle, {but} be diligent. {You must} continue to be enthusiastic. {You must} continue to serve {as if it were} for the Lord {himself}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:12**ULT**

¹² in hope, rejoicing; in suffering, being patient; in prayer, persisting;

UST

¹² {You must} be joyful while hoping {in the Lord}. {You must} endure when distressed. {You must} stay engaged in prayer.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:13**ULT**

¹³ in the needs of the saints, sharing; pursuing hospitality.

UST

¹³ {You must} contribute to what God's people need. {You must} find opportunities to help strangers who are needy.

How should believers respond to the needs of the saints?

Believers should share in the needs of the saints.

Romans 12:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse;

UST

¹⁴ You must {ask God to} bless those who trouble you. {Ask God to} bless them. Do not slander them.

How should believers respond to those who persecute them?

Believers should bless, and not curse, those who persecute them.

Romans 12:15**ULT**

¹⁵ to rejoice with those who rejoice; to weep with those who weep;

UST

¹⁵ You should rejoice with those people who are rejoicing! You should be sad along with those who are sad!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:16**ULT**

¹⁶ of the same mind toward one another, not thinking in proud ways, but accepting lowly people. Do not be wise in yourselves;

UST

¹⁶ Consider that others are as smart as you. Do not be arrogant about how smart you are, but associate with humble people. Do not consider that you can rely on how smart you are.

How should believers treat lowly people?

Believers should accept lowly people.

Romans 12:17**ULT**

¹⁷ repaying no one evil for evil; giving attention to good things in the sight of all men;

UST

¹⁷ If someone does something evil to you, do not react by doing evil to them. Think deeply about how you can do what is considered excellent by all people.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:18**ULT**

¹⁸ if possible, what {is} from you, living at peace with all men;

UST

¹⁸ If you are able, as much as it depends on you, live peacefully with all people.

As much as is possible, what should believers seek with all people?

As much as is possible, believers should seek peace with all people.

Romans 12:19**ULT**

¹⁹ not avenging yourselves, beloved, but give way to the wrath, for it is written, "Vengeance {is} to me; I will repay," says the Lord."

UST

¹⁹ O beloved people of God, do not retaliate {when someone does something wrong to you}. Instead, wait for God to punish them. Because as the holy scriptures say, "'I will retaliate {when someone does something wrong to you}. It is I who will pay them back, says the Lord.'"

Why should believers not avenge themselves?

Believers should not avenge themselves because vengeance belongs to the Lord.

Romans 12:20**ULT**

²⁰ "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him a drink. For doing this, you will heap coals of fire on his head."

UST

²⁰ "Instead {of retaliating}, you should feed your enemy if he is hungry. You should give your enemy something to drink if he is thirsty. Because when you do things like these, {you will hopefully shock him, as if} you were piling up fiery coals on top of his head. {This is so that he would realize that God will punish him if he does not repent.}"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 12:21**ULT**

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

UST

²¹ {In other words,} do not let what is evil conquer you. Instead, conquer what is evil by doing what is good.

How should believers overcome evil?

Believers should overcome evil with good.

Romans 13

Romans 13:1

ULT

¹ Let every soul be subject to governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and the ones that exist are appointed by God.

UST

¹ Every one of you must submit yourselves to those who are authorized to govern you. This is because no one {can govern} unless God authorizes it. In addition, God has instituted the existing governments.

From where do earthly authorities get their authority?

Earthly authorities are appointed by God, and get their authority from God.

Romans 13:2

ULT

² Therefore, the one who resists that authority opposes the command of God, and the ones who oppose it will bring judgment on themselves.

UST

² This is why people who continue to oppose authorized governments, are opposed what God institutes. And God will condemn those who remain opposed {to what he authorizes}.

What will those receive who oppose the earthly authority?

Those who oppose the earthly authority will receive judgment upon themselves.

Romans 13:3

ULT

³ For rulers are not a terror to good deeds, but to evil deeds. Now do you desire not to be afraid of authority? Do good, and you will receive approval from it,

UST

³ In fact, if people do what is good they have no need to be afraid of those who rule. It is only those who do what is evil that should fear {being punished by} those who rule. If you do not want to fear those who God authorizes to rule, do what is good. Then those who rule will {not punish you,} but commend you.

What does Paul tell believers to do so that they can be unafraid of the ruling authority?

Paul tells believers to do what is good so that they can be unafraid of the ruling authority.

Romans 13:4**ULT**

⁴ for he is a servant of God to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not carry the sword in vain, for he is a servant of God, an avenger for wrath on the one who does evil.

UST

⁴ This is because those God authorizes to rule {are intended to serve} for the good of the citizens. But if someone does what is evil, they should fear! Indeed, those who rule are not authorized to use force for no good reason. In fact, those who rule are serving God, by avenging and judging anyone who practices what is evil.

