



BIBLE

STUDENT BOOK

► **11th Grade | Unit 2**

BIBLE 1102

ROMANS: PART 1

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Romans: Part 1

Introduction

In 2 Timothy 2:15 you have been exhorted to “study to shew [show] thyself [yourself] approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” The same man who wrote these words authored the book of Romans. He appreciated the importance of education. The apostle Paul was a noted Jewish scholar and a Roman citizen. He had been a Pharisee well known for his persecution of those who called themselves Christians. Then one day he encountered the very Jesus whom he had been persecuting, and from that moment he began to increase in the wisdom and knowledge of Christ. A yearning grew in his heart to see other young Christians become established in the doctrine of Jesus.


The Epistle to the Romans is Paul’s masterly exposition of man’s need for salvation. He had found that there is no other foundation that can be laid than that which is in Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 3:11). The letter was written to a group of Christians Paul had never met, yet he intended to visit them as soon as possible. The book of Romans sets forth the theme of justification by faith and of sanctification through the Holy Spirit.

In this LIFEPAK® you will scan the Christian church as viewed in the setting of the mighty Roman Empire. You will focus on the first eight chapters of the book of Romans for a close-up of the basic Christian truths concerning sin, salvation, and sanctification. Finally, you will be exposed to a scripturally-based approach to proclaim to others the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAK®. When you have finished this LIFEPAK, you should be able to:

1. List the first five emperors of the Roman Empire.
2. List the five social classes of Rome’s population.
3. Describe the characteristics of the empire in terms of land area, political control, cities, education, occupations, and clothing.
4. Explain the official state religion.
5. Relate the attitude of the empire toward the Christian church.
6. Tell how the Christian church began in Rome, where believers assembled, and how they worshiped.
7. Tell where and when Paul wrote the Epistle to the Romans.
8. List at least five reasons why Paul wrote Romans.
9. Briefly outline the first eight chapters of Romans, chapter by chapter.
10. Illustrate the Roman form of a letter.
11. Describe how Paul introduced himself to Roman believers.
12. Memorize the theme of the letter in Romans 1:16-17.
13. Explain the downward progression of sin.
14. Contrast Jewish faithlessness to Abraham’s faithfulness.
15. Contrast the works of Adam and Jesus.

- 
- 16.** Explain the transfer from sin and carnality to righteousness and a walk in the Spirit.
 - 17.** Describe the problem of universal sin and its effects.
 - 18.** Relate the process of salvation by faith in Jesus.
 - 19.** Define the process of sanctification through Jesus by the Holy Spirit.
 - 20.** Memorize the following Scriptures: Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23, Romans 5:1, Romans 5:8, Romans 6:11, and Romans 8:1.

[illegible]

1. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Before studying any book of the Bible, you should gain an understanding of the historical perspective of the author. Though every word of Scripture is relevant today, you must keep in mind the fact that the authors were real people, writing to real situations. The inspiration of the Holy Spirit has revealed to us Jesus Christ, through God’s eternal Word.

In this section you will explore the Roman Empire at the time when the apostle Paul wrote his Epistle to the Romans; you will discover how the Roman Church began and functioned; and you will determine when, where, and why Paul wrote the book of Romans.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

- 1. List the first five emperors of the Roman Empire.
- 2. List the five social classes of Rome’s population.
- 3. Describe the characteristics of the empire in terms of land area, political control, cities, education, occupations, and clothing.
- 4. Explain the official state religion.
- 5. Relate the attitude of the empire toward the Christian church.
- 6. Tell how the Christian church began in Rome, where believers assembled, and how they worshiped.
- 7. Tell where and when Paul wrote the Epistle to the Romans.
- 8. List at least five reasons why Paul wrote Romans.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

equestrian	freedmen	Praetorian	saint	stola	tunica
exactitude	pantheism	guard	senatorial	syncretism	
forum	plebes	procurators	aristocracy	toga	

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Throughout the histories of the world, one of the most impressive of ancient civilizations has been the Roman Empire. It included the land areas around the Mediterranean Sea. Its millions of people spoke

many languages, were engaged in many occupations, and worshiped many different gods; but they were united by the military power and government of the Romans.



The political situation. At the time the book of Romans was written, Rome was the capital center of the civilized world. The Roman government possessed the coastal land areas of Europe, Asia, and Africa surrounding the Mediterranean Sea. Commerce flourished throughout the empire. Because of excellent roads and seaports, communication and transportation were easily accessible. The city of Rome was the great metropolis of the vast empire, and because of power, fame, and popularity, Rome became known as the Eternal City.

Rome was noted for its development of civil law and legal justice. The enforcement of law and order was designated to district governors and Roman soldiers. The Roman army formed a civilizing force as well as a conquering one. When soldiers were neither fighting nor patrolling the empire's borders, they were

building roads, bridges, and walls. A handpicked group of soldiers served as bodyguards for the emperor and were called the **Praetorian Guard**.

The early Roman Empire was a cultural world of holidays and festivals featuring public entertainment at government expense. Charioteers raced the oblong arena called a circus. Amphitheaters, such as the Colosseum, featured mighty gladiators matched with each other or with wild beasts, condemned criminals, or Christians. They were sometimes thrown to lions or other animals for the amusement of governmental authorities and the public's pleasure. Roman theaters presented Greek and Roman plays. Huge establishments known as public baths housed pools, gymnasiums, art galleries, and libraries. The empire was a world within a world.

