

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

Zoom Meeting ID:

 828 7580 6094 ►

Thursday February, 26 2026

Women of Excellence

Bible Study 7pm

Memory Verse

Romans 16:27 (NLT) *All glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, forever. Amen.*

The Unveiling of God's Secret

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, 26 but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith; 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen. (16:25–27)

POINT 1 - THE GOSPEL THAT ESTABLISHES MEN

Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel (16:25a)

First of all, Paul praises God for the gospel that establishes men. God **is able**, that is, has sufficient power, **to establish** those who trust in Him **according to** the true **gospel** that Paul, and every true preacher and teacher, have clearly set forth.

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

To establish means to make firm and stable, to make fast. In this context it refers to being mentally settled, firmly rooted in the truth of the **gospel**. The unbeliever has no certainty about God or His Word or the way of salvation. The majority of mankind does not even have an interest in finding the true God. They are perfectly satisfied with the religion they have inherited or been exposed to, or else have no concern about religion at all. Even those who attempt to find God by their own searching and discernment are “always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (**2 Tim. 3:7**).

But, through the **gospel**, God **is able to establish** the minds and hearts of believers in the truth, to settle us, ground us, and make us firm in Him. No one but a Christian can be certain about God, certain about His truth, certain about His standards of righteousness, certain about His love and care, or certain about being with Him throughout eternity. Only the genuinely converted can truthfully say with Paul, “I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until that day” (**2 Tim. 1:12**). The apostle assured the Corinthian Christians that “God is able to make all grace abound to you, that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed” (**2 Cor. 9:8**).

In praying for God **to establish** the believers at Ephesus, Paul petitioned the Lord “that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man; so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fulness of God” (**Eph. 3:16–19**).

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

In referring to **my gospel**, Paul was not speaking of his own personal view of the gospel. His gospel was the same as Peter's gospel, John's gospel, and the gospel preached by the other true apostles and teachers—the divinely-revealed gospel of Jesus Christ. As he explained to the Galatian believers, “I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ” (**Gal. 1:11–12; cf. 2:2**).

Through the **gospel** of Jesus Christ, whenever and by whomever it is rightly proclaimed, God will take a fallen, corrupted, vacillating, drifting, insecure, uncertain, chaotic mind and doomed soul and **establish** it forever in His truth by the power of His Spirit.

Many people try to squeeze out all the joy and meaning from life that they can, only to discover there is nothing there that satisfies. Life cannot have meaning apart from the *Creator and Sustainer of life*. Apart from Him, there is no purpose, no meaning, no satisfaction, no joy, no hope. There is only sin, disappointment, and judgment.

That is the theme of the first three chapters of **Romans**. Sinful man suppresses God's “truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them” (**1:18–19**). In rejecting what light, they had from God, they turned to gods of their own making, “and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures” (**v. 23**). The inevitable product of idolatry is immorality. “Therefore’ God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity,” Paul continues, “that their bodies might be dishonored among them.... God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts” (**vv. 24, 26–27**). Along with *homosexuality* came “unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil,” and countless other forms of sin (vv. 28–30) that cause man to fall under the judgment of God.

In chapter 2 Paul says that God does not raise men up and establish them in righteousness because of His special favor for one group or person or another, “for there is no partiality with God” (**v. 11**). Nor does God forgive men because of ignorance, “for all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law; and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law” (**v. 12**). God does not forgive and establish men on the basis of ritual, “for he is not a Jew [a true child of God] who is one outwardly; neither is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God” (**vv. 28–29**).

In chapter 3 Paul asserts that “There is none righteous, not even one” (**v. 10**) and that “by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in [God’s] sight” (**v. 20**). As he earlier declared, only “the gospel ... is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek” (**1:16**). In his beautiful and encouraging doxology, Jude reminds us that God “is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy” (**Jude 24**).

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

Discussion Questions

- 1. What stood out to you from this passage?**
- 2. What part of God's work are you especially thankful for ?**

POINT 2 - THE GOSPEL THAT PROCLAIMS JESUS CHRIST

and the preaching of Jesus Christ, (16:25b)

The only gospel of God that establishes men is the gospel that proclaims **Jesus Christ**. The major theme of Romans, like the major theme of all Scripture, is **Jesus Christ**. **The preaching of Jesus Christ** was Paul's supreme life commitment. "We preach Christ crucified," he said, "to Jews a stumbling block, and to Gentiles, foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God" **(1 Cor. 1:23–24)**. In his second letter to the church at Corinth, he testified, "We do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord.... For God, who said, 'Light shall shine out of darkness,' is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ" **(2 Cor. 4:5–6)**. "Faith comes from hearing," he explains in Romans, "and hearing by the word of Christ" **(10:17)**.