What authority has God given rulers in order to suppress evil?

God has given rulers the authority to carry the sword and to punish the one who does evil.

Romans 13:5**ULT**

⁵ Therefore, {it is} necessary to subject yourselves, not only because of the wrath, but also because of conscience.

UST

⁵ As a result, you are required to submit yourselves to those God authorizes to rule. This is not only true because they can punish you, but also because you are well aware {that to disobey them is to disobey God}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 13:6**ULT**

⁶ For because of this you pay taxes also; for they are servants of God, attending continually to this very thing.

UST

⁶ In fact, this is also the reason why you pay taxes. Because those who God authorizes to rule {are also chosen} to serve the citizens. They constantly devote themselves to this task of serving {what benefits} the citizens.

What authority has God given rulers regarding money?

God has given rulers the authority to require payment of taxes.

Romans 13:7**ULT**

⁷ Pay back to everyone what {is} owed to them: tax to whom tax, toll to whom toll, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

UST

⁷ Give what you owe to all those who God authorizes to rule. Pay taxes to those who you owe taxes. Pay revenues to those who you owe revenues. Give respect to those who have respected authoritative offices. Give honor to those who have honored authoritative offices.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 13:8**ULT**

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves {his} neighbor has fulfilled the law.

UST

⁸ Pay whatever you owe to whoever you owe it. The only debt you should continue to owe is to love one another. This is because whenever you love another person, you accomplish what God's law requires.

What is the one thing Paul says believers should owe to others?

Paul says that believers should owe love to others.

How does a believer fulfill the Law?

A believer fulfills the Law by loving his neighbor.

Romans 13:9**ULT**

⁹ For this: "Do not commit adultery, do not kill, do not steal, do not covet," and if any other commandment, it is summed up in this word: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

UST

⁹ Because God's law says these things, "You must not practice adultery, you must not murder, you must not rob, you must not lust for what belongs to others." Anything else God commands in his law you could summarize in this way, "You must lovingly care for those you come in contact with, in the same way you would lovingly care for yourself."

Which commandments does Paul list as part of the Law?

Paul lists the commandments to not commit adultery, not kill, not steal, and not covet as part of the Law.

Romans 13:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Love does not cause harm to a neighbor; therefore, love {is} the fulfillment of the law.

UST

¹⁰ {This is because} when you lovingly care for those you come in contact with, you can do them no harm. This is why when you lovingly care for those you come in contact with, you accomplish what God's law requires.

How does a believer fulfill the Law?

A believer fulfills the Law by loving his neighbor.

Romans 13:11**ULT**

¹¹ And this, knowing the time, that {it is} already the season for you ^[1] to awake from sleep. For now our salvation {is} nearer than when we believed.

UST

¹¹ Besides these things, you know this is the appointed time, that this is already a significantly historic time. So, you must be spiritually alert. Because at this present time, Jesus' return to finally save us is closer than when we first trusted in him.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 13:12**ULT**

¹² The night has advanced, and the day has come near. Let us therefore put aside the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

UST

¹² {The end of the world} is fast approaching, {as if it was} late at night {just before the dawn}. The day {when Jesus returns} is close. So, we must reject doing what is evil, like what people do when it is dark. Instead, we must prepare ourselves by doing what is good, like when a soldier puts on his armor during the daylight hours.

What does Paul say believers should put aside, and put on?

Paul says believers should put aside the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light.

Romans 13:13**ULT**

¹³ Let us walk decently, as in the day, not in drunken celebrations or drunkenness; let us not walk in sexual immorality and uncontrolled lust, not in strife and jealousy.

UST

¹³ We must behave appropriately, as if it was daytime {and people were watching what we do}. We must not engage in drunken reveling. We must not let lustful desires cause us to commit sexually immoral acts. We must not jealously quarrel.

In what activities are believers not to walk?

Believers are not to walk in wild celebrations, drunkenness, sexual immorality, uncontrolled lust, strife, or jealousy.

Romans 13:14**ULT**

¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, for lusts.

13:11 ^[1] some ancient manuscripts read

UST

¹⁴ Instead, you must prepare yourselves to meet the Lord Jesus Christ when he returns, {like a soldier putting on his best armor to greet a general}. You must not concern yourselves with {anything that is related to} what the body lusts after.

What should be the believer's attitude toward the lusts of the flesh?

The believer should make no provision for the lusts of the flesh.

Romans 14

Romans 14:1

ULT

¹ But receive the one who is weak in faith, not for passing judgment on opinions.

UST

¹ You must accept any fellow believer in the Messiah who is immature. Do not argue with them about matters of opinion.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:2

ULT

² One person believes to eat anything, but the one who is weak eats vegetables.