Generally, the first 100 years of the history of Rome is described in terms of the personal lives of the emperors. Many were inferior men, but through the reigns of both good and bad emperors, competent administrators gave the Roman government the efficiency to become one of the world’s greatest empires.

The First Emperors of Rome

Name	Reign
Augustus	27 B.C.–A.D. 14
Tiberius	A.D. 14–37
Caligula (Gaius)	A.D. 37–41
Claudius	A.D. 41–54
Nero	A.D. 54–68

Around 27 B.C., shortly before the birth of Jesus, Augustus named himself emperor. He was the supreme authority, aided and advised by appointed senators. During his reign he restored peace and order to the land after 100 years of civil wars. He developed an efficient postal system, improved harbors, and established colonies. An elaborate highway system connecting the most remote parts of the empire with Rome was built during his reign. Thus evolved the phrase, “all roads lead to Rome.” Augustus introduced many reforms, and the resulting peace and prosperity won him the admiration and great respect of the people.

After Augustus’ death, his stepson Tiberius became emperor. He followed the peaceful policies laid down by Augustus in the early part of his reign. As a governor of the provinces and military leader, he was among the best; but as an emperor he did not know how to work well with the governing society of the capital. He made the mistake of turning over temporary rule to a friend named Sejanus while he retreated to the island of Capri. Sejanus murdered all followers of Tiberius and ruled a reign of terror for five years. In retaliation, Tiberius had Sejanus put to death and continued killing anyone whom he mistrusted. During the reign of Tiberius, while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Jesus Christ was put to death. The emperor’s death in A.D. 37 was a relief to the governing class in Rome.

The grandnephew of Tiberius became the third emperor of Rome. His real name was Gaius, but he is known by his nickname Caligula. The first eight months of his reign were characterized by his mildness and acts of justice. However, he suffered from a severe illness that left him mentally imbalanced, resulting in a reign of cruelty and torture. He considered himself a god and had a temple built in his honor. In A.D. 41 he was murdered by the officers of his own guard.



| Augustus, first Roman emperor, for whom the month of August is named.

The fourth Roman emperor was the nephew of Tiberius and step-grandson of Augustus. His name was Claudius. During his reign he formed the nucleus of the empire’s first cabinet of statesmen. Another of his outstanding achievements was the accumulation of the southern part of Britain as a province of Rome. Claudius was poisoned by his fourth wife in A.D. 54. She wanted the empire for her son Nero.

Nero was seventeen when he became emperor, so the senate actually ruled until he came of age. When Nero began to rule, he had his stepbrother, his mother, and his wife murdered. He became like a wild animal, murdering anyone who was the least suspicious of threatening his position. His private life was one of wicked immorality. He is generally regarded as one of the most evil of all men. In A.D. 64 a great fire destroyed the city of Rome. Legend says that Nero may have started the fire himself and played the fiddle while Rome burned. Nero placed the blame on the Christians and began severe persecutions under accusations of arson and treason. The apostle Peter may have been among those who were killed under Nero. Paul may have suffered from his persecutions as well.

Match the following items. (Do not match name for name.)

- | | | | |
|------|-------|------------------------|--|
| 1.1 | _____ | Praetorian Guard | a. Augustus |
| 1.2 | _____ | Eternal City | b. baths |
| 1.3 | _____ | self-acclaimed emperor | c. Rome |
| 1.4 | _____ | Tiberius | d. Gaius |
| 1.5 | _____ | Augustus | e. emperor's bodyguard |
| 1.6 | _____ | Caligula | f. Tiberius |
| 1.7 | _____ | second emperor | g. roman soldiers |
| 1.8 | _____ | persecuted Christians | h. reformer |
| 1.9 | _____ | Nero | i. Claudius |
| 1.10 | _____ | formed first cabinet | j. center of civilized world |
| 1.11 | _____ | circus | k. played the fiddle while Rome burned |
| 1.12 | _____ | gymnasiums | l. chariots |
| 1.13 | _____ | built roads | m. Sejanus |
| 1.14 | _____ | Rome | n. Nero |

Fill in the following chart with the correct names and dates.

- | | | |
|------|----------|-----------------|
| 1.15 | _____ | 27 B.C.–A.D. 14 |
| 1.16 | _____ | A.D. 14–A.D. 37 |
| 1.17 | Caligula | _____ |
| 1.18 | Claudius | _____ |
| 1.19 | _____ | A.D. 54–A.D. 68 |

Answer true or false.

- | | | |
|------|-------|--|
| 1.20 | _____ | The Roman Empire included all of Europe, Asia, and Africa. |
| 1.21 | _____ | Tiberius was emperor when Jesus was born. |
| 1.22 | _____ | Caligula was known as the mad emperor of Rome. |
| 1.23 | _____ | Gaius was Caligula's nickname. |
| 1.24 | _____ | Rome was noted for civil law and legal justice. |
| 1.25 | _____ | Claudius was poisoned by his fourth wife. |



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