

## Romans – 8A Listening Guide

1. The book of Romans in some respects is three books. As we complete the first piece, chapters 1-8, we need to understand why these chapters are themselves the first piece and different from what starts in chapter 9.
2. The theme of the book is \_\_\_\_\_ and how we get it.
3. Romans two enters into a discussion of \_\_\_\_\_. We are in fact all under Gods condemnation because of our unrighteousness.
4. Chapter three moved into the advantages of being a \_\_\_\_\_...but these did not give them a leg up for the sake of righteousness.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ was not meant for salvation but rather to \_\_\_\_\_ all men equally, because salvation is by \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_ alone.
6. Romans four expounds on the law. He uses Abraham and David as key proofs.
7. Romans five moves into a discussion of how our \_\_\_\_\_ by faith corrects the problem of unrighteousness from Adam.
8. Romans six through seven he moves into the effects or consequences of our being declared righteous. We are freed from the second \_\_\_\_\_. That leads to a \_\_\_\_\_ to live as a slave to the Spirit. And in Romans seven Paul looks at the current day Christian relationship...and the resulting war.
9. Until you understand where Paul has been going, you can't fully understand why he's moved into a totally new direction.
10. Paul takes time in chapters 9-11 to get off the point to deal with something that he has to – something that comes up because of a comment he makes at the end of chapter eight.

### **Vs. 1**

11. There is now \_\_\_\_\_ condemnation...
12. "Therefore" all the teaching leads you unavoidably to the conclusion that there is now no condemnation.
13. He's going to introduce a new emphasis. Up to this point in the book of Romans, Paul has mentioned the Spirit one time. In this chapter alone he mentions Him \_\_\_\_\_ times.  
What Paul is going to focus on in this progression in his essay on righteousness... is to give us a better understanding of what now life as a Christian means to someone who has taken the Roman Road.

14. Paul starts with the most important line. Nothing we do as a Christian should be motivated out of a concern for our \_\_\_\_\_ before God.

15. Three reasons he can state verse 1.

- a. Our offending \_\_\_\_\_ is gone. What came in its place is a new nature formed in the likeness of \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Propitiation. The penalty for your sin has been \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. You have been released from the \_\_\_\_\_. There is nothing standing accusing you.

### **Vs. 2**

16. What he does here is summarize the three points we just discussed.

17. The point here is not to talk about the Mosaic Law...this is more talking about law in a \_\_\_\_\_ sense, a principle or rule.

18. The rule or principle here is that the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ sets you free from this principle or rule that sin leads to \_\_\_\_\_. There is a principle or rule here that when the \_\_\_\_\_ indwells us, that indwelling has by its very nature set us \_\_\_\_\_ from a law or principle that says that sin must lead to death.

19. All men are...either under condemnation because of your \_\_\_\_\_, or you are...living in newness of \_\_\_\_\_ and as a result you have been released from the jurisdiction of the \_\_\_\_\_.

20. He carries this out through the text a little deeper. The only purpose of law is to point out when we don't do the right thing. It is directed at the flesh and human behavior.

21. The flesh, Paul says, is so \_\_\_\_\_ it cannot comply with laws because it is \_\_\_\_\_ even able to do so. By our very nature we are \_\_\_\_\_ to God and our \_\_\_\_\_ is hostile to Him.

22. If all men were born in the nature of Adam...no man stands before God justified apart from \_\_\_\_\_.

23. This then means...all men are either walking in the nature of \_\_\_\_\_ or they are walking in newness of \_\_\_\_\_. One is under condemnation and one is not. There is no way to make the transition between the two except by faith in \_\_\_\_\_.

24. Therefore, this leads Paul to provide the Biblical definition of who is a Christian.

### **Vs. 9**

25. If you were to jump down just a couple of verses you would see, those who have the \_\_\_\_\_ of God are the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

26. The first conclusion is to understand that there is a hard dividing line between the two sides of mankind and there is only one way to cross that line – \_\_\_\_\_ power in the Spirit to make it possible. Unless you have the Holy Spirit in you, you are \_\_\_\_\_ someone who has crossed that line.

27. This also does away with any misconception with regard to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. You either have Him or you don't.

28. Paul makes the definition of who is a believer, the very reality of a \_\_\_\_\_ nature. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the mechanism by which we are saved.

29. Your old nature is \_\_\_\_\_. There is no going back because there is nothing to go back to.

30. The second aspect to the Spirit's indwelling...that it is a \_\_\_\_\_ to us of what is yet to come

#### **Ephesians 1:14**

31. God will redeem His \_\_\_\_\_. You became His possession, He gave you a down payment, He's going to redeem you.

32. The word for pledge is the same word we would use for \_\_\_\_\_ money.

33. It's the giving of something of value, which assures that there will be a completion of the \_\_\_\_\_ at some future date.

34. Even when you are doing horrible things on a continual basis...the consequence is \_\_\_\_\_ condemnation because of all that's transpired to get you to this point.

