The Romans Road (Salvation from Hell and Eternal Life)



The Romans Road to salvation is a way of explaining the Gospel or good news of salvation and eternal life through Jesus Christ by using specific verses from the book of Romans. The Romans Road is a simple yet powerful method of explaining why every person needs salvation, how God provided salvation, how we can receive salvation, and what are the results of salvation and eternal life. Let's take a journey on the Roman's Road. My prayer is that it will lead to your salvation from Hell and grant you eternal life with God in Heaven.

1. Everyone has sinned – Romans 3:23 (BAD NEWS)

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."



Don't deceive yourself. We are all sinners who have fallen short (missed the mark) of the glory of God's moral perfection and purity. We have broken God's holy laws and offended Him. Sin is what separates us from God (Isa. 59:2). God cannot accept sinners in His presence. Ecclesiastes 7:20 says, "For *there is* not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not." We are all sinners. You cannot wiggle out of it! In one sense, we are sinners in the hands of an angry God for we have offended His holiness (Psalm 7:11-13; John 3:36). But at the same time, we are sinners in the hands of a loving God for we can escape His wrath through the sacrifice of His Son (John 3:16). God hates the sin but loves the sinner!

2. Everyone is unrighteous and cannot do good in God's eyes to earn or merit their salvation – Romans 3:10-11 (BAD NEWS)

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God."

Even the "good things" (righteous deeds) unsaved people do are not viewed by God as good works that can make them fit for Heaven for God views these works as tainted by the sins of self, pride, and legalism (something I can do to merit Heaven). Therefore, God views our acts of goodness "as filthy rags" in His sight (Isaiah 64:6). Salvation is "by grace through faith" (faith in Christ's sacrifice on the cross) and it is "Not of works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).



3. Everyone must face the penalty or consequences of judgment (Hell) for their sins – Romans 6:23 - "The wages of sin is death" (BAD NEWS)



The "wages of sin" (God's wrath and judgment) is something we have earned as sinners. We get what is coming to us – spiritual death (separation from God) in the

place called Hell. The punishment that we have earned for our sins is not

only physical death but eternal and spiritual death in the Lake of Fire. Revelation 20:15 says, "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."



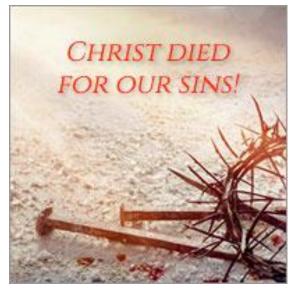
4. Everyone is loved by God – Romans 5:8 (GOOD NEWS)

"But God commendeth (*demonstrated*) his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

God loves you! Christ's death on your behalf demonstrates that God loves you as a sinner. The Heavenly Father sent His Son into the world to die on the cross to prove His love for you (John 3:16). No matter how many sins you have committed against Him, God still loves you! In fact, Jesus is the "friend of sinners" (Luke 7:34) and therefore died for us and wants to save each one of us from Hell.



5. Everyone can benefit from Christ's sacrifice on the cross – Romans 5:6, 8 (GOOD NEWS)



"For when we were yet without strength (*any ability to save ourselves*), in due time Christ died for <u>the ungodly</u>."

"But God commendeth (*demonstrated*) his love toward us, in that, <u>while we were yet</u> <u>sinners</u>, Christ died for us."

The suffering and death of Christ on the cross is the focus of our salvation from Hell. Christ died to pay the penalty and judgment for our sins. The Bible says, "Christ died for our sins" (1 Cor. 15:3) – past, present, and

future sins. This means He died because of our sins. Our sins is what nailed Christ to the cross. When Christ suffered and died on the cross all our sins were legally and judicially placed upon Him. Jesus became our substitute and was judged in our place, taking on God's wrath for all the sins we would commit against God. He died for you, as you, and in your place. Remember that Christ suffered and died on the cross to save "ungodly" people and "sinners," not good people, since there are no good sinners in God's sight. Jesus did not come "to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32) who change their minds and hearts about their sinfulness before God, their need for salvation through grace alone, and who desire forgiveness and release from their sins.

6. Everyone can receive the FREE gift of eternal life – Romans 6:23 – "but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."



A gift cannot be earned! It's free. The gift of eternal life in Heaven is a free gift that can only come through Jesus Christ who is the way to Heaven (John 14:6). The Bible says we are to "take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17) and "the fountain of the water of life freely" (Rev. 21:6) which means eternal life is always presented as a free gift to receive. Gifts are not earned. God's gift of eternal life cannot be obtained or earned through good works but is an expression of God's free grace. You must take the remedy if you are going to be saved.

Suppose a friend called you on your iPhone and said, "I have a gift for you. I'd like to give it to you today but you must come to my house to pick it up." Is your friend offering you a free gift? Yes! Did you earn this gift? No! Will going to your friend's house mean that you have earned this gift? No! It is still a gift. But if you want it, you must take it ("take the water of life freely").

This brings us to our next point as we travel on the Romans Road.