UST

² {There are some people} who are convinced that they can eat all {kinds of food}. But the immature believer in the Messiah {thinks they can} eat {only} vegetables.

What kind of food does a person with stronger faith eat, and what does a person with weaker faith eat?

A person who is stronger in faith eats anything, but a person who is weaker in faith eats only vegetables.

Romans 14:3

ULT

³ Let the one who eats not despise the one who does not eat, and let the one who does not eat not judge the one who eats. For God has accepted him.

UST

³ {The believer in the Messiah} who eats {every kind of food}, must not scorn {his fellow believer} who does not eat {every kind of food. The believer in the Messiah} who does not eat {every kind of food}, must not judge {his fellow believer} who eats {every kind of food}. This is because God accepts him.

What attitude should believers who differ on what they eat have toward one another?

Believers who differ on what they eat should not despise or judge each other.

Who has received both the one who eats anything and the one who eats only vegetables?

(vv3-4)

God has received both the one who eats anything and the one who eats only vegetables.

Romans 14:4**ULT**

⁴ Who are you who judges a servant belonging to another? To his own master he stands or falls. But he will be made to stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

UST

⁴ Just as the master of a servant is the only one who has the right to judge him, in the same way, only the Lord Jesus has the right to judge his servants. The master places each servant in front of him to judge whether he should vindicate or condemn them. But, since the Lord Jesus is the judge, he is powerful enough to vindicate whoever he chooses{-whether or not they eat only vegetables}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:5**ULT**

⁵ One person judges day from day, but another person judges every day. Let each one be convinced in his own mind.

UST

⁵ Some people decide that certain days are special, while other people decide that each day is the same. Each person should decide based on however his conscience fully convinces him.

What other issue does Paul mention as being an issue of personal conviction?

Paul mentions as an issue of personal conviction whether one day is valued over another or all days are valued equally.

Romans 14:6**ULT**

⁶ The one who regards the day, regards it for the Lord; and the one who eats, eats for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God, and the one who does not eat, does not eat for the Lord; he also gives thanks to God.

UST

⁶ The person who is concerned about certain {feast} days, is concerned about them in order to {honor} the Lord {Jesus}. The person who eats {certain foods}, eats in order to {honor} the Lord {Jesus}. This is because he gives thanks to God. The person who refuses to eat {certain foods}, refuses to eat in order to {honor} the Lord {Jesus}. He too is thankful to God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:7**ULT**

⁷ For none of us lives for himself, and none dies for himself.

UST

⁷ This is because none of us believers in the Messiah lives to {honor} himself, and none of us believers in the Messiah dies to {honor} himself.

For what do believers live and die? (vv7-8)

Believers live and die for the Lord.

Romans 14:8**ULT**

⁸ For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or whether we die, we are of the Lord.

UST

⁸ Certainly, while we are alive, we must live to {honor} the Lord {Jesus}. When we die, we are going to die to {honor} the Lord {Jesus}. So then, whether we are alive or dead, we belong to the Lord {Jesus}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:9**ULT**

⁹ For to this purpose Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and of the living.

UST

⁹ In fact, this is why the Messiah {Jesus} died and {was made} alive: so that he would become Lord over those who are dead and those who are alive.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:10**ULT**

¹⁰ But you, why do you judge your brother? And you also, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

UST

¹⁰ But, those of you who judge your fellow believers in the Messiah have no right to do this! You also must not scorn your fellow believer in the Messiah! This is because {one day God himself will judge all believers in the Messiah}. We will all have to present ourselves in front of God's place of judgment.

Where will all believers ultimately stand?

All believers will ultimately stand before the judgment seat of God.

Romans 14:11**ULT**

¹¹ For it is written, "As I live," says the Lord, "to me every knee will bend, and every tongue will confess to God."

UST

¹¹ Indeed, this is what God says in the holy scriptures, "The Lord says, 'As certainly as I am alive, it is just as certain that every person will bow down and worship me. And every person will acknowledge that I am God.'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:12**ULT**

¹² So then, each one of us will give an account concerning himself to God.

UST

¹² So, it is certain that each one of us believers in the Messiah will have to give an answer to God for whatever we do {in this life}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:13**ULT**

¹³ Therefore, let us no longer judge one another, but instead judge this: that no one will place a stumbling block or a snare for {his} brother.

UST

¹³ As a result, we must stop judging other people. Instead, we must rather resolve not to do anything that could tempt our fellow believers in the Messiah to sin, or cause them to be offended.

What attitude should a brother have toward another brother on issues of personal conviction?

A brother should not place a stumbling block or a snare for another brother on issues of personal conviction.

Romans 14:14**ULT**

¹⁴ I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that nothing {is} unclean by itself, except to the one who considers anything to be unclean, for him {it is} unclean.

