

# “How to Live a Life that’s Great”

(according to Romans 8)

**Romans 8:1-11**

## Background of the Book of Romans:

“I am not ashamed of the Gospel”

1. A letter written by Paul to the church in Rome, a group of believers he had not seen personally, and the most complete, logical, and clearest presentation of the Christian faith in the New Testament.
2. Probably written about A.D. 57 while he was on his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey (possibly in Corinth) and this book has been a powerful influence on many great Christians through the centuries: St. Augustine was converted while reading Romans; Martin Luther’s theme of the Reformation was Romans 1:17, and John Wesley (founder of Methodism) “felt his heart strangely warmed” while someone read from Luther’s commentary on Romans.
3. Paul’s purpose was to prepare the way for his coming to Rome personally and his proposed mission to Spain (1:10-15 and 15:22-29), to present the basic tenets of the Christian faith and salvation (it contains one of the most used methods for sharing the Gospel—The Romans Road in 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, and 10:9-10), and to provide an explanation of the relationship between Jew and Gentile in God’s great plan of redemption (this church was mainly Gentile but would also have a large minority of Jewish members—see 14:1-6 for a possible reference to conflict over dietary laws and sacred days).
4. The Outline
  - a. Introduction and the Purpose (1:1-17)
  - b. Receive Jesus’ Love (1:18-11:36)
  - c. Reflect Jesus’ Life (12:1-15:33)
  - d. Inclusion of the People (16:1-27)
5. Key Teachings
  - a. The Need and Nature of Salvation (chapter 1)
  - b. God’s Faithful Righteousness and Man’s Salvation by Grace through Faith (chapters 3-6)
  - c. The Salvation Struggle and Life in the Spirit (chapters 7-8)
  - d. The Place of Israel in God’s Plan of Redemption (chapters 9-11)
  - e. The Christ Life (chapters 12-15)
  - f. “When the Roll is Called Down Here” (chapter 16)

**The Power to Live a Life that’s Great is found only in Jesus Christ!**

**1. When we “in Christ Jesus,” we enjoy the truth that there is no \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Our sins are \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) Our eternal destination is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) Our earthly purpose is \_\_\_\_\_.

*So, the only real question is “Are you in or out?”!*

**2. When we are “in Christ Jesus,” we can experience the promise of \_\_\_\_\_ through the \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Keep on being filled as you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_...
- 2) and refuse to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

**See Romans 7 for the reminder that this is NOT automatic!**

*So, will you live under the influence of the Holy Spirit moment by moment and day by day?*

**3. When we are “in Christ Jesus,” we can experience the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that only comes from focusing our \_\_\_\_\_ on Holy Spirit rather than the flesh.**

- 1) Stay alert to what enters your mind.
- 2) Seek to focus your thoughts and words and deeds on pleasing Christ Jesus and pointing others toward Him!

**See Romans 12:1-2**

*What will be your focus for the next 60 minutes?  
The next 12 hours? The next 168 hours?*

**Live for Jesus a life that is true and strive to please Him in all that you do!**