

The Just Shall Live By Faith

Lesson 4

Anticipated Questions About Justification By Grace Through Faith (Rom. 6:1 – 11:36)

Introduction

By the end of **Rom. 5**, Paul's main presentation re: man's problem of sin and God's remedy is complete. He argued that all are under sin (**3:9, 23**), and conclusively demonstrated what it means to be justified by faith and not by works of law (**3:24 – 4:25**).

Paul knew some would object to these conclusions. Thus, he anticipated these objections, and the next major section of the epistle (**Rom. 6-11**) contains the questions Paul anticipates from his detractors as well as the answers to these questions.

For the most part, the questions are asked from a Jewish perspective. This is understandable, given that Paul devoted a large portion of the epistle's first section to proving the Jews were equal with the Gentiles in terms of sin and its guilt. All the questions except one can be found in the form of Paul's rhetorical question, "*What Then?*" or "*What Shall We Say Then?*" They are either found at the start or middle of their contextual segment in this section of the epistle. These questions and their answers hit at the very core of gospel: law & its purpose, sin & its devastation, the comfort God provides His people, the absolute sovereignty of God, and the plan God always had for Israel, His first covenant people.

Question #1 → *Shall We Continue In Sin That Grace Might Increase?* (6:1-14)

1. Connect this question back to the previous context. (**5:20-21**)
2. How does Paul initially answer this question? (**v. 2a**)
3. How does the apostle expound upon his answer in **vv. 2b-7**? What "symbolic truth" is presented in **vv. 3-4**?
4. In what way do **vv. 5-7** provide the *real* answer to this question?

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5. Given Paul's arguments in vv. 3-7, what points does he make in vv. 8-11 to reiterate what he has already said?
6. How does Paul conclude his answer to this first anticipated question? (vv. 12-14) What other passage(s) can you find in the N.T. to complement these verses?

Question #2 → *Shall We Sin Because We Are Not Under Law But Under Grace?* (6:15 - 7:6)

7. Connect this question back to the discussion of the previous question.
8. How does Paul initially answer this question? (6:15b) How does he expound upon his answer in 6:16-18? With respect to this question, what had Paul's readers already proven about themselves? *Thought question:* what do you think is meant by "form of teaching"? (6:17)
9. What points does Paul bring out about sin in 6:19-23? Specifically, explain 6:20.
10. For those who still maintained "*We're not under law but under grace,*" how does Paul answer them in 7:1-3? What is the obvious application in 7:4, and how does this answer the second question?

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11. In 7:5-6, how does Paul characterize the difference between the Law of Moses and the gospel of Christ?

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| Question #3 → <i>Is The Law Sin? (7:7-23)</i> |
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12. Connect this question back to the discussion of the previous question.
13. How does Paul initially answer? (v. 7a) On the contrary, how does Paul describe the general nature of the Law? (v. 7b)
14. In vv. 8-11, Paul uses "anthropomorphism" [*giving something non-human human-like characteristics*]. How would this help his readers understand law and sin? List the points found in these verses that directly address the 3rd question.
15. To make his conclusion up to this point, what "question within a question" is asked and answered in vv. 12-13?

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19. What was the goal of Christ's efforts? **(8:4)** Be able to explain, "...*that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us,...*"

20. What 2 mindsets does Paul set forth in **8:5-8**, and what characterizes each? Provide other passage(s) that support your answer.

21. How does Paul describe the "spiritual person" in **8:9-11**? How could these verses be misused? What other passage(s) in the N.T. help us properly understand them?

22. Because of what Christ has done, what "obligation" are Christians under? **(8:12-17)** What blessings result when one is "led by the Spirit"? **(8:14-17)**

23. Being uncondemned and free often leads us where? **(8:17b-18)** What is the proper mindset the Christian should have? What other N.T. verse(s) correspond to **Rom. 8:18**?

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24. What do you think is meant by "creation" in **8:19-22**? Why did God so act? (**8:20b-21**)
25. Depending on your answer to the previous question, who is Paul discussing in **8:23-25**? Who would be the "first fruits of the Spirit"? (**8:23**)
26. Just as hope leads us through sufferings, how does the Holy Spirit help us when we are suffering? (**8:26-27**) What 1 abiding truth should Christians who suffer keep in mind? (**8:28**)
Thought question: provide Biblical examples of this from either the O.T or N.T.
27. How does Paul conclude his discussion of those who are the "called of God?" (**8:29-30**) In what way could we view **8:30** as a picture from "eternity to eternity?" How does this verse bring to a fitting end the discussion on the Christian's sufferings?

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Question #5 → *If God Is For Us, Who Can Be Against Us?* (8:31-39)

28. Be able to connect this question back to the previous verses. (cp. 8:18, 26, 28)

29. How does Paul answer this question with a question? (v. 32b) How does v. 32a illustrate just how much God has invested in humanity?

30. *Thought questions:* what promise did Jesus make to His apostles about God being “for them”? (Mt. 10:16-20; 28:20) What are disciples promised today? (Heb. 13:5-6)

31. What is the next question Paul asks to prove God cares for His children? (v. 33a) Be able to define “charge.” (Acts 19:40; 23:28-29; 26:2, 7)

32. How have Christ and His followers been treated in such a way? (Mt. 26:59-61; Acts 6:11; Mt. 5:11; 1 Pet. 2:12)

33. In what 2 substantive ways does Paul show we shouldn't worry about others falsely accusing us? (vv. 33b-34; cp. 1 Jn. 2:1; Heb. 4:15; 2:18) *Thought question:* in v. 34, what 4 great truths are presented about Jesus Christ that emphasize what He can do for His disciples?