UST

¹⁴ I am absolutely convinced as a spokesperson for the Lord Jesus, that believers in the Messiah are permitted to eat any food. If {an immature} believer in the Messiah regards some food as unacceptable to eat, then it is {only} unacceptable for that person to eat it.

Paul is persuaded in the Lord Jesus that which foods are unclean?

Paul is persuaded that no foods are unclean.

Romans 14:15**ULT**

¹⁵ For if for the sake of food your brother is hurt, you are no longer walking according to love. Do not destroy with your food that one for whom Christ died.

UST

¹⁵ Yet, if you grieve an {immature} believer in the Messiah by eating what that person considers unacceptable, you have stopped treating that person lovingly. You must not cause a fellow believer in the Messiah to {stop trusting in God and} come to {potential spiritual} ruin--{all} because {you want to eat certain kinds} of food! {Remember, this is a person} who the Messiah Jesus died to save!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:16**ULT**

¹⁶ So do not allow your good to be spoken of as evil.

UST

¹⁶ So then, you must not contribute to having anyone slander the good that all of you believers in the Messiah possess.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:17**ULT**

¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not food and drink, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

UST

¹⁷ This is because God's kingdom is not characterized by eating and drinking. Instead, God's kingdom is characterized by living rightly {with God}, living peacefully {with each other}, and living joyfully {with the Holy Spirit}.

About what is the kingdom of God?

The kingdom of God is about righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For the one who serves Christ in this way {is} acceptable to God and approved by men.

UST

¹⁸ Because {any} believer who serves the Messiah {Jesus} by doing these things greatly pleases God, and {other} people will {also} approve how that believer serves the Messiah Jesus.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:19**ULT**

¹⁹ So then, let us pursue the things of peace and the things that build up one another.

UST

¹⁹ This is why we must strive to live peacefully and {spiritually} support each one our fellow believers.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:20**ULT**

²⁰ Do not destroy the work of God on account of food. All things {are} indeed clean, but {it is} evil for the man who eats through a stumbling block.

UST

²⁰ You must not jeopardize the work God has done in the lives of your fellow believers in the Messiah {by causing them} to stop trusting in God and} come to {potential spiritual} ruin–{all} because {you want to eat certain kinds} of food! Even though all {kinds of food} are acceptable {to eat}, yet if when you eat those foods it tempts your fellow believer to sin, your eating causes them harm.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:21**ULT**

²¹ {It is} good not to eat meat, nor to drink wine—nothing by which your brother stumbles or is caused to stumble or becomes weak. ^[1]

UST

²¹ {In fact,} it is better not to eat meat {at all}, or drink wine—or {do} anything that could tempt your fellow believer in the Messiah to sin, or could offend that person, or could contribute to that person remaining spiritually immature.

What does Paul say a brother should do in the presence of another brother who does not eat meat or drink wine?

Paul says it is good if the brother does not eat meat or drink wine in the presence of the other brother.

Romans 14:22**ULT**

²² The faith that you have, keep to yourself before God. Blessed {is} the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves.

UST

²² What you believe {is right to eat and drink}, is between you and God. How happy is the person who does what he is convinced is right without feeling guilty.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 14:23**ULT**

²³ But the one who doubts is condemned if he eats, because {it is} not from faith. And everything that {is} not from faith is sin.

14:21 ^[1]

UST

²³ On the other hand, if someone eats but doubts that it is right to do so, that person has actually condemned himself! This is because a person must {only} eat because he believes it is right to do so. In fact, a person must do everything only if he believes it is right to do so, or else that person is {actually} sinning.

What is the result if a person does not act from faith?

Whatever actions are not taken from faith are sin.

Romans 15

Romans 15:1

ULT

¹ Now we who {are} strong ought to bear the weaknesses of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

UST

¹ Indeed, we believers in the Messiah who are strong are obligated to help support our fellow believers in the Messiah who are weak and immature. We must not {only} try to please ourselves.

What attitude should believers with strong faith have toward those with weak faith? (vv1-2)

Believers with strong faith should bear the weaknesses of those with weak faith, in order to build them up.

Romans 15:2

ULT

² Let each of us please {his} neighbor for {his} good, for {his} building up.

UST

² Each one of us believers in the Messiah {is obligated to try} to please his fellow believers by doing what is good {for them, and} in order to {spiritually} support {them}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:3

ULT

³ For even Christ did not please himself. Instead, just as it is written, "The insults of those who insult you fell on me."

UST

³ Indeed, not even the Messiah {Jesus} tried to please himself! Instead, {he lived to please others}. This is exactly what the holy scriptures mean when they say, "The people keep trying to disgrace you {O God} by saying disgraceful things against me!"

