

Crystallization-study of the Epistle to the Romans

Reference: CWWL, 1994–1997, vol. 1

❖ Introduction (*Crystallization, in our usage, is based upon the essence*):

- The book of **Romans** is on the **gospel of God** to men in its completeness—1:1; 10:15.
 - **from chapter 1** on the **person** of Jesus Christ the God-man and on the **righteousness** of **God**
 - **to chapter 16** on the **local churches** as the **expression** of the **Body of Christ**.
 - This gospel is **concerning** Jesus Christ the **God-man**;
 - **Jesus Christ** the God-man is the **center** of the good news and the **glad tidings** of God to men.

Rom 1:1 - Paul, a slave of **Christ Jesus**, a called apostle, separated unto the **gospel of God**,

Rom 1:2 - Which He **promised** beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

Rom 10:15 - And how shall they **proclaim Him** unless they are sent? As it is written,
“How beautiful are the feet of those who **announce** the **news** of **good things**!”

1. The **Center** of the Gospel of God—Jesus Christ the God-man

- (1) The Essence of the **Person** of Jesus Christ the God-man
- (2) The Essence of the **Work** of Jesus Christ the God-man

Rom 1:3 - Concerning His **Son**, who came out of the **seed of David** according to the **flesh**,

Rom 1:4 - Who was **designated** the **Son of God** in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the **resurrection** of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;

Scripture Readings:

The **PERSON** of Christ:

The **Seed of David** – Matt. 1:1; 22:42-45

In His **humanity** – Col. 1:5b; John 1:14; Col. 1:22; Heb. 2:14; John 3:14

Fulfillment of **prophecy** – 2 Sam. 7:12-14

The Son of God – John 1:18

The **WORK** of Christ:

In His **earthly** ministry

(all-inclusive **death**) – Col 1:22; John 1:29; Isa 53:4-6; 1Cor 15:3; 1Pet. 2:24; Heb 9:12; Gal. 2:20; 5:24;
John 3:14; Matt. 16:23; John 6:70-71

[*crucified on the cross—the old creation, the old man, the flesh, Satan, sin, and the world*]

(life-imparting & new-creation-germinating **resurrection**) – John 12:24; 1Cor. 15:45; Acts 13:33; Heb. 1:5-6;
1Pet.1:3; Heb.2:10-12; 2Cor.5:17; Gal.6:15

In His **heavenly** ministry

2. The **Content** of the Gospel of God—the Dynamic Salvation of God in Its Fullness the Essence of the Particular Items of God's Dynamic **Salvation**

Rom 1:16 - For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God unto **salvation** to everyone who believes, both to Jew first and to Greek.

Judicially

Rom 3:24 - Being **justified** freely by His grace through the **redemption** which is in Christ Jesus;

Rom 3:25 - Whom God **set** forth as a **propitiation** place through faith in His **blood**, for the demonstrating of His righteousness, in that in His forbearance God passed over the sins that had previously occurred,

Organically

Rom 5:10 - For if we, being enemies, were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more we will be **saved** in **His life**, having been reconciled,

Scripture Readings:

To redeem **judicially** – 1Pet. 2:24; Rev. 1:5; John 3:18; Eph 1:7; 1Cor 6:11; Heb 10:10

To save **organically** – Titus 3:5; 1Pet.1:3; John 3:3, 5; 1:12-13; Heb 2:10; 1Thes. 5:23; Titus 3:5

3. The **Structure** of the Gospel of God—the **Righteousness** of God, the **Life** of Christ, and the **Faith** of the Believers

- (1) The Essence of the **Righteousness** of God
- (2) The Essence of the **Life** of Christ
- (3) The Essence of the **Faith** of the Believers

The Righteousness of God

Rom 1:17 - For the righteousness of God is revealed in it out of faith to faith, as it is written,
“But the **righteous** shall have life and live by faith.”

Rom 3:20 - Because **out of the works** of the law **no flesh shall be justified** before Him; for through the law is the clear knowledge of sin.