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34. What final question does Paul ask to prove God cares for His children? (v. 35a) What types of “things” are mentioned in vv. 35b, 38-39a that cannot separate us from God?

35. What is the one “thing” Paul omits that can separate us from God? (Isa. 59:1-2; Eph. 2:1-3, 12-13)

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| Question #6 → <i>Is There Unrighteousness With God?</i> (9:1 - 10:21) |
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36. Be able to transition what Paul has presented up this point into this question.

37. Even though Paul's fleshly kinsmen would disagree with what he has taught, how does the apostle feel about them? (9:1-3) Be able to define “accursed.” (Josh. 6:17; Gal. 1:8-9)

38. What benefits had Israel previously enjoyed? (9:4-5; cp. 3:1-2) Despite this, what was the Jews' plight over which Paul was so grieved?

39. What could the Jews not blame? (9:6a) In proving the unworthiness of such an accusation, what principle about God does Paul emphasize in 9:6b-13? (cp. 2:28-29) What 2 examples from Israel's history does he use to illustrate his point?

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40. How does Paul exonerate God in **9:14-18**? It is well within God's rights to do what 2 things? (**v. 18**) What illustrations does Paul use? Upon what does it not depend, and upon what is it based? (**v. 16**) Thought question: what ability of God is emphasized in this section?
41. What do you think is Paul's point in **9:19**? [*Hint: connect this back to the previous verses*]
42. In answering the Jews' anticipated question in **v. 19**, what Divine right of God does Paul remind them about? (**9:20-21**) Be able to explain "*vessels of wrath prepared for destruction*" as well as "*vessels of mercy...prepared beforehand for glory*," supporting your answer with other Scripture(s). (**9:22-23**)
43. Toward what conclusion has Paul been aiming his Jewish brethren? (**9:24**) For those Jews who would reject Paul's teaching, how does he provide corroboration? (**9:25-29**) Be able to cite and explain each prophecy he uses.
44. In ending this particular discussion, what comparison does Paul make in **9:30-31**. Be able to identify the difference Paul mentions between the Jew & the Gentile?

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45. Why did the Jews, as a whole, fail? (9:32) In so doing, what prophecy did they fulfill? (9:33) Where else is this prophecy used in the N.T.?
46. In continuing his defense of God and His word, to what topic does Paul return in 10:1-3? (9:1-3,7-8) What wasn't Israel's problem? (10:2) What was her problem? (Mt. 5:20; 6:1-7)
47. What had Paul previously taught about God's righteousness? (1:17) What bearing does that have on the predicament Paul describes here about the Jews? (10:3)
48. What is meant by "Christ is the end of the law for righteousness..."? (10:4; Mt. 3:15; 5:17)
49. In 10:5-21, Paul explains again salvation by grace through faith:
- How is salvation *not* gained? (v. 5)
 - What does Paul describe to illustrate salvation is not impossible? (vv. 6-7)
 - How simple is salvation in Christ? (vv. 8-10)

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- d) What does the Scripture say re: such salvation? (v. 11) From where does Paul quote?

- e) How universal is salvation? (vv. 12-13) Explain "*Whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*" Cite supporting scripture(s).

- f) What plays a central role in exposing man to the salvation God intends for him? (vv. 14-15)

- g) Even though the word has been preached "to every creature under heaven" (Col. 1:23), what reality does Paul emphasize in v. 16? From where does faith come? (v. 17)

- h) How does Paul show that God's plan to save all mankind through the gospel should not have been a new thing to Israel? (vv. 18-20)

- i) In what prophetic way is Israel described? (v. 21) From where is this prophecy?

Question #7 → *Has God Cast Away His People?* (11:1-36)

50. Be able to connect this question back to the previous discussion.

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51. How does Paul initially answer? (v. 1a) What implication does Paul use in beginning to answer this question? (v. 1b) In giving a lengthier answer, what is his illustration, and how does he make his application? (vv. 2-6)
52. To what comparison does Paul return in vv. 7-10? (9:18) From where does he quote? *Thought question*: why could Israel not obtain that which she sought? (v. 7)
53. In vv. 11-24, Paul addresses the Gentiles re: the Jews' salvation:
- a) Did the Jews stumble so as to eternally fall? (v. 11)

 - b) For what 2 purposes did the Jews stumble? (vv. 11-12, 14)

 - c) For what did Paul hope for re: the Jews' rejection of Christ? (v. 15)

 - d) What do you believe Paul's point to be in v. 16?

 - e) What image does Paul use in vv. 17-24? Be able to identify the following parts:

Wild olive branches _____

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Natural branches _____

The root _____

- f) When this image is completed, what kind of tree is displayed? How has this tree changed?
54. Still speaking to the Gentiles, how does Paul exhort them in vv. 25-32?
55. Who do you think is "all Israel" in v. 26? Of what 2 perspectives re: the Jews does Paul remind the Gentiles about in v. 28? Again, how is God vindicated? (v. 29)
56. How does Paul close out this 2nd main section of the epistle (chs. 6-11) in vv. 33-36? What characteristic about God does Paul praise?