

Romans

SERMON SERIES

Romans 1:1

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set
apart for the gospel of God

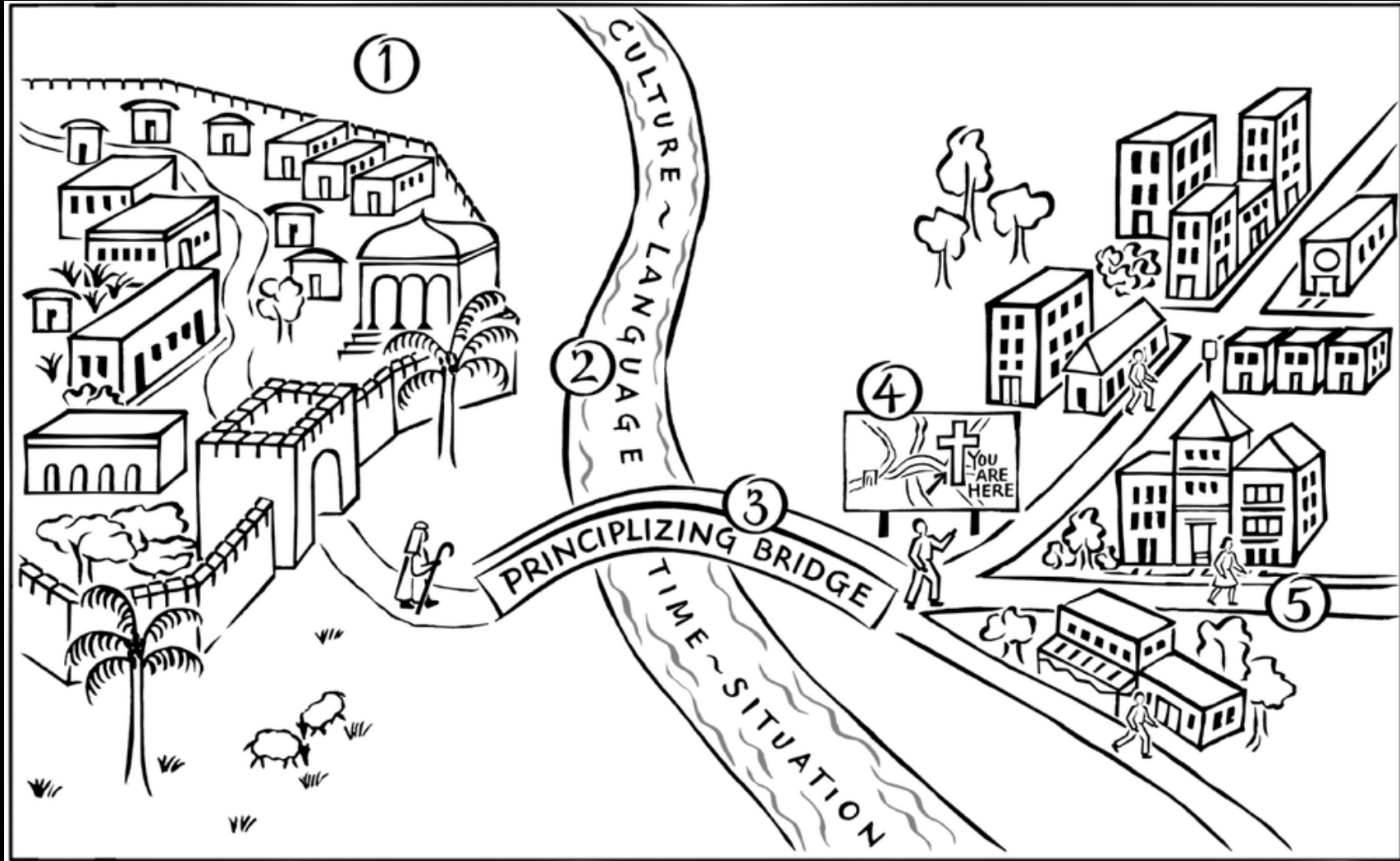
What is the main point of Romans?

Popular Question:

“How can a loving God send anyone to hell?”

Paul’s Question:

“How can a just God allow anyone in heaven?”



Romans 2:1-11

Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. ² We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. ³ Do you suppose, O man — you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself — that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴ Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

Romans 2:1-11

⁵ But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

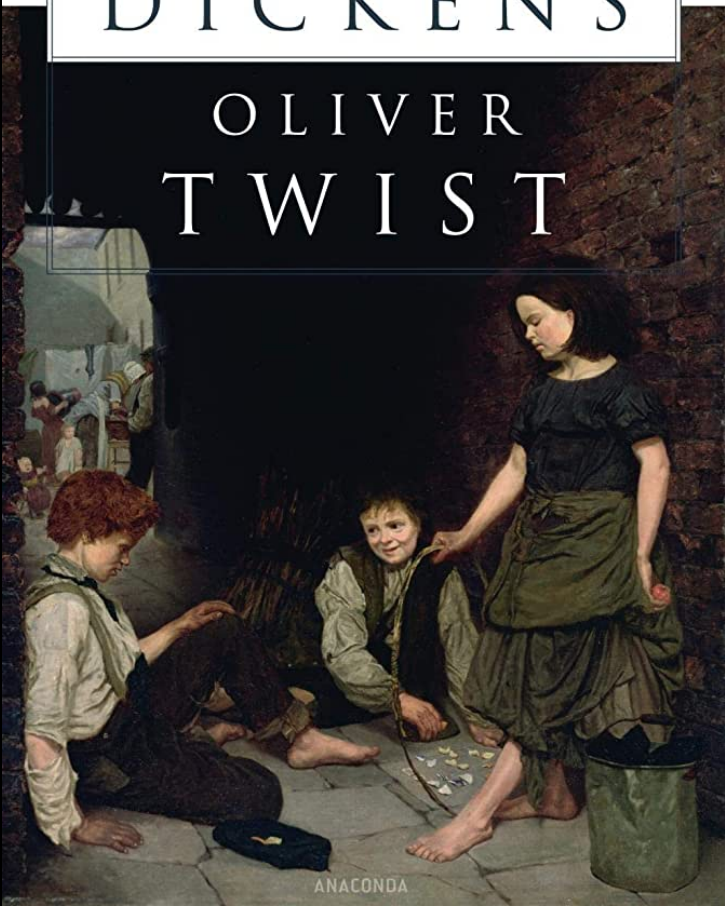
⁶ He will render to each one according to his works: ⁷ to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ⁸ but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. ⁹ There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, ¹⁰ but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹ For God shows no partiality.