Rom 10:4 - For Christ is the **end** of the law unto **righteousness** to everyone who believes.

Objectively - Believers’ Righteousness justified before God

Rom 3:24 - Being **justified freely** by His grace through the **redemption** which is in Christ Jesus;

Rom 3:25 - Whom God **set** forth as a **propitiation** place through faith in His blood, for the demonstrating of His righteousness, in that in His forbearance God **passed** over the sins that had previously occurred,

Rom 3:26 - With a view to the demonstrating of His righteousness in the present time, so that He might be righteous and the One who **justifies** him who is of the **faith** of Jesus.

Subjectively - Believers’ Righteousness lived out

Rom 4:25 - Who was delivered for our offenses and was raised for our **justification**.

The Life of Christ

Rom 1:17 - For the righteousness of God is revealed in it out of faith to faith, as it is written,
“But the righteous shall have **life** and live by faith.”

Rom 5:10 - For if we, being enemies, were **reconciled** to God through the death of His Son, much more we will be **saved in His life**, having been reconciled,

Producing & Multiplying

Rom 8:29 - Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the image of His **Son**, that He might be the **Firstborn** among **many brothers**;

Imparting

Rom 8:11 - And if the Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also **give life** to your **mortal bodies** through His Spirit who **indwells** you.

Moving – enjoying life and peace

Rom 8:5 - For those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the spirit, the **things of the Spirit**.

Rom 8:6 - For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the **mind set** on the spirit is **life** and **peace**.

Sanctifying

Rom 6:19 - I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto **sanctification**.

Rom 6:20 - For when you were slaves of sin, you were **free** with regard to righteousness.

Renewing

Rom 12:2 - And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the **renewing** of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Transforming

Rom 12:2a - And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be **transformed**...

Conforming

Rom 8:29 - Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated *to be* **conformed** to the image of His **Son**, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

Glorifying

Rom 8:21 - In hope that the creation itself will also be **freed** from the slavery of corruption into the freedom of the **glory** of the children of God.

Rom 8:23 - And not only *so*, but we ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan in ourselves, eagerly awaiting **sonship**, the **redemption of our body**.

Rom 8:30 - And those whom He predestinated, these He also called; and those whom He called, these He also justified; and those whom He justified, these He also **glorified**.

The Faith of the Believers

Rom 3:22 - Even the righteousness of God through the **faith of Jesus Christ** to all those who **believe**, for there is no distinction;

Rom 5:1 - Therefore having been **justified** out of **faith**, we have peace toward God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rom 5:2 - Through whom also we have obtained **access** by **faith** into this grace in which we stand and boast because of the hope of the glory of God.

Rom 10:9 - That if you **confess** with your mouth **Jesus** as Lord and **believe** in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be **saved**;

Rom 10:10 - For with the heart there is **believing** unto righteousness, and with the mouth there is confession unto **salvation**.

Rom 10:17 - So **faith** *comes* out of **hearing**, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Rom 12:3 - For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think more highly *of himself* than he ought to think, but to think so as to be sober-minded, as God has apportioned to each a **measure** of **faith**.

Rom 1:12 - That is, that I with *you* may be encouraged among you through the **faith** which is in one another, both yours and mine.

Rom 1:8 - First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all because your **faith** is **proclaimed** throughout the whole world.

Rom 1:5 - Through whom we have received grace and apostleship unto the **obedience** of **faith** among all the Gentiles on behalf of His name,

Scripture Readings:

Objective faith of the believers – Eph. 4:13; 1Tim.1:19; 2Tim.4:7
Subjective faith of the believers – Gal.2:20; Heb 11:6
Definition of faith – Heb. 11:1
Source of faith – John 10:35; John 1:1; Eph. 6:17; 6:63; Gal.2:20; 2Cor. 5:7; Heb.12:2; Eph. 3:17; 2Pet.1:1; Eph.2:8; 1Tim 1:14

4. The **Divine Transfer** of the Believers from **Adam to Christ**

In Adam

Rom 3:23 - For all have **sinned** and fall short of the glory of God,

Rom 7:17 - Now then *it is* no longer I *that* work it out but **sin** that **dwells** in me.