Who is the example Paul uses of one who did not live to please himself, but served others?

Christ did not live to please himself, but served others.

Romans 15:4**ULT**

⁴ For whatever was previously written was written for our own instruction, in order that through patience and through encouragement of the scriptures we would have hope.

UST

⁴ Indeed, all the words written beforehand in the holy scriptures were written in order to teach us. This was so that we believers in the Messiah could be confident, because what God promises in the holy scriptures helps us endure and encourages us.

What was one of the purposes of the scriptures written previously?

The scriptures written previously were written for our instruction.

Romans 15:5**ULT**

⁵ Now may the God of patience and of encouragement grant you to think the same with each other according to Christ Jesus,

UST

⁵ I pray that God will allow you to patiently {endure} and will encourage you to focus together on {what God promises for his people}. This is what the Messiah Jesus desires.

What does Paul desire for the believers through their exercise of patience and encouragement with each other?

Paul desires that the believers be of the same mind with each other.

Romans 15:6**ULT**

⁶ so that with one mind you might glorify with one mouth the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

UST

⁶ {I pray this} so that, by being united what you intend to do and in what you say, all of you would glorify God, {who according to Jesus' divine nature is} the Father of our Lord Jesus the Messiah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:7**ULT**

⁷ Therefore, receive one another, just as Christ also received you, to the glory of God.

UST

⁷ This is why all of you must accept your fellow believers in the Messiah, in the same way as the Messiah {Jesus} also accepted you. If you do this, it will cause others to glorify God!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:8**ULT**

⁸ For I say that Christ has been made a servant of the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God, to confirm the promises of the fathers,

UST

⁸ Indeed, I{, Paul,} say that God has sent the Messiah {Jesus} to serve the circumcised Jews, in order to show how trustworthy God is to secure what he promised to the Patriarchs {Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob}.

**Who is the example Paul uses of one who did not live to please himself, but served others?
(vv8-9)**

Christ did not live to please himself, but served others.

Romans 15:9**ULT**

⁹ and for the Gentiles to glorify God for {his} mercy, just as it is written, "For this reason, I will acknowledge you among the Gentiles and sing praise to your name."

UST

⁹ {God also sent Jesus} so that the nations would glorify God because he is so merciful. This is exactly what the holy scriptures mean when they say, "Because {you are so merciful God,} I will confess you among the nations and I will sing psalms to {glorify} your name."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:10**ULT**

¹⁰ And again it says, "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

UST

¹⁰ The holy scriptures also say in another passage, "Celebrate along with God's people, O nations!"

**What do the scriptures say the Gentiles will do because of God's mercy toward them?
(vv10-11)**

The scriptures say the Gentiles will rejoice and praise the Lord.

Romans 15:11**ULT**

¹¹ And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; and let all the peoples praise him."

UST

¹¹ In yet another passage of the holy scriptures it says, "All the nations, praise the Lord! All the peoples commend him!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:12**ULT**

¹² And again, Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even the one who rises to rule over the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles will hope."

UST

¹² {The Prophet} Isaiah says in another passage of the holy scriptures, "The {promised} descendant of {King David's father} Jesse will be born, the king who will emerge to rule over the nations. God will assure the nations {who trust} in this descendant of Jesse."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:13**ULT**

¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, for you to abound in hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

UST

¹³ I pray that the God who assures {his people of what he promises} will cause you to be completely overjoyed and live peacefully as you trust in him! I pray that God will cause you to be excessively assured {of what he promises} as the Holy Spirit enables you to trust in God.

What does Paul say the believers will be able to do by the power of the Holy Spirit?

The believers will be filled with joy and peace, and will abound in confidence.

Romans 15:14**ULT**

¹⁴ But I myself am also convinced about you, my brothers, that also you yourselves are full of goodness, having been filled with all knowledge, able to also exhort one another.

UST

¹⁴ In fact, my fellow believers in the Messiah, I am also personally persuaded that each and every one of you are completely kind {to others}. Since God has also caused you to fully understand how to be able to instruct others.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:15**ULT**

¹⁵ But I wrote more boldly to you about some things as reminding you, through the grace having been given me by God,

UST

¹⁵ It is true that I wrote more bluntly to you {who are at Rome} about certain things in order to remind you. This is because God has given me {this task} through his gracious {Holy Spirit}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:16**ULT**

¹⁶ for me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, offering as a priest the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles might become acceptable, having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

UST

¹⁶ so that I can liturgically serve on behalf of the Messiah Jesus for the sake of the nations' {salvation. In the same way} as a priest would {dedicate a sacrifice}, I am serving as a priest for God's good news, so that I can offer the Gentiles to God as if they are a well-pleasing sacrifice. Like when a sacrifice is set apart for what God desires, similarly the the Holy Spirit sets apart the nations for what God desires for them.