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

In the second section of **Romans (3:21–8:39)**, the apostle describes virtually every blessing that the gospel brings to the lives of those who belong to Jesus Christ, those He has established. To give but a partial list: righteousness comes by faith in Christ (3:22); we are “justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus” **(3:24)**; righteousness will be reckoned to “those who believe in Him [God] who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead” **(4:24)**; “we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” **(5:1)**; “if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him” **(6:8)**; “the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” **(6:23)**; “we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter” **(7:6)**; we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit (8:9), have life in the Spirit (8:11), are led by the Spirit (8:14), have the Spirit’s witness that we are God’s children (8:16); have the first fruits of the Spirit (8:23), are interceded for by the Spirit (8:26), and cannot be separated “from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” **(8:39)**.

Discussion Questions

- 1. What establishes the true gospel?**
- 2. How has the gospel become personal to you?**

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

POINT 3 - THE GOSPEL THAT REVEALS GOD'S MYSTERY

according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, 26 but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith; 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be the glory forever. Amen. (16:25c–27)

The gospel that establishes us and that proclaims Jesus Christ also reveals God's **divine mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past.**

This **mystery** does not carry the connotation that word has in modern English, as used, for example, of a mystery novel. In the New Testament it refers to something hidden in former times but now made known. Specifically, it refers to a part of God's truth that was not revealed, or was only partially revealed, in the Old Testament.

The most common mystery spoken of in the New Testament relates to God's providing salvation for Gentiles as well as Jews. In other words, God's ultimate plan of redemption has always included the Gentiles in every way as much as the Jews, His specially chosen people under the Old Covenant. Through Jesus Christ, believing Gentiles are as fully saved, as fully the children of God, and as fully citizens of His divine kingdom as are believing Jews.

The **mystery** that **now is manifested** had been predicted in veiled words **by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, [and] has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith.** Through Isaiah, God promised that "the Righteous One, My Servant, will

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

justify the many, as He will bear their iniquities” (**Isa. 53:11**). Jeremiah foretold, “ ‘Behold, days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.... I will put My law within them, and on their heart, I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people” (**Jer. 31:31, 33**). Through Ezekiel, the Lord said, “I shall give them one heart, and shall put a new spirit within them. And I shall take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh” (**Ezek. 11:19**).

Jews had always thought that such predictions, whatever they may fully have meant, applied only to them, the chosen race of God. “As to this salvation,” Peter explains, “the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful search and inquiry, seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow” (**1 Pet. 1:10–11**). Even to God’s inspired prophets under the Old Covenant, the full meaning of their prophecies was a mystery.

Yet, when God first made His covenant with Abraham, the father of His chosen people Israel, He alluded to His offering of grace to the whole world. “In you,” He told Abraham, “All the families of the earth shall be blessed” (**Gen. 12:3**). When God made the covenant with His people through Moses at Mt. Sinai, He said, “You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation” (**Ex. 19:6**). In other words, it was God’s design that Israel, as a *nation*, was to be a priest, a mediator of God, for the rest of the world.

Paul crowns this marvelous letter with praise **to the only wise God**, the God of Jews and of Gentiles, the God of all creation. One may wonder why he does not say, “to the only powerful” or “only loving” or “only gracious” God. He has much to say about those divine attributes in his letters, including this one. Perhaps he calls

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

attention here to God's wisdom in order to emphasize that only an infinitely wise mind could have designed and accomplished such a plan of redemption.

It was **through Jesus Christ** that God supremely revealed not only His great grace but also His great wisdom. To Him, therefore, **be the glory forever. Amen.**

Discussion Questions

- 1. What is the relationship between revelation and mystery?**
- 2. How does God's plan encompass all humanity?**
- 3. Why should God get all the Glory in Romans 16:27?**
- 4. Of all the great truths we've learned from the book of Romans, what truth do you treasure the most?**

Closing Prayer

Romans – Gospel of God Exalted

Facilitated by Sister Patricia Weaver

Romans Memory Verses

Romans 1:16 (NASB95)

- 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 3:23 (NASB95)

- 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:23 (NASB95)

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

Romans 5:6 (NASB95)

- 6 For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 8:28 (NASB95)

- 28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

Romans 8:35 (NASB95)

- 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Romans 8:38–39 (NASB95)

- 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,
39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 10:9 (NASB95)

- 9 if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

Romans 12:1 (NASB95)

- 1 Therefore, I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Romans 12:2 (NASB95)

- 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.