#### **Vs. 12**

35. He becomes very focused on what it means to live given these truths.

36. If you know the truth that you have no condemnation...our response is to understand that we have an \_\_\_\_\_ to God...to live according to the \_\_\_\_\_.

37. Paul is not about to tell us \_\_\_\_\_. He's going to address how to do that in chapters 12 -15.

38. In this part Paul is simply saying...don't \_\_\_\_\_ the Spirit by whom you have been sealed for the day of your redemption.

39. He teaches the principle here in two parts.

40. We don't control or even \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves with our righteousness before God.

41. Our focus, responsibility, our obligation in light of our salvation is to concern ourselves with our righteousness before \_\_\_\_\_. Sanctification.

42. There is a second implication. It *is* possible for us to walk in the \_\_\_\_\_.

43. It is possible to \_\_\_\_\_ walk according to the Spirit.

44. Paul's imperative makes clear that we have a \_\_\_\_\_ in this; we have an \_\_\_\_\_ we are supposed to take, an agreement with the Spirit to make choices in keeping with the Spirit's direction; to \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Vs. 12**

45. We are no longer limited to the desires of our \_\_\_\_\_, that's what would mark an \_\_\_\_\_... because all unsaved are \_\_\_\_\_. They *only* have the \_\_\_\_\_. They don't have the new Spirit.

46. Those who are being led by the Spirit...we have a \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Vs. 15**

47. He repeats the idea of slavery. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the spirit to sin has been removed and we have a new slavery to \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit. That slavery has brought us into a new relationship.

48. For the first time you can truly call out to God calling Him \_\_\_\_\_. These are affectionate terms.

49. Paul goes on to explain it. You have been \_\_\_\_\_. You were born into the family of Adam...but then God adopts us.

50. If Christ is God's son...and by adoption we are all sons of God...doesn't mean we are equal to the Son, but we share in His sonship...we are fellow \_\_\_\_\_.

51. What portion we share, what role we play is determined by the judgment seat of Christ; by the apportioning of \_\_\_\_\_ to believers on the basis of what they did in service to Him \_\_\_\_\_.

52. If you are an heir, you have an inheritance. And if you know that inheritance is yet to come, that begs a question. Why the wait?

53. Paul explains this in terms of an \_\_\_\_\_ plan that is not just limited to believers but is shared by all \_\_\_\_\_.

54. Creation refers to the physical \_\_\_\_\_.

55. When Adam was being judged, God did not direct His curse against Adam... instead He curses the \_\_\_\_\_...the physical creation.

56. All creation is longing for the revealing of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. They are the lasting thing that comes out of the world.

57. Paul is explaining the delay. He is explaining the need to be patient; to have a time in this world to wait for our \_\_\_\_\_ redemption because it's part of a larger plan.

### **Vs. 19**

58. Revealing, in Greek, means taking a sheet and pulling it off a statue. An unveiling. The Body of Christ... is being \_\_\_\_\_ over time.

### **Revelation 21**

59. We are still a part of the \_\_\_\_\_ things.

### **2 Peter**

60. God is not \_\_\_\_\_ He's just \_\_\_\_\_.

61. He's kept this world...because He doesn't want any to \_\_\_\_\_ but all to come to \_\_\_\_\_.

62. It can't be that God is patiently waiting so that none of mankind will perish... because it isn't working. No one seeks after God.

63. God needed...time until He has completed that work where He has done what He expected to do through creation.

64. Paul is saying that you and I share in this \_\_\_\_\_.

65. Our obligation to Christ is to walk according to the \_\_\_\_\_. Be one who is concerned with our \_\_\_\_\_ before men for \_\_\_\_\_ sake.

66. We have a partner who is going to help us through this period of waiting. The Spirit with you...doesn't just deal with sin \_\_\_\_\_ but with what He knows is going on with the world so that you always arrive at the right place at the right time to do the work He has planned for you...provided you're listening to Him.

67. This eliminates the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_. If things go bad in your life that is no reason for lack of \_\_\_\_\_ or an optimistic view toward the eternal realm because God knew it before it happened. You appeal to Him, not necessarily for \_\_\_\_\_... but for a hopeful attitude in spite of it because you're going to ask Him to do what Romans 8:28 says.

68. It implies that something \_\_\_\_\_ is happening (from our point of view) but from God's point of view it fits into a plan that ultimately arrives at \_\_\_\_\_... for those who are \_\_\_\_\_ according to \_\_\_\_\_ purpose. It's a specific application... so that those who are \_\_\_\_\_ can trust in 8:28, those who are not, have no reason to believe.

69. We don't live for the here and now; we live according to the plan that was set before the foundation of the earth and we are simply players in a plan that requires time.

**Verse by Verse Ministry**  
**A Study of the Book of Romans**  
**Leader's Guide – Lesson 8A**

**Overview**

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. So how do we live until He brings us home to be with Him in heaven? Pastor Armstrong says that we live as those who are concerned about our righteousness before men, for God's sake. In other words, we are a tool that God can use to bring others to an understanding of Himself.

**Discussion Topics and Questions**

The heart of our discussion today will come from Romans 8:5-8.