What gift did God give Paul, which is Paul's mission?

Paul's mission is to be a servant of Christ Jesus sent to the Gentiles.

Romans 15:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Therefore, in Christ Jesus I have reason to boast of things pertaining to God.

UST

¹⁷ So then, as an authorized representative of the Messiah Jesus, I have good reasons to boast about the things God is doing through me!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For I will not dare to speak anything which Christ has not brought about through me for the obedience of the Gentiles—by word and deed,

UST

¹⁸ Indeed, I would not be so audacious to say anything—{not about any} word or deed—as it relates to those things that the Messiah has not produced through what I have done, {that has led} to the nations obediently {trusting in God's good news}!

By what means has Christ worked through Paul to bring about the obedience of the Gentiles? (vv18-19)

Christ has worked through Paul by word and action, by the power of signs and wonders, and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:19**ULT**

¹⁹ in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem, and round about as far as Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ;

UST

¹⁹ {The Messiah Jesus produced} powerful miracles and worked wonderful signs as God's {Holy} Spirit enabled me! As a result, I have thoroughly proclaimed the good news about the Messiah {Jesus all the way} from Jerusalem and in a circle, as far {north of Rome} as the {region of} Illyricum.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:20**ULT**

²⁰ but in this way, strongly desiring to proclaim the gospel, not where Christ has been named, in order that I might not build upon another man's foundation.

UST

²⁰ And so, I aspire to proclaim the good news where people have never heard of the Messiah {Jesus}. This is in order that I would not interfere with another apostle's work, as if I was building a house where another person had already laid the foundation.

Where does Paul desire to proclaim the gospel? (vv20-21)

Paul desires to proclaim the gospel where Christ is not known by name.

Romans 15:21**ULT**

²¹ But just as it is written: "Those to whom was not reported concerning him will see him, and those who have not heard will understand."

UST

²¹ Indeed, this is exactly what the holy scriptures mean when they say, "What the people never heard announced about him, they will see. The people who have not heard {what was reported} will {still} understand."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:22**ULT**

²² Therefore, I was also hindered many times from coming to you.

UST

²² Because {I aspire to proclaim the good news where people have never heard of the Messiah {Jesus}, this also thwarted me from visiting all of you at Rome, again and again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:23**ULT**

²³ But now, no longer having any place in these regions, and having a longing for many years to come to you,

UST

²³ Yet at this present time, I have nowhere left to go in these regions {to proclaim the good news}, and I have deeply desired to visit you for a considerable number of years.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:24**ULT**

²⁴ whenever I go to Spain, I indeed hope, passing through, to see you, and to be helped by you there, if I might first be satisfied for a while by you.

UST

²⁴ Because, whenever I travel to Spain, I expect to visit you while passing through. {Hopefully,} after we first spend some quality time together, then from there you can send me on ahead {with provisions}.

Where does Paul plan to travel that will also allow him to come to Rome?

Paul plans to travel to Spain, which will also allow him to come to Rome.

Romans 15:25**ULT**

²⁵ But now I am going to Jerusalem, ministering to the saints.

UST

²⁵ Yet, at the present time, I am traveling to Jerusalem in order to serve God's people {there}.

Why is Paul now going to Jerusalem?

Paul is now going to Jerusalem to serve the believers there.

Romans 15:26**ULT**

²⁶ For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a certain contribution to the poor of the saints in Jerusalem.

UST

²⁶ This is because churches in the provinces of Macedonia and Achaia thought it was appropriate to collect shared funds to help the poor people of God who live in Jerusalem.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:27**ULT**

²⁷ Indeed, they were pleased, and they are their debtors. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they ought also to minister to them in material things.

UST

²⁷ Certainly, they thought it was appropriate, and they are also obligated {to help}. This is because the nations spiritually benefit by sharing in what God promised to the Jews. So, they are obligated also to contribute to serving God's people when they are physically needy.

Why does Paul say the Gentile believers owe the Jewish believers material things?

The Gentile believers owe the Jewish believers material things because the Gentile believers have shared in the spiritual things of the Jewish believers.

Romans 15:28**ULT**

²⁸ Therefore, when I have completed this and have sealed this fruit to them, I will go through you to Spain.

