

GET OUT OF HELL FREE

Romans - Paul clearly sets forth the foundations of the Christian faith:

1. **ALL** people are sinful
2. Christ died to **forgive** sin
3. We are made right with God **through FAITH**
4. This begins a **new life** with a **new relationship** with God...

Paul gives clear, practical guidelines for the believers in Rome.

- It is **NOT** enough to just **know the gospel**
- We **MUST** let it **transform** our lives
- We **MUST** let God impact **EVERY** aspect of our lives!!!

The Blueprint in Romans

A. What to believe

1. **Sinfulness of Humanity** – Chapter's 1 ~ 3 - *Paul begins his message to the Romans by,*
 - Vividly portraying the **sinfulness of ALL people**.
 - **Apart from Faith**, we have **no hope** in life!!!
2. **Forgiveness of sin through Christ** – Chapters 3~ 5
 - Righteousness **through FAITH**
 - Through the law we become **conscious of our sin**
 - We have **ALL** sinned and **ALL** fallen short!!!!
3. **Freedom from sin's grasp** - Chapter 6 Paul begins to share how we are Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ.

Romans 6:22-23 (NIV)

(22) But now that you have been **set free** from sin and have become **slaves to God**, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

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

¹⁹ I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness.

²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness.

²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death!

²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

Vs 19-22

- It is impossible to be neutral.
- Every person has a master – either God or Sin.

A Christian **IS NOT** someone who cannot sin but someone who is **NO LONGER A SLAVE** to sin. He or She belongs to God!

Vs 23

You are free to choose between two masters: Sin or Christ Jesus.

*****Eternal Life is a gift from God!!!!**

Luke 16:19-31- NIV - The Rich Man and Lazarus

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, ‘*Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.*’

²⁵ “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, *send Lazarus to my family,* ²⁸*for I have five brothers. Let him warn them,* so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘*They have Moses and the Prophets;* let them listen to them.’

³⁰ “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but *if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.*’

³¹ “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

*****The Pharisees considered wealth to be a proof of a person’s righteousness.**

Jesus startled them with this story in which a diseased beggar is rewarded and a rich man is punished.

***** The rich man didn’t go to hell because of his wealth but because he was selfish, refusing to feed Lazarus, take him in, or care for him.**

- ⇒ Realize that today...
- ⇒ You have the opportunity to be saved
- ⇒ Tomorrow... you may not
- ⇒ Who may be in hell now...
- ⇒ Wanting you to know... what it is like
- ⇒ **The Rich man...**even in Hell didn’t want his family to come there.
- ⇒ **What is in Hell that you want?**

2 Peter 2:4-9 (NIV) For if **God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell,** putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; {5} if ***he did not spare the ancient world*** when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others; {6} if ***he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them*** to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; {7} and if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men {8} (for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard)-- {9} **if this is so,** then ***the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials*** and to **hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment,** while continuing their punishment.

***Some people would have us believe that God will save all people because he is so loving.

***But it is foolish to think that he will cancel the Last Judgment! God Judges sin and unrepentant sinners cannot escape.

- ⇒ God gives us the opportunity
- ⇒ **NOW....**
- ⇒ But once you cross over... it will be **TOO LATE**
- ⇒ God has *mercy on us* while we are here, but once our number is called....
- ⇒ Where we go... is where we will stay!!!
- ⇒ *What is in Hell that you want???*

Mark 9:43-48 (NIV) *If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off.* It is *better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out.* {44} {45} And if your *foot causes you to sin, cut it off.* It is better for you to *enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell.* {46} {47} And if your *eye causes you to sin, pluck it out.* It is better for you to *enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell,* {48} where *"their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched."*

***vs43- *Jesus used startling language to stress the importance of cutting Sin out of your life.*

Painful self-discipline is required of his true followers.

- ⇒ What in your life is worth going to hell for?
- ⇒ What habit?
- ⇒ What person?
- ⇒ What situation?
- ⇒ What is worth your soul burning in HELL forever and ever?
- ⇒ *What in Hell Do you want???*

2 Peter 3:9-14 (NIV) The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, *not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.* {10} But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. {11} *Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be?*

You ought to live holy and godly lives {12} as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. *That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire*, and the elements will melt in the heat. {13} But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to *a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness*. {14} So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, *make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him*.

- *We should not become lazy and complacent because Christ has not yet returned.*
- *Instead, we should live in eager expectation of his coming.*
- *What would you like to be doing when Christ returns?*
- *Then Do it!*

⇒ **MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE FOUND ... BLAMELESS –**
Remember there is nothing in hell we want!

JOHN SAYS:

Revelation 20:12-15 (NIV) And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is *the book of life*. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. {13} The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and *each person was judged according to what he had done*. {14} **Then death and Hades** were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. {15} *If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

*****At the Judgement, the books are opened. They represent God's judgment, and in them are recorded the deeds of everyone, good or evil.**

*****We are not saved by deeds, but deeds are seen as clear evidence of a person's actual relationship with God.**

*****The book of life contains the names of those who have put their trust in Christ to save them.**

NO, NO SECOND CHANCES!

CLOSE:

- ⇒ *This morning...you have been given an opportunity that many wish they had...*
- ⇒ *An opportunity to get out of “hell” free.*
- ⇒ *If you are here and are not living right*
- ⇒ *Or if you have not confessed Jesus as your Lord and savior...*
- ⇒ *You have the right this morning to “Get out of HELL free” because*
- ⇒ *Jesus Paid the price for you!!!*
- ⇒ *And FOR ME.*
- ⇒ *THIS morning... will you use that card... and by faith step out of your seat and by bringing it down... you are saying YES to JESUS.*

I AM SO GLAD... I USED MY ‘GET OUT OF HELL FREE’ CARD, YEARS AGO...

DON'T WAIT TO LATE...BECAUSE ONCE YOU ARE THERE... YOUR CARD BECOMES VOID!!!

It is impossible to be neutral...

Every person serves a master, God or Sin!

No Longer be a slave to Sin!

You are free to choose between the two masters:

Sin Or Christ Jesus!