Rom 5:10 - For if we, being **enemies**, were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more we will be saved in His life, having been reconciled,

Rom 8:7 - Because the **mind set on the flesh** is **enmity** against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, for neither can it be.

Rom 8:8 - And those who are in the **flesh** cannot please God.

Scripture Readings:

In **Adam** – Eph. 2:1,5; Col 2:13; Eph 2:2; Matt:12:26; Col 1:13; Acts 26:18; 1John 2:15-16; 5:19; John 12:31; 3:18, 36; Heb. 9:27; John 3:16; Rev 21:8; Gal 2:16; Eph. 2:2-3.

We are **regenerated** in Christ in resurrection (1 Pet. 1:3); in this rebirth the **divine transfer** takes place and **transfers** us out of **Adam into Christ**.

In Christ

Rom 3:24 - Being **justified** freely by His grace through the **redemption** which is in Christ Jesus;

Rom 8:14 - For as many as are **led** by the **Spirit of God**, these are **sons** of God.

Sanctified

Rom 15:16 - That I might be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, a laboring priest of the gospel of God, in order that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, having been **sanctified** in the Holy Spirit.

Renewed

Rom 12:2 - And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the **renewing** of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Transformed

Rom 12:2 - And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be **transformed** by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Conformed

Rom 8:29 - Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated *to be* **conformed** to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;

Glorified

Rom 8:30 - And those whom He predestinated, these He also called; and those whom He called, these He also justified; and those whom He justified, these He also **glorified**.

Scripture Readings:

Chosen & predestinated – Eph. 1:4-5

In Christ **judicially** – Eph. 1:7

In Christ **organically** – 1Pet. 1:3; Eph. 1:22-23; 2Cor. 3:18

We are **delivered out of the evil kingdom of Satan**

Rom 6:7 - For he who has **died** is **justified** from **sin**.

Rom 7:11 - For sin, seizing the opportunity through the commandment, **deceived** me and through it killed *me*.

Rom 7:17 - Now then *it is* no longer I *that* work it out but **sin** that **dwells** in me.

Rom 7:18 - For I know that in me, that is, in my **flesh**, **nothing good** dwells; for to will is present with me, but to work out the good is not.

Rom 7:19 - For I do not do the good which I will; but the **evil** which I do not will, this **I practice**.

Rom 7:20 - But if what I do not will, this I do, *it is* **no longer I that** work it out but **sin** that **dwells** in me.

Rom 7:21 - I find then the law with me who wills to do the good, that is, the **evil** is **present** with me.

Rom 7:22 - For I delight in the law of God according to the inner man,

Rom 7:23 - **But** I see a **different law** in my members, **warring** against the law of my mind and making me a **captive** to the **law of sin** which is in my members.

Rom 8:20 - For the creation was made subject to **vanity**, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected *it*,

Rom 8:21 - In hope that the creation itself will also be freed from the **slavery** of **corruption** into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

Scripture Readings:

Delivered out from the kingdom of Satan – Col 1:13; Gal. 5:1

We are more than **conquerors** and the **kings to reign in the eternal life forever**

Rom 8:35 - **Who shall separate** us from the **love** of Christ? Shall tribulation or anguish or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?

Rom 8:36 - As it is written, “For Your sake we are being **put to death** all day long; we have been accounted as sheep for slaughter.”