UST

²⁸ So then, after I finish collecting these funds, and securely deliver these {spiritual} offerings to the church in Jerusalem, I will pass through {your city} on my way to Spain.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:29**ULT**

²⁹ But I know that coming to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

UST

²⁹ I know that when I visit you, the Messiah {Jesus} will fully bless our time together!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:30**ULT**

³⁰ Now I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in the prayers to God for me,

UST

³⁰ Now, my fellow believers in the Messiah, I appeal to you as an authorized representative of the Lord Jesus the Messiah, and because of how much I love you since we are united in the {Holy} Spirit. Please join me to fight in prayer and pray to God for me when you come together as a church.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:31**ULT**

³¹ so that I might be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service in Jerusalem might be acceptable to the saints;

UST

³¹ {I ask for your prayers} so that God will rescue me from the unbelieving Jews living in Judea. {I also need your prayers} so that God's people in Jerusalem will readily accept {the funds} I {am delivering in order to} serve them.

From whom does Paul wish to be delivered?

Paul wishes to be delivered from those who are disobedient in Judea.

Romans 15:32**ULT**

³² so that I might come to you in joy through the will of God, {and} might be refreshed together with you.

UST

³² {I also ask for your prayers} so that I can joyfully visit you as God desires, and so that we can mutually revive each other's trust in God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 15:33**ULT**

³³ Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

UST

³³ Finally, {I pray that} God will cause you to live peacefully {and} sustain all of you. May it be so!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16

Romans 16:1

ULT

¹ Now I commend to you Phoebe our sister, also being a servant of the church in Cenchrea,

UST

¹ I, {Paul,} am introducing to you our fellow believer in the Messiah whose name is Phoebe. She also serves at the church in the town of Cenchrea {that is near the city of Corinth}.

What has sister Phoebe become to Paul? (vv1-2)

Sister Phoebe has become a helper of Paul, and of many others.

Romans 16:2

ULT

² in order that you might receive her in the Lord, in a manner worthy of the saints, and stand by her in whatever matter she might have need of you. For she has also become a helper of many, and of myself as well.

UST

² {I am introducing Phoebe} so that you would welcome her as a representative of the Lord {Jesus}. I want you to honor her as is appropriate for those who are set apart {to serve God}. {Please} assist her in whatever way and with anything she might need from you. This is because she has benefited many people, including me personally.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:3

ULT

³ Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

UST

³ Send my greetings to Priscilla and her husband Aquila. They worked alongside me as those who represent the Messiah Jesus.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:4**ULT**

⁴ who for my life laid down their own neck. To them not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles,

UST

⁴ They risked having their own heads chopped off {by the Roman authorities} in order to save my life. Both I and all the churches among the nations are thankful for them.

What have Prisca and Aquila done for Paul in the past?

Prisca and Aquila have risked their lives for Paul in the past.

Romans 16:5**ULT**

⁵ and the church in their house. Greet Epaenetus my beloved, who is the firstfruits of Asia to Christ.

UST

⁵ Also, send my greetings to the church that meets in their home. Send my greetings to Epaenetus whom I love. He is the first person to believe in the Messiah {Jesus} from the province of Asia {Minor}.

Where is one place the believers are meeting in Rome?

The believers in Rome are meeting in the house of Prisca and Aquila.

Romans 16:6**ULT**

⁶ Greet Mary, who worked much for you.

UST

⁶ Send my greetings to Mary, who has labored on behalf of you in many ways.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:7**ULT**

⁷ Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners who are prominent among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

UST

⁷ Send my greetings to Andronicus and Junia, who are my close relatives. I was imprisoned with them as well. They are distinguished apostles {of the Messiah Jesus}. They were also united to the Messiah prior to me.

What experience have Andronicus and Junias shared with Paul in the past?

Andronicus and Junias have been fellow prisoners with Paul in the past.

Romans 16:8**ULT**

⁸ Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord.

UST

⁸ Send my greetings to Ampliatus, whom I love, {and} who is united to the Lord.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:9**ULT**

⁹ Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved.

UST

⁹ Send my greetings to Urbanus. He works together with those of us who are authorized to represent the Messiah. Also, send my greetings to Stachys, whom I love.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Greet Apelles, the approved in Christ. Greet those who {are} from the household of Aristobulus.

UST

¹⁰ Send my greetings to Apelles, who God approved to represent the Messiah {Jesus}. Send my greetings to the {believers in the Messiah} who live in the household of Aristobulus.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:11**ULT**

¹¹ Greet Herodion, my kinsman. Greet those from the household of Narcissus, who are in the Lord.

UST

¹¹ Send my greetings to my close relative Herodion. Send my greetings to those united to the Lord {Jesus} who live in the household of Narcissus.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:12**ULT**

¹² Greet Tryphaena and Tryphosa, who work hard in the Lord. Greet Persis the beloved, who has worked much in the Lord.

UST

¹² Send my greetings to Tryphaena and Tryphosa, these ladies labor as they represent the Lord {Jesus}. Send my greetings to Persis, whom I love. She has labored in many ways as she represents the Lord {Jesus}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:13**ULT**

¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.

