

# “The Romans Road Rebooted”–Part 5

APRIL 27, 2014

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## ***Is there much difference between the JEW here and most AMERICAN CHRISTIANS today? (2:25-29)***

✚ ***I want to be very careful in not reading into this more than we should, but would rather draw a line of consistency to our teaching amongst the “Reformed” crowd regarding our identification with Christ.***

**1. In regards to the New Covenant, we see that BAPTISM is the equivalent to CIRCUMCISION and we must keep that in mind as we walk through this passage of Scripture.**

✚ **ACTS 2:37-39 (ESV)**

<sup>37</sup>Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”<sup>38</sup> And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”<sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

✚ **GENESIS 17:9-14 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup>And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.”<sup>10</sup> This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised.”<sup>11</sup> You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you.”<sup>12</sup> He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring,”<sup>13</sup> both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant.”<sup>14</sup> Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

**2. Baptism, like circumcision is a COVENANT SIGN between God and His people that IDENTIFIES us with Him.**

✚ **GENESIS 17:11 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup>You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you.

✚ **MATTHEW 28:18-20 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**3. Therefore, it is the REALITY, not the SIGN that is the vital thing to be POSSESSED regardless of Jewishness or Christian-likeness.**

• **ROMANS 6:1-4 (ESV)**

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?<sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?”<sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?<sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

- **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

- **JAMES 1:19-25 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. <sup>21</sup> Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

- **1 JOHN 2:3-6 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. <sup>4</sup> Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, <sup>5</sup> but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: <sup>6</sup> whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

**4. This is why so much of American Christianity is so infatuated with making a profession of the ABCs of becoming a Christian type of faith by walking an aisle and saying this little prayer...it is because our application of the SIGN has more significance than the REALITY of what it represents.**

- **EPHESIANS 2:8-9 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- **JOHN 1:12-13 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

**5. Our baptism, like circumcision is not only OUTWARDLY, but INWARDLY by the HOLY SPIRIT.**

- **JOHN 3:1-8 (ESV)**

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

- **EPHESIANS 5:25-27 (ESV)**

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

***Is there an ADVANTAGE in being a CHRISTIAN? (3:1-8)***

**1. Remember, we have been entrusted with the very WORD OF GOD!**

- **TITUS 1:1-3 (ESV)**

*Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness,<sup>2</sup> in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began<sup>3</sup> and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior...*

- **1 PETER 2:9 (ESV)**

*<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

## **2. The UNFAITHFULNESS of others does not nullify the PURPOSE or FAITHFULNESS of God!**

- **JOHN 21:15-22 (ESV)**

*<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs."<sup>16</sup> He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep."<sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."<sup>18</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go."<sup>19</sup> (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."*

*<sup>20</sup>Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?"<sup>21</sup> When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?"<sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!"*

## **3. The UNRIGHTEOUSNESS of this world and in the American Church does not nullify our OBEDIENCE to the COMMANDS of God!**

- **ROMANS 12:1-2 (ESV)**

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.<sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

- **2 CORINTHIANS 6:14-18 (ESV)**

*<sup>14</sup>Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?<sup>15</sup> What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?<sup>16</sup> What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said,*

*"I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."<sup>17</sup> Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,<sup>18</sup> and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."*

## **4. We must remain FAITHFUL to the TASK given to us.**

- **2 TIMOTHY 4:1-5 (ESV)**

*I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:<sup>2</sup> preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.<sup>3</sup> For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,<sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.<sup>5</sup> As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

- **2 CORINTHIANS 10:5-6 (ESV)**

*<sup>5</sup>We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,<sup>6</sup> being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.*