

The Book Of Romans

#2- The Controversy

Heb. 8:6, Matt. 19:17, Rev. 12:17, Leviticus 23, Acts 15:1–29, Gal. 1:1–12.

Memory Verse

John 1:17 (NKJV) *For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. .*

“The Epistle is really the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest Gospel, and is worthy not only that every Christian should know it word for word, by heart, but occupy himself with it every day, as the daily bread of the soul.”—Martin Luther, Commentary on Romans p. 8.

A Better Covenant

Hebrews 8:6 (NKJV) *But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.*

Jeremiah 31:31, 33 (NKJV) *“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—...³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

Ezekiel 36:25–27 (NKJV) *Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.*

Matthew 19:17 (NKJV) ⁷ So He said to him, *“Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”*

Revelation 12:17 (NKJV) *And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

***Revelation 14:12 (NKJV)** *Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.*

1 John 2:3, 4 (NKJV) *Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.⁴ He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*

I’m more Jewish now. Don’t stop being Jewish when you become Christian.

Jewish Laws and Regulations

(1) moral law, (2) ceremonial law, (3) civil law, (4) statutes and judgments, and (5) health laws. Some have overlap. **Leviticus 23 Colossians 2:14** *having wiped out the **handwriting** of requirements that was **against us**, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.*

Nehemiah 9:13–14 (NKJV) *“You came down also on Mount Sinai, And spoke with them from heaven, And gave them just ordinances and true laws, Good statutes and commandments.¹⁴ You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, And commanded them precepts, statutes and laws, By **the hand of Moses** Your servant.*

2 Chronicles 33:8 (NKJV) *and I will not again remove the foot of Israel from the land which I have appointed for your fathers—only if they are careful to do all that I have commanded them, according to the whole law **and** the statutes and the ordinances **by the hand of Moses.**”*

Deuteronomy 4:13–14 (NKJV) *So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.¹⁴ **And** the Lord commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that you might observe them in the land which you cross over to possess.*

***Deuteronomy 31:26 (NKJV)** *“Take this Book of the Law, and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, that it may be there as a witness **against you**;*

Colossians 2:15–17 (NKJV) *Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths,¹⁷ which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.*

As The Custom of Moses

Acts 15:1 *And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.”*

Genesis 17:10 (NKJV) *This is My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised;*

John 7:21–23 (NKJV) *Jesus answered and said to them, ... ²² Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. ²³ If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath?*

Read Acts 15:2–29

“While looking to God for direct guidance, he [Paul] was ever ready to recognize the authority vested in the body of believers united in church fellowship. He felt the need of counsel, and when matters of importance arose, he was glad to lay these before the church and to unite with his brethren in seeking God for wisdom to make right decisions.”— AA 200

The Gentile Believers

Acts 15:10 (NKJV) *Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?*

Colossians 2:14 *having wiped out the **handwriting** of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us.*

Matthew 23:1–4 (NKJV) *Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, ² saying: “The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat.*

³ Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do according to their works; for they say, and do not do. ⁴ For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

***Galatians 5:1** (NKJV) *Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.*

Acts 15:20 (NKJV) *but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood.*

Acts 15:28–29 (NKJV) *For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: ²⁹ that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.*

Some say that, because Sabbath keeping wasn’t specifically mentioned, it must not have been meant for the Gentiles.

Acts 15:21 (NKJV) *For Moses has had throughout many generations those who preach him in **every city**, being read in the synagogues **every Sabbath**.*”

Paul and the Galatians

However clear the council, there were those who sought to go their own way and who continued to advocate that the Gentiles keep Jewish traditions and laws. For Paul this became a very serious matter; that is, it wasn’t trifling over the fine points of faith. It had become a denial of the gospel of Christ itself.

While tarrying at Corinth, Paul had cause for serious apprehension concerning some of the churches already established. Through the influence of false teachers who had arisen among the believers in Jerusalem, division, heresy, and sensualism were rapidly gaining ground among the believers in Galatia. These false teachers were mingling Jewish traditions with the truths of the gospel. Ignoring the decision of the general council at Jerusalem, they urged upon the Gentile converts the observance of the ceremonial law. AA 383

Galatians 1:1–12 (NKJV) *Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead), ² and all the brethren who are with me, To the churches of Galatia: ³ Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. ⁶ I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, ⁷ which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. ¹⁰ For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. ¹¹ But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. ¹² For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.*