The phrase "mind set" that is repeated in these verses is unique in the New Testament to Paul's writing. These words are translated from the Greek word **phronema** and

mean literally, *what one has in mind, the thoughts and purposes*. You could paraphrase verse five this way: "Those who live according to the sinful nature are *thinking about* how to serve its *purposes*".

Now you try making the same adjustment with the remaining part of that verse.

Move on to verse six. What is the outcome of continually thinking about how to serve the purposes of our sinful nature?

But the mind concentrated on the purposes of the Spirit brings what?

Verse seven. The mind focused on pleasing the flesh is...?

In the past two weeks we've discussed the need to allow the Holy Spirit to have mastery over us even when we struggle with the temptations of our nature. We've talked about the need to stand in the midst of our temptation and to look for a way out of the option to sin. We've talked about how sin is a substitute for God and a way to anesthetize ourselves from the feelings that drive our sinful behavior. Now we come to another crucial issue.

Read Matthew 12:43-45, then 2 Corinthians 1:21-22. When our evil nature is swept out, with what are we then filled?

(Leader note...don't let the group get hung up on a discussion of evil spirits, but rather help them see the principle here that once evil has been removed, the void must then be filled or else there is room for even more evil to return. On the spiritual level, we are filled with the Holy Spirit immediately upon our salvation so no evil spirit can take up residence within us. However, since we are still trapped in our body of sin, any attempt to remove evil thinking or behavior is an invitation for it to grow instead. Remind them of the idea that the restrictions of law are often the very things that lead us into temptation to break it.)

This indwelling of the Holy Spirit happens on a spiritual level, but what we're discussing today is *our* role in having our "mind set" on the things of the Spirit.

Read John 14:23-26.

What is the mark of one who loves the Lord according to verse 23?

How does the Holy Spirit make this possible according to verse 26?

Can the Spirit teach and remind us of what we do not already know?

What then is the necessary ingredient to becoming an obedient student of the Spirit, and to having our "mind set" on what the Spirit desires?

Nothing in the Christian life is more important than the task of knowing Christ. There is no other way for us to know Him, for what does John 1:1-5 and 14 say about the Word? Who is the Word?

What is the springboard of all faith according to Romans 10:17?

In all the things we've discussed in previous weeks, which are possible without the Word?

Why is it necessary to know the Word in order to find the way out of temptation?

Why is it necessary to know the Word in order to "choose this day whom you will serve"?

Why is it necessary to know the Word in order to be an ambassador for Christ?

What is the Word's role in being baptized (pickled) with Christ?

What role does the Word play in helping us to rejoice in our suffering?

What role does the Word play in making it possible for us to "sit in the chair"?

To what do we make our thoughts captive and obedient?

Why is the word necessary in order for us to sincerely pray Matthew 6:10?

So you see that the Word in partnership with the Holy Spirit is indispensable to the "success" of the Christian life. Without them working together, we are rudderless boats adrift on the currents of our fleshly whims. Or more in tune with Paul's teaching, we continue to behave as if we are slaves to our old nature.

Return to a now familiar passage: Galatians 5:22-25. (Mark your place. We'll be returning to this passage.)

What is listed in this verse?

And what does verse 25 say we need to do?

The fruits of the Spirit are not born of our own efforts. They exist within us from the moment of salvation. So why don't we see them in our lives?

Read Ephesians 4:30-31. The word "grieve" means *to cause sorrow, to affect with sadness*. You can see another example of this word in 1 Thessalonians 4:13. As this verse uses the word, what is the source of the grief? How is this type of grief described by the verse itself?

The Holy Spirit is never without hope, He is the source of hope, but you can see the strength of the effect our sin has on the Holy Spirit within us. According to Galatians 5:25, what kinds of things grieve the Spirit?

Now look at this short progression. Read Acts 2:1-4. What came to rest on the believers?

And read Paul's instructions in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22.

With regard to the Spirit, what are we warned against in verse 19a?

Sum up our instructions with the words from verse 22. These are the things that put out the Spirit's fire within us.

If we are joyful always, praying continually, giving thanks in every circumstance, it is hard to be occupied with *any* kind of evil because we have our "mind set" on the Spirit.

Finish today's work by reading Romans 8:11 as it is printed below and then finish the thought with the truths from the verses that follow. (Leader note...for example: *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you... no one can be [successful] against you [spiritually]. Romans 8:31*)

*But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you...*

Philippians 4:13, John 15:5, 1 John 4:4, Ephesians 6:13

Finally, read Romans 8:33-39.

### **Summary**

No matter how badly we fall, how terribly we fail, in these verses we find our hope and our joy. You are not the exception to this rule! Your sins can not separate you from the love of Christ, but they can cause you to miss the opportunity to experience the fruit of His Spirit. This is both our privilege and responsibility as Christians, and it requires once again, the submission of our selves and our will. It requires knowledge of and an active relationship with the Word. It requires that we shake off the shackles of our old master and walk freely in step with Christ's Spirit.