



Module Description

Module: Romans (BT80601)
20 Units (40 Study Hours) 6 Credits
Lecturer: Rev John Brand

DESCRIPTION: "Romans is Paul's fullest, grandest, most comprehensive statement of the gospel. Its compressed declarations of vast truths are like coiled springs – once loosed, they leap through mind and heart to fill one's horizon and shape one's life...From the vantage point given by Romans, the whole landscape of the Bible is open to view, and the relation of the parts to the whole becomes plain. The study of Romans is vitally necessary for the spiritual health and insight of the Christian." (The Reformation Study Bible)

OBJECTIVES: This module is intended to open up one of the most important individual books of the Bible to the student, showing how it brings together so many of the Bible's greatest themes, and to do so in a way that will increase the student's knowledge and appreciation of biblical truth and further equip them in their understanding and effective communication of the good news of the gospel.

As a result of the student's successful completion of this module, s/he will:

Head: know the overall structure and message of the book of Romans and be familiar with its important doctrinal themes

Heart: feel their heart strangely warmed as they more deeply appreciate the immeasurable dimensions of grace and the momentous truth of justification by faith

have an increased confidence in the power of the gospel for the salvation of all who believe

Hand: be able to explain the major arguments and teachings of Romans

READING: Recommended Commentaries:

Hendriksen, W *Romans* Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1980

MacArthur, J *Romans (2 vols)* Chicago: Moody Press, 1994

Morris, L *The Epistle to the Romans* Leicester: IVP, 1988

Murray, J *The Epistle to the Romans* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1968

Olyott, S *The Gospel as it Really Is* Darlington: Evangelical Press, 1979

ASSIGNMENT: Students are required to submit an assignment on **TWO** of the following topics, each assignment should be 750 words

- i. Drawing on our studies in the opening chapters of Romans, answer the question: *What is wrong with man?* Your answer should explain both the cause and effects of the problem and should give clear, biblical supporting evidence.
- ii. Detail and explain the main components of the gospel, as taught in Romans, with reference to Paul's arguments and reasoning.
- iii. From Romans 9-11 : These chapters have often been seen as a divergence from the rest of the book. How would you refute that position?
- iv. From Romans 14 : "*anything which Scripture does not forbid is lawful for the Christian*" – True or False? Discuss.