

Before listing and commenting on the Christian laws I want to share several instructive quotes on the **Book of Romans** that I gleaned from my devotional Bibles. They will help you understand the full scope of our redemptive benefits and blessings coming through the atoning work of Jesus Christ.

Quote 1 “Romans is commonly considered the greatest exposition of Christian doctrine anywhere in Scripture. It contains an orderly, logical development of profound theological truths. It is filled with the great themes of redemption—:

- * the guilt of all mankind,
- * man’s inability to earn favor with God,
- * the redeeming death of Christ,
- * the free gift of salvation received by faith alone.

Since Paul had not visited Rome, the epistle does not address specific local problems, but contains **general teaching applicable to all Christians for all time.**”

Quote 2 “The overall doctrinal theme that Paul seeks to demonstrate is that **God is righteous—**:

- * in spite of all that happens in this world,
- * even though all men are sinful (1:18—3:20);
- * even though God does not punish but forgives guilty sinners (3:21—5:21);
- * even though believers may not fully live in a way consistent with God’s righteousness (6:1—8:17);
- * even though believers suffer and final redemption is delayed (8:18—39);
- * even though many Jews do not believe (9:1—11:36) still God is perfectly righteous, and by His grace has forgiven us.
- * because of this great mercy from an all-righteous God, we should live a pattern of life consistent with God’s own righteousness.” (12:1—16:27).

Quote 3 “Romans teaches us—:

- * that we should not trust in ourselves for salvation but in Christ (Chap’s 1--5),
- * that we should imitate the faith of Abraham (Ch 4),
- * be patient in times of trouble (5:1—11),
- * rejoice in our representation by Christ (5:12—21),
- * grow in daily death to sin (6:1—7:25),
- * walk each moment according to the Spirit (8:1—17),
- * hope in future glory and trust that God will bring good out of present sufferings (8:18—39),
- * pray for and proclaim the gospel to the lost, especially the Jews (9:1—11:32)
- * praise God for His great wisdom in the plan of salvation (11:33—36). Especially **chapters 12—16** the letter gives many specific applications to life, showing how the Gospel works out in practice both in the church and in the world.”

Quote 4 “The whole epistle is the story of God’s plan of redemption in Christ—:

- * the need for it (1:18—3:20)
- * the detailed description of Christ’s work and its implications for Christians (3:21—1:36)
- * the application of the Gospel of Christ to everyday life (12:1—16:27).

More specifically, Jesus Christ is our Savior—:

- * Who obeyed God perfectly as our representative (5:18 & 19),
- * Who died as our substitute sacrifice (3:25; 5:6—8),
- * He is the One in whom we must have faith for salvation (1:16, 17; 3:22;

10:9,10).

Through Christ we have many blessings—:

- * we are reconciled to God (5:11);
- * have righteousness and eternal life (5:18—21);
- * are identified with Him in His death, burial and resurrection (6:3—5);
- * we are alive to God (6:11);
- * have freedom from condemnation (8:1);
- * have an eternal inheritance (8:17);
- * we suffer with Him (8:17);
- * are glorified with Him (8:17);
- * we are being made like Him (8:29);
- * and He prays for us (8:34).

Indeed, all of the Christian life seems to be lived through Him—: prayer (1:8) rejoicing, (5:11) exhortation (15:30), glorifying God (16:27), and in general, living to God and obeying Him (6:11; 13:14).”

Quote 5 “God and Christ Jesus, through the Holy Spirit—:

- * gives power in preaching the Gospel and working miracles, (15:19)
- * He dwells in all who belong to Christ (8:9—11)
- * He gives us life (8:11)
- * He makes us progressively more holy in daily life, empowering us to obey God and overcome sin (2:29; 7:6; 8:2, 13; 15:13, 16)
- * He gives us a pattern of holiness to follow (8:4) and guides us in it (8:14)
- * He purifies our conscience to bear true witness (9:11)
- * He pours God’s love into our hearts (5:5; 15:30)
- * He instills peace, hope and joy into our hearts by His power (14:17; 15:13)
- * He enables us to pray rightly (8:26)
- * He gives us inward spiritual assurance that we are God’s children (8:16)
- * He urges us to please God by setting our minds upon spiritual things (8:5, 6)
- * the present work of the Holy Spirit in us is a foretaste of His future heavenly work in us (8:23).”

Before I list the **43 Christian Laws in Roman** I want to draw your attention to what I think is the pivotal verse in redemptive truth; it is certainly the beginning point in a sinner’s transformation into a saint. It was the key verse as I began to think about, and outline—**The Christian law in the Book of Romans.**

1—The Law of Transformation

*“I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God (Rom. 12:1 & 2).*

(Lesson 3 next week explains “why” we need the law of transformation)

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