Rom 8:37 - But in all these things we more than **conquer** through Him who loved us.
 Rom 8:38 - For I am persuaded that neither death **nor** life nor angels nor principalities **nor** things present **nor** things to come nor powers
 Rom 8:39 - **Nor** height nor depth **nor** any other creature **will be able to separate us** from the **love** of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
 Rom 5:17 - For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the **abundance of grace** and of the **gift of righteousness** will **reign in life** through the One, Jesus Christ.
 Rom 5:21 - In order that just as sin reigned in death, so also **grace might reign** through righteousness unto **eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Scripture Readings:

Royal **priesthood** – 1Pet. 2:5,9
 To **overcome** (Satan, world) – Rev. 12:11; 1John 5:5

5. The **Spirit of Life**

Rom 8:2 - For the law of the **Spirit of life** has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Scripture Readings:

The Spirit of God – Gen. 1:2; Judg. 3:10; 6:34; 11:29; Luke 1:15, 35; Matt. 1:18
 The Spirit was **not yet** – John 7:39; Luke 24:26;
 The Spirit through and in resurrection – Phil. 1:19-21
 The type of the holy **anointing** ointment – Exodus 30:23-28; 2Cor 1:21-22; 1John 2:20, 27
 The **seven-fold** Spirit – Rev. 1:4; 4:5; 5:6
 The **Spirit** and the **bride** – Rev. 22:17

6. The **Human Spirit** of the **Believers**

Rom 1:9 - For God is my witness, whom I **serve** in my **spirit** in the gospel of His Son, how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers,
 Rom 7:6 - But now we have been discharged from the law, having died to that in which we were held, so that we serve in **newness** of **spirit** and not in oldness of letter.
 Rom 8:4 - That the **righteous requirement** of the law might be **fulfilled** in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the **spirit**.
 Rom 8:5 - For those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the **spirit**, the **things** of the Spirit.
 Rom 8:6 - For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the **mind set** on the **spirit** is life and peace.
 Rom 8:9 - But you are not in the flesh, but in the **spirit**, if indeed the Spirit of God **dwells in you**. Yet if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of Him.
 Rom 8:10 - But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the **spirit** is **life** because of righteousness.
 Rom 8:11 - And if the **Spirit** of the One who raised Jesus from the dead **dwells in you**, He who raised Christ from the dead will also **give life** to your mortal bodies through His **Spirit** who **indwells you**.
 Rom 8:15 - For you have not received a **spirit** of slavery *bringing you* into fear again, but you have **received** a **spirit** of sonship in which we cry, Abba, Father!
 Rom 8:16 - The Spirit Himself witnesses with our **spirit** that we are children of God.
 Rom 12:11 - Do not be slothful in zeal, *but* be **burning** in **spirit**, serving the Lord.

Scripture Readings:

The three **parts** of man – Gen. 1:26; 2:7; Prov. 20:27; 1 Thes. 5:23; Heb. 4:12
 The **function** of the three parts of man – Zech. 12:1; John 4:24; Prov. 20:27
 The spirit of the OT saints – Job 32:8, 18; Psa. 51:12
 The spirit in **relation** to God's economy – John 3:3, 6; 2Tim. 4:22; Eph. 1:17; 2:22; 3:16; 4:23; 5:18; 6:18; 2Tim 1:6-7;
Paul in spirit – Acts 17:16; 19:21; 20:22;
Apollos in his spirit – Acts 18:25

Apostle John in spirit	– Rev 1:10-3:22; 4:2-16:21; 17:3-20:15; 21:1-22:5
Discernment of the spirit	– Luke 1:46-47; Heb 4:12
Denying the soul	– Matt. 16:24-25; Luke 9:23-24

7. The Most Marvelous, Excellent, Mysterious, and All-inclusive **Transformations** of the Eternal and Triune God in His **Becoming a Man**

- Rom 8:3** - For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own **Son** in the **likeness of the flesh of sin** and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,
- Rom 6:6** - Knowing this, that our old man has been **crucified** with *Him* in order that the **body of sin** might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;
- Rom 8:29** - Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated *to be* **conformed** to the image of His **Son**, that He might be the **Firstborn** among many brothers;
- Rom 8:34** - Who is he who condemns? It is **Christ Jesus** who **died** and, rather, who was **raised**, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.
- Rom 8:26** - Moreover, in like manner the **Spirit** also joins in to help *us* in our weakness, for we do not know for what we should pray as is fitting, but the Spirit Himself **intercedes** for *us* with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Scripture Readings:

In His becoming flesh	– John 1:14
In His human living	– ...
In His all-problem-solving death	– 2Cor. 5:21; John 1:29; John 3:14; Num 21:4-9; Heb 2:14; John 12:31; Eph. 2:14-16; John 12:24
In His all-conquering resurrection	– Acts 13:33; 1Pet.1:3; 1Cor.15:45; Exo. 30:23-25
In His all-transcending ascension	– Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18; Acts 2:36; 5:31; Heb. 4:14; 7:26; 9:11, 15; 7:22; 1 John 2:1; John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7; Heb 8:2

8. The **Designation** of Christ's **Humanity**

- Rom 1:3** - Concerning His Son, who came out of the **seed of David** according to the **flesh**,
- Rom 1:4** - Who was **designated** the **Son of God** in power according to the **Spirit of holiness** out of the **resurrection** of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
- Rom 8:3** - For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the **likeness of the flesh of sin** and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,
- Rom 8:29** - Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the **image** of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
- Rom 8:19** - For the anxious watching of the creation eagerly awaits the revelation of the **sons of God**.

Scripture Readings:

Christ's human nature	– John 3:14; Num. 21:4-9; 2Cor.5:21; Heb.2:14; John 12:31
Christ's divine nature	– John 11:25
Christ' death	– 1Pet. 3:18
The designation	– John 12:23; Luke 24:25-26; Acts 13:33; 1Pet. 1:3; Eph 2:6a
Two statuses (only begotten Son of God)	– Rom. 9:5; John 1:18; Psa. 90:2; Matt. 28:19
(firstborn Son of God)	– Rom. 8:29; Acts 13:33; Matt 26:64; Acts 7:55-56; Rev. 1:13; Heb 1:6

9. The **Grace** of **God**

[see fellowship on the church website – The Grace of God]

10. The **Announcing** of the **Gospel**

- Rom 1:1** - Paul, a **slave** of Christ Jesus, a called apostle, separated unto the **gospel of God**,

Rom 1:13 - And I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, that often I **purposed** to come to you (yet was hindered until the present), that I might **have some fruit** among you also, even as among the rest of the Gentiles.

Rom 1:15 - So, for my part, I am ready to **announce** the **gospel** to you also who are in Rome.

Rom 10:14 - How then shall they call upon *Him* into whom they have not **believed**? And how shall they believe *into Him* of whom they have not **heard**? And how shall they hear without one who **proclaims Him**?

Rom 10:15 - And how shall they **proclaim Him** unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who **announce** the **news** of **good things**!”

Rom 15:16 - That I might be a **minister** of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, a **laboring priest** of the **gospel of God**, in order that the **offering** of the Gentiles might be acceptable, having been sanctified in the Holy Spirit.

Rom 15:19 - In the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum, I have fully **preached** the **gospel of Christ**,

Scripture Readings:

Paul's High Standard in Announcing the Gospel:

A chosen vessel	– Acts 9:15;
Appointed minister & a witness	– Acts 26:16;
A steward of the grace of God	– Eph. 3:2;
Separated unto the Gospel	– Gal. 1:15-16;
Commissioned as a herald	– 1Tim. 2:7; 2Tim. 1:11;
As ambassador	– Eph. 6:19-20;
To announce Christ	– 1Tim 1:15; Gal. 1:15-16; Eph. 3:8, 4; 6:19;
To beget believers	– 1Cor. 4:15
For the building up of the Body of Christ	– Eph 4:11-12
Burdened	– 1Cor. 9:16-23; 2Tim. 4:2,6; Phil. 1:5, 27; 2Cor. 10:15-16

The Commission of the Lord as the Christ of God:

All authority had been given to Him	– Matt. 28:18-20;
He charged His disciples	– Mark 16:14-15; Luke 24:46-48; John 15:16
To be His witnesses	– Acts 1:2-9; 2:32-36; 5:30-32; 8:12
Tell out the virtues of God	– 1Pet. 2:9; 1Pet 4:17
Calling of the Spirit and the bride	– Rev. 22:17

October 7 – December 13, 2024
CIR Church CS Pursuit