

The Book of

# ROMANS

– Bible Reading Plan & Resources –



## **Bible Reading Plan 2023**

Encounter God by reading his Word every day in 2023. We will read all of Romans three times—January, May, and September—in this daily Bible reading plan. Our plan also features many books with connections to Romans. Some books represent Scriptures quoted by Paul in Romans (e.g. Genesis, Psalms, Isaiah), while other books represent related themes (e.g. Galatians, James, Hebrews). Join us as we read and pray through these daily Bible readings in 2023.

## January

1. Psalm 14
2. Psalm 18
3. Psalm 19
4. Psalm 32
5. Psalm 116
6. Psalm 117
7. Romans 1
  
8. Romans 2
9. Romans 3
10. Romans 4
11. Romans 5
12. Romans 6
13. Romans 7
14. Romans 8
  
15. Romans 9
16. Romans 10
17. Romans 11
18. Romans 12
19. Romans 13
20. Romans 14
21. Romans 15
  
22. Romans 16
23. Galatians 1
24. Galatians 2
25. Galatians 3
26. Galatians 4
27. Galatians 5
28. Galatians 6
  
29. Deuteronomy 1
30. Deuteronomy 2
31. Deuteronomy 3

## February

1. Deuteronomy 4
2. Deuteronomy 5
3. Deuteronomy 6
4. Deuteronomy 7
  
5. Deuteronomy 8
6. Deuteronomy 9
7. Deuteronomy 10
8. Deuteronomy 11
9. Deuteronomy 12
10. Deuteronomy 13
11. Deuteronomy 14
  
12. Deuteronomy 15
13. Deuteronomy 16
14. Deuteronomy 17
15. Deuteronomy 18
16. Deuteronomy 19
17. Deuteronomy 20
18. Deuteronomy 21
  
19. Deuteronomy 22
20. Deuteronomy 23
21. Deuteronomy 24
22. Deuteronomy 25
23. Deuteronomy 26
24. Deuteronomy 27
25. Deuteronomy 28
  
26. Deuteronomy 29
27. Deuteronomy 30
28. Deuteronomy 31

## March

1. Deuteronomy 32
2. Deuteronomy 33
3. Deuteronomy 34
4. Psalms 42-43
  
5. Psalm 44
6. Psalm 45
7. Psalms 46-47
8. Psalm 48
9. Psalm 49
10. Psalm 50
11. Psalm 51
  
12. Psalm 52
13. Psalm 53
14. Psalm 54
15. Psalm 55
16. Psalm 56
17. Psalm 57
18. Psalm 59
  
19. Psalm 60
20. Psalm 61
21. Psalm 62
22. Psalm 63
23. Psalm 64
24. Psalm 65
25. Psalm 66
  
26. Psalm 67
27. Psalm 68
28. Psalm 69
29. Psalm 70
30. Psalm 71
31. Psalm 72

## April

1. Judges 1
2. Judges 2
3. Judges 3
4. Judges 4
5. Judges 5
6. Judges 6
7. Judges 7
8. Judges 8
9. Judges 9
10. Judges 10
11. Judges 11
12. Judges 12
13. Judges 13
14. Judges 14
15. Judges 15
16. Judges 16
17. Judges 17
18. Judges 18
19. Judges 19
20. Judges 20
21. Judges 21
22. Habakkuk 1
23. Habakkuk 2
24. Habakkuk 3
25. Romans 1:1-17
26. Romans 1:18-32
27. Romans 2:1-11
28. Romans 2:12-29
29. Romans 3:1-20
30. Romans 3:21-31

## May

1. Romans 4:1-12
2. Romans 4:13-25
3. Romans 5:1-11
4. Romans 5:12-21
5. Romans 6:1-14
6. Romans 6:15-23
7. Romans 7:1-25
8. Romans 8:1-17
9. Romans 8:18-30
10. Romans 8:31-39
11. Romans 9:1-18
12. Romans 9:19-10:4
13. Romans 10:5-21
14. Romans 11:1-10
15. Romans 11:11-24
16. Romans 11:25-36
17. Romans 12:1-8
18. Romans 12:9-21
19. Romans 13:1-14
20. Romans 14:1-12
21. Romans 14:13-23
22. Romans 15:1-13
23. Romans 15:14-33
24. Romans 16:1-27
25. James 1
26. James 2
27. James 3
28. James 4
29. James 5
30. Genesis 1
31. Genesis 2

