



Nipawin Bible College
Course: BI3113: Romans and Galatians
Instructor: Dr. Peter John Barber
Winter 2021
3 Credit Hours
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Why study Romans and Galatians? It was not long after the watershed Jerusalem Council of Acts 15 that Apostle Paul wrote his letter to the Galatians, containing “. . . a clear statement of justification by faith . . . [and] a defense of Christian liberty against any form of legalism.”¹ Galatians’ key role in the Reformation caused this letter to be called, “the cornerstone of the Protestant Reformation,”² because in it the LORD Jesus through His Apostle Paul emphasizes that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone.

Apostle Paul’s letter to the Romans, written amid his third missionary journey, is considered to be an expansion on the doctrine in Galatians of salvation by grace through faith alone. In concert with the message of the letter to the Galatians, Romans expands on the imputed righteousness of God to the Christian, which cannot fail, being God’s work and not man’s work.

In this course we conduct an expositional study of Galatians and Romans, throughout which students are exhorted to follow Apostle Paul’s example (e.g. 1 Cor 11:1; Phil 3:17), as is the will of God in Christ for us: “[Let us] not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain” (Gal 2:21).

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

The Holy Bible (A literal translation of your choosing).

Walvoord, John F. and Roy B. Zuck, Eds. *Acts & Epistles*. The Bible Knowledge Commentary. Colorado Springs, Col.: David C. Cook, 2018.

McClain, Alva J. *Romans: The Gospel of God’s Grace*. Winona Lake, Ind.: BMH.

Scofield, C. I. *The Epistle to the Galatians*. Taos, N.M.: Dispensational Publishing House.

¹ Donald K. Campbell, “Galatians,” in *Acts & Epistles*, The Bible Knowledge Commentary, eds. John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck (Colorado Springs, Col.: David C. Cook, 2018), 253.

² Campbell, “Galatians,” 253.

THE BIG QUESTION

Am I setting aside God's grace today (Gal 2:21), or standing in His grace (Rom 5:2)?

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student will:

- 1) Develop a firm grasp of the historical events surrounding the writing of Galatians and Romans, as recorded in the book of Acts;
- 2) Learn contextual and exegetical interpretation of Galatians and Romans;
- 3) Explore applications of these letters to the Church today, and to oneself as a Christian;
- 4) Be encouraged to imitate Apostle Paul, as he imitates Christ, which is our LORD Jesus' explicit will for the Christian.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Bi-Weekly Scripture Memorization – 20%

- In class, every other week, students will write out Scripture that they have committed to memory:
 - Session 3: Gal 2:16, 21
 - Session 7: Gal 5:16, 18
 - Session 11: Romans 3:21–4
 - Session 15: Romans 11:5–6
- Grading: /5 per Scripture portion
Due: 4 Scriptures total, written and submitted at the beginning of class

Bi-Weekly Quiz – 20%

- Every other week, there will be a quiz on the reading (Scripture and textbook) and class lectures from the previous two weeks:
 - Session 5: Quiz 1
 - Session 9: Quiz 2
 - Session 13: Quiz 3
 - Session 17: Quiz 4
- Grading: /5 per Scripture portion
Due: 4 Quizzes total, written and submitted at the beginning of class

Exegetical Research Project – 30%

- Identify a passage from Galatians or Romans (approximately a dozen verses). Email your passage to the professor for approval by Monday, February 8th.
- Research the passage using a minimum of eight (8) scholarly secondary sources, 3 of which must be the assigned texts;

- Submit your project in **one** of the following forms:
 - 1) An 8–10 page formal exegetical research paper;
 - Follow proper procedures and conventions for academic writing, in terms of paper structure, formatting, and citations.
 - 2) An 8–10 page fully scripted sermon;
 - Write a complete composition for delivery (not point-form), with proper formatting and academic citations (even though these would not be communicated orally to the congregation).
 - 3) An 8–10 page clearly structured Bible study;
 - The study outline should be fleshed out with complete sentences (not point-form), containing leading questions for group discussion to guide the group along your argument from Scripture. Include proper citations in support of your points (even though these would not be communicated orally to your group).
- Grading: /30

Paper Due: Monday, March 15th at 5:00 pm

Final Exam – 30%

- During Exam Week, April 6–8, 2021.
- Students will be given several passages from Galatians and Romans to comment on. They will be expected to incorporate class lecture material, textbook reading, and reflections on application for personal and corporate discipleship into their answers.

NOTE: All written assignments are to be typed in accordance to the guidelines in Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. (Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2018) for papers. Assignments will be graded on the basis of content, clarity, grammar, and spelling.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2020-21

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:

- Refer to the NBC Handbook 2020-21

Reading: 430 pages

Writing: 8–10 pages

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY ON GALATIANS AND ROMANS

Walvoord, John F. and Roy B. Zuck, Eds. *Acts & Epistles*. The Bible Knowledge Commentary. Colorado Springs, Col.: David C. Cook, 2018.

McClain, Alva J. *Romans: The Gospel of God's Grace*. Winona Lake, Ind.: BMH.

Scofield, C. I. *The Epistle to the Galatians*. Taos, N.M.: Dispensational Publishing House.

Recommended Online Resources

The searchable Holy Bible in every English translation:

www.biblegateway.com

Searchable Bible in English and the original languages with concordances, lexica, and commentaries:

www.biblehub.com

The Westminster Confession of 1647:

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/westminster-confession-faith/>

SCRIPTURE AND TEXTBOOK READING SCHEDULE

DATE	SESSION	READING DUE	LECTURE CONTENT
1/12, Tue	1	None	Galatians 1
1/14, Thu	2	Gal 1; Relevant Texts	Galatians 2
1/19, Tue	3	Gal 2; Relevant Texts	Galatians 3
1/21, Thu	4	Gal 3; Relevant Texts	Galatians 4
1/26, Tue	5	Gal 4; Relevant Texts	Galatians 5–6
1/28, Thu	6	Gal 5–6; Relevant Texts	Romans 1
2/2, Tue	7	Rom 1; Relevant Texts	Romans 2
2/4, Thu	8	Rom 2; Relevant Texts	Romans 3
2/11, Thu	9	Rom 3; Relevant Texts	Romans 4
2/23, Tue	10	Rom 4; Relevant Texts	Romans 5
2/25, Thu	11	Rom 5; Relevant Texts	Romans 6
3/2, Tue	12	Rom 6; Relevant Texts	Romans 7
3/4, Thu	13	Rom 7; Relevant Texts	Romans 8
3/9, Tue	14	Rom 8; Relevant Texts	Romans 9
3/11, Thu	15	Rom 9; Relevant Texts	Romans 10–11
3/16, Tue	16	Rom 10–11; Relevant Texts	Romans 12
3/23, Tue	17	Rom 12; Relevant Texts	Romans 13
3/25, Thu	18	Rom 13; Relevant Texts	Romans 14
3/30, Tue	19	Rom 14; Relevant Texts	Romans 15
4/1, Thu	20	Rom 15–16; Relevant Texts	Romans 16