This Week's Sermon:
A Twist in the Storyline
Romans 2:12-16



CHARLES
DICKENS

OLIVER
TWIST



ANACONDA

Romans 2:12-16

¹² For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³ For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. ¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

Romans 2:12-16

- ¹⁵ They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them
- ¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

How do we read our Bibles?

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All have sinned

Romans 2:12-16

12 For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. **13** For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. **14** For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

How can God treat the two groups the same?

How were the Israelites reading the Story?







Exodus 12:48

⁴⁸ If a stranger shall sojourn with you and would keep the Passover to the Lord, let all his males be circumcised.

Then he may come near and keep it; he shall be as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it.

Joshua 2:1

And Joshua the son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, “Go, view the land, especially Jericho.” And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and lodged there.

Ruth 1:3-4

³ But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth.

How should the Israelites have been reading the story?



Genesis 12:1-3

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Genesis 14:18-20

¹⁸ And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;

²⁰ and blessed be God Most High,
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Genesis 15:15-16

¹⁵ As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. ¹⁶ And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.”

Exodus 18:1&12

Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses and for Israel his people, how the Lord had brought Israel out of Egypt.

¹² And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, brought a burnt offering and sacrifices to God; and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God.

Context is King

Romans 2:12-16

¹² For all who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. ¹³ For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. ¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law.

James 1:22

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. **23** For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. **24** For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. **25** But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

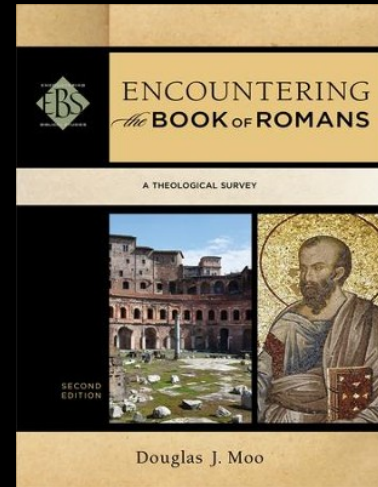
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Law – what is it good for?

“As we saw in chapter 1, ‘law’ in Romans refers first of all to the law God gave Israel through Moses, the *torah*. In verse 12, therefore “all who sin apart from the law” are Gentiles and “all who sin under the “law” are Jews, for only Jews stand “under the law” (the Greek is literally, “in [the sphere of] the law”). Nevertheless, Paul alleges, the result for both groups is the same.”

~Douglas Moo, pg. 67.



Romans 2:12-16

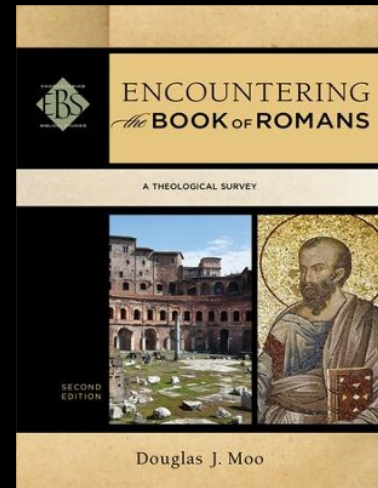
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Romans 2:12-16

¹⁵ They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them

“His purpose would then be to show that, though Gentiles have not been given God’s law in the specific form of *torah*, they nevertheless have knowledge of God’s moral requirements. They may not have the Mosaic law (*torah*), but they do have law – moral demand that God puts in the conscience of every human being. Once again Paul levels the playing field between Jew and Greek.”

~Douglas Moo, pg. 68.



Romans 2:12-16

¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

“The apostle is introducing a new element to the discussion. Not only will there be a last judgment and not only will that judgment be on the basis of the justice of God, but the judgment will be through Jesus Christ. This fact, that Jesus will serve as the Judge of all men, is in keeping with the Old Testament portrait of the Son of Man, who is established by God to be the Judge of all the earth.”

Sproul, R. C. (1994). *The Gospel of God: An Exposition of Romans* (p. 54). Great Britain: Christian Focus Publications.

R.C. SPROUL

THE RIGHTEOUS

SHALL

LIVE BY

FAITH

ROMANS

ROMANS: AN EXPOSITIONAL COMMENTARY

Romans 2:12-16

¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Through Jesus Christ NASB

Gospel Application

*Will you be judged through Christ, or through your
obedience to the law?*