7. Everyone must express faith in Christ – Romans 10:9, 13 (GOOD NEWS)

Romans 10:9

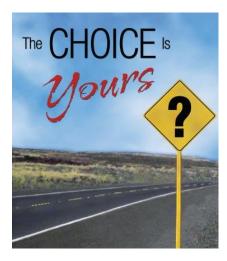
"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus (*Jesus as Lord* – God), and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

Romans 10:13

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

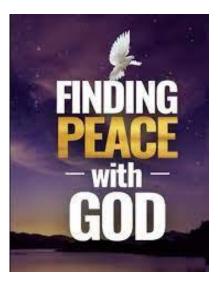


Believing (expressing faith) in the truth that Jesus is God, that He died on the cross, but also rose from the dead is the way to receive salvation and eternal life (Rom. 10:9). Calling upon Christ means to express personal faith or belief in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ to give you salvation from Hell and eternal life (Rom. 10:13). When I believe on Christ, I am expressing faith in what Christ did to save me from Hell and take me to Heaven. He died on the cross and rose again to give me eternal life.



We receive the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ by faith alone. Faith or belief in Christ is an act of our will. It's a choice. In other words, to receive the spiritual benefits of Christ's death we must express personal belief or faith in His saving transaction and provision for us. There must be a commitment of our personal faith to Christ and His saving work (2 Tim. 1:12). No person goes to Heaven by <u>default</u> but by a personal <u>decision</u> to place their faith in Christ. It's *faith alone in Christ alone by grace alone (Eph. 2:8-9)* that saves you from Hell and grants you eternal life.

In expressing faith, you must transfer your trust away from yourself and place it fully in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (His death and resurrection). When I place my faith in Christ's saving provision, I can know I'm saved. 8. Everyone who expresses faith in Christ is justified (declared legally forgiven and righteous) before God and now has a peaceful relationship of acceptance before God – Romans 5:1 (GOOD NEWS)



"Therefore being justified by faith (*declared legally forgiven and righteous before God*), we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

You cannot make peace with God through your good works, repeated confession of your sins, or anything that you do. But God can make peace with you if you place your faith in Jesus Christ to be your Savior. When you place faith in Christ, God clears the record of your guilt forever and gives you a righteous and peaceful standing in His presence. God's wrath is appeased, and you can be forever accepted before His throne in Heaven.

9. Everyone who expresses faith in Christ is no longer condemned to Hell – Romans 8:1 (GOOD NEWS)

"There is therefore now no condemnation (*not future judgment*) to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

We are delivered from God's wrath or condemnation (Hell) when we are "in Christ" (a place of safety where Christ's



death and resurrection maintains our salvation, eternal life, and acceptance before God). In this verse those "who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" is referring to the PROOF of one's salvation – not the WAY of salvation. In other words, when a person places their faith in Christ and becomes a Christian, he possesses a new nature and life that seeks to live according to God's standards and ways.

It is true and wonderful! When placing faith alone in Christ for our salvation we no longer must fear God's wrath and judgment. The guilt and penalty for our sins is gone forever and we are free! If you place your faith in Christ, you can say: I'm free from the fear of tomorrow, I'm free from the guilt of the past. For I've traded all my shackles For a glorious song, I'm free, praise the Lord free at last."

10. Everyone who expresses faith in Christ will never be separated from God's love and acceptance – Romans 8:38-39 (GOOD NEWS)



"For I am persuaded (*absolutely confident*), that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This is eternal security! God's love for us in Christ (His Son's saving sacrifice for us) is something that will never end. Nobody can ever bring a sinful charge against us when we place our faith in Christ and receive forgiveness for all our sins and eternal salvation from Hell.

Romans 8:33-34 declares:

"Who shall lay any thing to the charge (legal record or account) of God's elect? (to those who place faith in Christ and become God's chosen children) It is God that justifieth (declares us legally forgiven and righteous before Himself). Who is he that condemneth? (who can bring a sinful and condemning sentence against us that would result in God's judgment) It is Christ that died (taking the punishment for all our sins and providing us with complete pardon and forgiveness), yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us" (declaring us forgiven forever, saved forever, and righteous forever before His heavenly throne).

God's love for us never ends! This means eternal life can never end! God maintains His love for us based upon Christ's sacrifice which has provided us with legal forgiveness before God's throne, a righteous standing, and no condemnation. Therefore, each one of us can be sure that "The gift of God is eternal life" (Romans 6:23). It's the gift that keeps on giving!

Our security is found in Christ's paying the judgment or fine for our sins and rising from the dead to give us eternal life. This is what Jesus promised.

John 6:47

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life."

Believe in Christ and His promise of eternal life and you can go to Heaven when you die.



Have you been walking on the Romans Road that leads to salvation and eternal life? If so, you might sense your need to be forgiven of all your sins and saved from Hell? Below is a simple prayer you can express to God. Saying this prayer is a way to declare to God that you are relying on Jesus Christ for your salvation and eternal life.

Reciting a prayer cannot save you! The words themselves will not save you. Only faith in Jesus Christ can provide salvation! But right now, you can place your faith in Jesus Christ.

Fully trust His death as the sufficient sacrifice to provide forgiveness for your sins and His resurrection to grant you eternal life. Completely rely on Christ alone to be your personal Savior.

Here is the personal prayer that may help you express your faith in Christ:

"God, I know that I have sinned against You, and I am deserving of punishment in Hell. But I recognize that Jesus Christ took the punishment that I deserve so that through faith in Christ's death and resurrection I can be forgiven, saved from Hell, and granted eternal life in Heaven. Today, I place my trust in Jesus Christ (His sacrificial death and resurrection) for my personal salvation. I express faith alone in Christ alone and take the free gift of salvation and eternal life that He provides and offers to me. Thank You for Your wonderful grace and forgiveness. In Jesus' name, Amen."