UST

¹³ Send my greetings to Rufus, who the Lord {Jesus} chose to represent him. Also {send greetings} to his mother. I also consider her to be like a mother to me.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers who {are} with them.

UST

¹⁴ Send my greetings to Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and our fellow believers in the Messiah who {meet} together with them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who {are} with them.

UST

¹⁵ Send my greetings to Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, Olympas, and to all God's people who meet together with them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

UST

¹⁶ When you meet together {for worship}, affectionately greet each {of your fellow believers in the Jesus the Messiah} in a way that is appropriate for those who belong to God. All of the churches that are united to {Jesus} the Messiah send you greetings!

How do the believers greet one another?

The believers greet one another with a holy kiss.

Romans 16:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Now I urge you, brothers, to take note of those who are causing divisions and obstacles, contrary to the teaching that you have learned, and turn away from them.

UST

¹⁷ My fellow believers in the Messiah, I now exhort you to watch out for those who try to divide and confuse you {with their false teachings}, so that you will reject what I taught you {to do}. Stay away from them!

What does Paul tell the believers to do with those causing divisions and stumbling?

Paul tells the believers to turn away from those causing divisions and stumbling.

What are some doing, which is causing divisions and stumbling? (vv17-18)

Some are going beyond the teaching they have learned, deceiving the hearts of the innocent.

Romans 16:18**ULT**

¹⁸ For ones such as these do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own stomach, and through {their} smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the innocent.

UST

¹⁸ Indeed, people like this are not serving our Lord {Jesus} the Messiah! Instead, they are enslaved to what they crave to eat. These deceivers speak so kindly and talk so convincingly that they trick those who innocently desire God {to believe what is false}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:19**ULT**

¹⁹ For your obedience reaches to everyone. I rejoice, therefore, over you, but I want you to be wise as to the good, but innocent as to the evil.

UST

¹⁹ Indeed, {believers in the Messiah} everywhere have heard about how you obey {God}. Since this is true, I am overjoyed because of you! Certainly, I desire that you are able to wisely discern what is good, and remain untainted by what is bad.

What attitude does Paul want the believers to have toward good and evil?

Paul wants the believers to be wise to that which is good, and innocent to that which is evil.

Romans 16:20**ULT**

²⁰ Now the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

UST

²⁰ It is certain that God, who gives {his people} peace, will quickly {make you victorious as you struggle to do what is good, as if} you were trampling Satan {himself} under your feet! May our Lord Jesus the Messiah {continue to} show you how kind he is!

What will the God of peace be doing soon?

The God of peace will soon be crushing Satan under the believers' feet.

Romans 16:21**ULT**

²¹ Timothy, my fellow worker, and Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen, greet you.

UST

²¹ Timothy, who works alongside me, sends you his greetings. My close relatives: Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, send their greetings as well.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:22**ULT**

²² I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, greet you in the Lord.

UST

²² I, Tertius, who am writing this letter as a spokesperson for Lord {Jesus}, send you my greetings.

Who actually wrote down this epistle?

Tertius actually wrote down this epistle.

Romans 16:23**ULT**

²³ Gaius, the host for me and for the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus the brother.

UST

²³ Gaius, who hosts me as well as the whole church {at Corinth}, sends you his greetings. Erastus, who administrates the finances for the city {of Corinth}, and Quartus, {our} fellow believer in the Messiah, send you their greetings.

What occupation does the believer Erastus have?

Erastus is the treasurer of the city.

Romans 16:24**ULT**

^{24[1]} [The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.]

UST

^{24[1]} [May our Lord Jesus the Messiah show all of you how kind he is. Amen!]

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Romans 16:25**ULT**

²⁵ Now to the one who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, having been kept secret for long ages,

UST

²⁵ {I pray that} God powerfully strengthens you {as you trust} in the good news I proclaim and what I preach about Jesus the Messiah. God has now revealed this mysterious {plan} about Jesus the Messiah, although he had remained silent about this {plan} in ancient times.

What revelation that had been kept secret from long ago is Paul now preaching? (vv25-26)

Paul is now preaching the revelation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Romans 16:26**ULT**

²⁶ but now having been revealed through the prophetic writings, according to the command of the eternal God, to the obedience of faith, having been made known to all the nations,

UST

²⁶ Indeed, now God shows that his prophets wrote about this mysterious plan {in the holy scriptures}. The eternal God discloses what he decreed to all the nations that they would become obedient to God by trusting {in Jesus the Messiah}.

For what purpose is Paul preaching?

Paul is preaching for the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles.

Romans 16:27

ULT

²⁷ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom {be} the glory to eternity. Amen.

16:24 ^[1]

UST

²⁷ May {all the nations} glorify God forever, he who alone is wise, because of what Jesus the Messiah has done for us. May it be so!

16:24 ^[1]

(There are no questions for this verse.)

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