## June

1. Genesis 3
2. Genesis 4
3. Genesis 5-6
4. Genesis 7
5. Genesis 8
6. Genesis 9
7. Genesis 10-11
8. Genesis 12
9. Genesis 13
10. Genesis 14
11. Genesis 15
12. Genesis 16
13. Genesis 17
14. Genesis 18
15. Genesis 19
16. Genesis 20
17. Genesis 21
18. Genesis 22
19. Genesis 23
20. Genesis 24
21. Genesis 25
22. Genesis 26
23. Genesis 27
24. Genesis 28
25. Genesis 29
26. Genesis 30
27. Genesis 31
28. Genesis 32
29. Genesis 33
30. Genesis 34

## July

1. Genesis 35-36
2. Genesis 37
3. Genesis 38
4. Genesis 39
5. Genesis 40
6. Genesis 41
7. Genesis 42
8. Genesis 43
  
9. Genesis 44
10. Genesis 45
11. Genesis 46
12. Genesis 47
13. Genesis 48
14. Genesis 49
15. Genesis 50
  
16. Isaiah 1
17. Isaiah 2
18. Isaiah 3-4
19. Isaiah 5
20. Isaiah 6
21. Isaiah 7
22. Isaiah 8
  
23. Isaiah 9
24. Isaiah 10
25. Isaiah 11
26. Isaiah 12
27. Isaiah 13
28. Isaiah 14
29. Isaiah 15
  
30. Isaiah 16
31. Isaiah 17

## August

1. Isaiah 18
2. Isaiah 19
3. Isaiah 20
4. Isaiah 21
5. Isaiah 22
  
6. Isaiah 23
7. Isaiah 24
8. Isaiah 25
9. Isaiah 26
10. Isaiah 27
11. Isaiah 28
12. Isaiah 29
  
13. Isaiah 30
14. Isaiah 31
15. Isaiah 32
16. Isaiah 33
17. Isaiah 34
18. Isaiah 35
19. Isaiah 36
  
20. Isaiah 37
21. Isaiah 38
22. Isaiah 39
23. Romans 1
24. Romans 2
25. Romans 3
26. Romans 4
  
27. Romans 5
28. Romans 6
29. Romans 7
30. Romans 8
31. Romans 9

## September

1. Romans 10
2. Romans 11
  
3. Romans 12
4. Romans 13
5. Romans 14
6. Romans 15
7. Romans 16
8. Philippians 1
9. Philippians 2
  
10. Philippians 3
11. Philippians 4
12. Exodus 1
13. Exodus 2
14. Exodus 3
15. Exodus 4
16. Exodus 5
  
17. Exodus 6
18. Exodus 7
19. Exodus 8
20. Exodus 9
21. Exodus 10
22. Exodus 11
23. Exodus 12
  
24. Exodus 13
25. Exodus 14
26. Exodus 15
27. Exodus 16
28. Exodus 17
29. Exodus 18
30. Exodus 19

## October

1. Exodus 20
2. Exodus 21
3. Exodus 22
4. Exodus 23
5. Exodus 24
6. Exodus 25
7. Exodus 26
  
8. Exodus 27
9. Exodus 28
10. Exodus 29
11. Exodus 30
12. Exodus 31
13. Exodus 32
14. Exodus 33
  
15. Exodus 34
16. Exodus 35-36
17. Exodus 37-38
18. Exodus 39-40
19. Hosea 1
20. Hosea 2
21. Hosea 3-4
  
22. Hosea 5
23. Hosea 6
24. Hosea 7
25. Hosea 8
26. Hosea 9
27. Hosea 10
28. Hosea 11
  
29. Hosea 12
30. Hosea 13
31. Hosea 14

## November

1. Isaiah 40
2. Isaiah 41
3. Isaiah 42
4. Isaiah 43
  
5. Isaiah 44
6. Isaiah 45
7. Isaiah 46
8. Isaiah 47
9. Isaiah 48
10. Isaiah 49
11. Isaiah 50
  
12. Isaiah 51
13. Isaiah 52
14. Isaiah 53
15. Isaiah 54
16. Isaiah 55
17. Isaiah 56
18. Isaiah 57
  
19. Isaiah 58
20. Isaiah 59
21. Isaiah 60
22. Isaiah 61
23. Isaiah 62
24. Isaiah 63
25. Isaiah 64
  
26. Isaiah 65
27. Isaiah 66
28. Mark 1
29. Mark 2
30. Mark 3

## December

1. Mark 4
2. Mark 5
  
3. Mark 6
4. Mark 7
5. Mark 8
6. Mark 9
7. Mark 10
8. Mark 11
9. Mark 12
  
10. Mark 13
11. Mark 14
12. Mark 15
13. Mark 16
14. Hebrews 1
15. Hebrews 2
16. Hebrews 3
  
17. Hebrews 4
18. Hebrews 5
19. Hebrews 6
20. Hebrews 7
21. Hebrews 8
22. Hebrews 9
23. Hebrews 10
  
24. Hebrews 11
25. Hebrews 12
26. Hebrews 13
27. 1 John 1
28. 1 John 2
29. 1 John 3
30. 1 John 4
  
31. 1 John 5





## Glossary

The definitions and descriptions in this glossary correspond to words in bold throughout the text of Romans. In most examples, only the initial use of the word is in bold, but in others, additional uses are highlighted to emphasize a different usage of the term. To be clear, the emphasis does not imply a key word for understanding the text, rather it indicates a term that we have defined so that we have a common understanding as we study Romans together.

