The Epistle of Paul to the ROMANS

"The Constitution of the Christian Faith"

** A study in Doctrine**

** A study in Practice**

Background: This letter, inspired by the Holy Spirit, was written by the Apostle Paul to the "saints" at Rome around 56-58 A.D., while Paul was in Corinth on his 3rd missionary journey.

Purpose: This letter is written to instruct believers in 3 general area's:

- 1. The fundamental doctrines of salvation to strengthen against false doctrine.
- 2. God's faithfulness in His relationship and dealings with Israel.
- 3. Practical Christian living in relation to society and government.

About Paul: Background: Philippians 3:4-6 (a Pharisee)

Salvation experience - Acts 9:1-22 (Saul=Paul)

Ministry training - Acts 22:1-4; 2 Corinthians 12:1-8; Galatians 1:15-19

Qualification for apostleship - called by Christ - Acts 9:3-6

Chapter Six : Sin is No Longer the Master.

To those who are born again (6:14)

I. Know This: Col 3:1-11

- v3 A. We are baptized (immersed) into the body of Christ, and therefore immersed into His death. 1 Cor 12:13
- v4 B. Since we are immersed into His death, then we can also experience the power of His resurrection. Eph 1:15-23; Phil 3:7-14
 - 1. This power gives the believer the ability to walk in newness of life.
- v9 2. This power has victory over death and sin.
- v7 C. One who is dead is free from sin. It is the body (flesh) who's members are instruments of sin. A dead person's body can not commit acts of sin.
 - D. Justification is the *act* whereby God declares the believer "Not Guilty". Separated from the *power* of sin.
 - E. Sanctification is the *process* of work in the believer's life whereby he is "set apart" to be holy, separated from the *practice* of sin.
 - F. Glorification is the ultimate goal where, in heaven, the believer will be separated from the *presence* of sin.

II. Reckon This: Rom 6:11

- A. Reckon (*logizomai* to calculate or consider) ourselves "dead" to sin. No response to temptation. James 1:12-27; Gal 2:20, 5:24, 6:14
- B. Obedience; whether to temptation or to righteousness is a decision of the will.
 - Dan 1:8 "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself."
- C. Reckon (consider) ourselves "alive" to righteousness.
- D. What are some things we consider (trust) to be so?
 - * The sun will shine again tomorrow.
 - * The next breath of air will keep me alive for another few minutes.
 - * If I put my hand in the fire, it will get burned.
- E. We make decisions about everything based on the benefit of our action.
 - * When I'm hungry, I want to eat and I do so. When I'm fasting, and experience hunger, I say no to food.

- * When I am spoken to, I decide how I will respond.
- * When temptation to sin presents itself, I decide how I will respond.

F. What is sin?

- 1. Sin is the transgression of the law of righteousness.
- 2. Sin is whatever offends the righteousness and holiness of God.
- 3. We know what offends God by the knowledge of the Word of God.

III. Yield This: Rom 6:12,13

- A. Stop letting sin have power over our life. We have the power of the Holy Spirit to do this if we so desire.
- B. Yield (present) your members as instruments (weapons) of righteousness, to be used of God in the work of His kingdom.
- C. Do not yield (present) your members as instruments (weapons) of unrighteousness to sin and the evil one to be used in the work of his kingdom.
- D. A person is the servant (slave) of whatever he submits to.
 - 1. Am I a servant of sin? (sin is a tyrant of a master, which does not care about me at all, but only what I can be used for. Satan *robs* life from me).
 - 2. Am I a servant of Jesus Christ through righteousness? (Jesus is a loving master who has proved that He loves me by giving *His* life as a ransom for mine. Jesus *gives* life to me).

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

IV. The Results of Knowing, Reckoning, and Yielding: Rom 6:14-23

- A. We understand that death is the payment due to God for our sin. "The wages of sin is death."
- B. We accept the fact that Jesus paid our sin debt in full.

 "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
- C. Sin has no more power over me.
- D. We experience freedom from the bondage to temptation and sin.
- E. We experience freedom from the requirements of the law.
- F. We experience peace with God as well as the peace of God.
- G. We experience the fruit of righteousness, which is holiness, which leads to eternal life.