### **circumcision**

Circumcision, a ritual of removing the foreskin, was the sign of the covenant that God made with his people, Israel (Genesis 17:9–10). It was a defining physical characteristic of the Jewish people (Romans 3:1). Paul refers to both physical circumcision and the circumcision of the heart that the Spirit performs (Romans 2:28–29; Deuteronomy 30:6).

### **Gentiles, nations (ethnos)**

The Greek word *ethnos* is an important word in the book of Romans. Sometimes translated as “Gentiles” (Romans 2:14), *ethnos* can refer to all non-Jews. At other times, *ethnos* can be translated as “nations” (4:17), where it means the diversity of all nations, including Jews.

### **holy, sanctified**

Holy means set apart, and the term carries a connotation of religious purity. God himself is holy, which means he is in a class by himself. He is not only sinless but utterly distinct from everything not God. Because God is holy, he calls his people to be holy, but our only hope of fulfilling this command is through our union with Christ through faith. Romans uses the English word “sanctified” (15:16) to describe the work of the Holy Spirit to set people apart for God.

## **Israel**

Israel was the name God used for both his covenant people and the land he gave them. It is not to be confused with the modern nation-state of Israel. In Romans, Paul sometimes uses “Israel” to refer to ethnic Israelites (10:21). At other times, he specifies that not all ethnic Israelites are true Israelites (9:6). True Israelites are those who believe God’s promise, not merely those who are descendants of Abraham (9:8).

## **Jew**

Paul primarily uses the term “Jew” literally, referring to the people who are descendants of Abraham and follow the Jewish way of life. Sometimes, however, Paul uses the word metaphorically, as with his distinction between inward Jews and outward Jews (Romans 2:28–29).

## **justified**

Our English word “justification” comes from the same root as “righteous,” so you can think of it as “righteousified.” When Paul refers to God justifying his people, he means God counting us righteous on the basis of the blood and righteousness of Christ (Romans 4:22–24). In justification, God is essentially crediting Christ’s righteousness to us (4:5). Typically, we use the word justification interchangeably with salvation. However, the Bible describes salvation as a process, while justification is instantaneous. For example, “How much more then, since we have now been declared righteous ( justification) by his blood, will we be saved (salvation) through him from wrath” (5:9, emphasis added). In this verse, justification happens instantaneously for the Christian, while salvation describes a longer process that will culminate in the future when Jesus returns.

## **law**

The word “law” can refer to several different things in Romans. First, law may refer to the whole Old Testament, as in Romans 3:19, after Paul quoted from the Psalms and Prophets. Second, law can refer to the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament (Luke 24:44). Third, law could mean strictly the Sinai covenant found within the narrative of the Pentateuch (Galatians 3:17). These distinctions are especially important in the book of Romans because Paul might be quoting the “law” (Pentateuch), to show that the “law” (Sinai covenant) cannot justify us. Each time you encounter “law,” consider what Paul might be trying to communicate.

## **nations, Gentiles (ethnos)**

The Greek word ethnos is an important word in the book of Romans. Sometimes translated as “Gentiles” (Romans 2:14), ethnos can refer to all non-Jews. At other times, ethnos can be translated as “nations” (4:17), where it means the diversity of all nations, including Jews.

## **righteousness**

Readers of Romans should always consider the relationship of “justification” and “righteousness,” and understand that Paul uses the term in various ways throughout his letter. Sometimes, Paul refers to God’s righteousness as an attribute—God is a righteous God. Meaning that, with all that he is and in all that he does, God is faithful, true, and just (Romans 3:2–6, 26). Other times, Paul refers to God’s gift of righteousness that he gives believers in Christ (4:6), often called “imputed righteousness.” Some verses refer to both, such as 3:26, which states, “... so that He would be righteous and declare righteous” (emphasis added). Each time you encounter “righteousness”, use context to help you determine what Paul is trying to communicate

## **salvation**

Salvation comes through union with Christ (Romans 5:1; 6:5). Romans teaches that God saves us from his own wrath (5:9) by placing the wrath that we deserve on his Son (3:25). The Bible uses “salvation” to refer to the past, present, and future dimensions of God’s saving work in Christ. Past: “You have been saved” (Ephesians 2:8, ESV). Present process: We “are being saved.” (1 Corinthians 1:18). Future completion: “now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.” (Romans 13:11). As you encounter “salvation” in Romans, pause and ask yourself what dimension Paul might be referring to.

## **sanctification**

Sanctification is the process by which God’s people are made pure and holy. In one sense, the Bible teaches that Christians are sanctified when they are justified in Christ (1 Corinthians 6:11). But there is a progressive side to sanctification, since we live in a fallen world where sin is present until Christ returns. In other words, an aspect of sanctification involves the Holy Spirit’s work of making Christians look more and more like Jesus during their days on this earth.

## **sanctified, holy**

Romans uses the English word “sanctified” (15:16) to describe the work of the Holy Spirit to set people apart for God. Holy means set apart, and the term carries a connotation of religious purity. God himself is holy, which means he is in a class by himself. He is not only sinless but utterly distinct from everything not God. Because God is holy, he calls his people to be holy, but our only hope of fulfilling this command is through our union with Christ through faith.

## **transgression**

A transgression is a violation of any rule or law. Romans uses the word “transgression” to describe sin—human disregard and disobedience of God’s commandments for his people (5:14; 11:11–12).

## **wrath**

God's wrath is his good and righteous response to our unrighteous opposition to him (Romans 1:18; 2:2–5). Wrath can be described as God's righteous anger against sin and is related to the concepts of just punishment and judgment. The wrath of God is a present and future reality. Thus, we see God's wrath presently revealed (1:18 ff), while a future day of wrath is yet to come (2:5). Romans teaches that God saves us from his own wrath (5:9) by placing the wrath that we deserve on his Son (3:25).



## Romans and Disciple-making

In the first chapter of Romans, Paul talks about how he is a recipient of God's grace, and therefore, under a kind of obligation to others who are still lost (1:14). For Paul, the experience of receiving the gospel—a gift he didn't deserve—compels him to tell others about the good news that “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (10:13).

Paul reminds us in his letter to the church in Rome that, although God's gift of salvation is offered freely to everyone who calls on the Lord, no one will be able to call on him if they have not heard about it!

### Who's Your “One”?

Just like Paul, we received a gift we did not deserve and that gives us an obligation to tell others about it. God has already placed people in our lives who need to hear the good news of Jesus. Can you think of one person in your life who does not yet follow Jesus? Ask God to give you the name of at least one person who needs to hear the gospel and ask God to give you the opportunity to share with your “one” this year. Write the name(s) below as your commitment to (1) pray that people in your community will come to faith in Christ this year and (2) work to reach people with the good news of the gospel.

### Pray and Ask God to:

- Give us boldness and clarity as we seek to share the gospel (Ephesians 6:19–20).
- Allow Christians to intersect with our “ones” and point them to Christ (Luke 10:2).
- Give our “ones” hearts that are receptive to the gospel (Matthew 13:23).
- Open the eyes and ears of the lost to see and hear the truth of their sin and their need for a Savior (Luke 4:18–19)

- Give our “ones” the gift of faith (Ephesians 2:8).
- Bring them from death to life in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:4–5).

**Next Steps:**

- Memorize the following verses from Romans as you prepare to share the gospel with your “one”—3:23; 5:8; 6:23; 10:9–10; 10:13.
- Write out your personal story explaining how you came to faith in Jesus.
- Invite your “one” to join you for a weekend worship service or your small group.
- Tell your “one” your story of how you came to faith in Jesus and how they, too, can become a Christian using the Scripture you memorized.



