Logos Class

Book of Romans
Ch 14

Class for Nov 8, 2026

Rooms 123/124 Adult Ed Building

Before we start...

Special Announcement for Connection Group Teachers

Logos Training Is This Wednesday!

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

This Wednesday, we're offering a special Logos Bible Software training opportunity at First Redeemer Church, and I want to encourage every Connection Group teacher to attend.

This is practical, hands-on training designed to help you study Scripture more effectively and prepare meaningful Bible lessons.

Two Sessions Available

Afternoon: 1:00–3:00 PM

Evening: 5:30–7:30 PM (childcare available)

FREE REGISTRATION CODE:

CGLEADER

To register, visit www.firstredeemer.org, select the **Events** page, and find the Logos Training event. Use code **CGLEADER** for free admission.

Connection Group teachers who attend will receive a FREE one-year Logos Pro software license, valued at $150!

Both sessions cover the same material, so you only need to attend one. Regular substitute teachers are welcome, too!

Seats are limited to 40 per session, so please register as soon as possible.

Logos software will enhance your study capability and increase your Bible knowledge.

Each student in RBI, gets a free license and we use it in class and for our homework.

If you ever wanted to get deeper in God's Word, this is a great way to do it without any cost to you.

Think about it and register if you see something you are interested in pursuing.

Several of us in the class use it. It would be a great resource.

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Election 2026 Midterms

Results may have been exactly what you wanted or opposite of what you wanted, but either way...today Jesus is still on His throne, and the world is progressing toward its predicted future.

The future will be challenging, and Christians are to be Salt and Light regardless of our situation. Instead of complaining, do something positive for the Kingdom.

We are more and more a Romans 1 world. Now like then, we are to follow the Lord, obey His Word, and our Christian Worldview will be challenged, perhaps like we have not seen in our lifetimes, but we know the end of the story.

Stay positive, stay focused, and keep loving each other and remember who you are.

God bless you all...

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓*Oct 4, 2026.* *Romans Ch 9*
- ✓*Oct 11, 2026* *Romans Ch 10*
- ✓*Oct 18, 2026* *Romans Ch 11*
- ✓*Oct 25, 2026* *Romans Ch 12*
- ✓*Nov 1, 2026 EST* *Romans Ch 13*
- ✓*Nov 8, 2026* *Romans Ch 14*
- *Nov 15, 2026* *Romans Ch 15*
- *Nov 22, 2026* *Romans Ch 16*

***Calendar note**: Logos Class Christmas Party – Hold Dec 12*

Quick Update ...*ICYMI*

Middle East

- *Israel continues its efforts against Hezbollah, and Hamas, and internal terrorism*
- *Houthis, with Iranian backing, attacking Saudi Arabia.*
- *Elections in Israel not conclusive . Most likely scenario is another election...a pivot point*

US/Worldwide

- *US Elections will change both US internal directions and relations with Israel, plus Iran War plans*
- *Most likely a flurry of activity while Trump still has both houses*
- *The Russia-Ukraine war is hard to understand where we are...*
- *European countries are on fire...France, Spain, UK,. Rioters are everywhere. Massive destruction by immigrants against institutions sowing chaos*
- *Relations and trade issues with Canada and Europe are at a change point*

Chaos everywhere, Antisemitism rampaging, Anti Christian activities, Anti Western too

Elections *– Both Israel and the US have made their voices heard. Not only by thse in power, but by God Himself.*

Our responses are critical

Jeremiah 18:1-11 The Potter and the Clay

18 The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: [2] "Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." [3] So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. [4] **And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do.**

[5] Then the word of the Lord came to me: [6] "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the Lord. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. [7] If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, [8] and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. [9] And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, [10] and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. [11] Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: 'Thus says the Lord, Behold, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your deeds.'

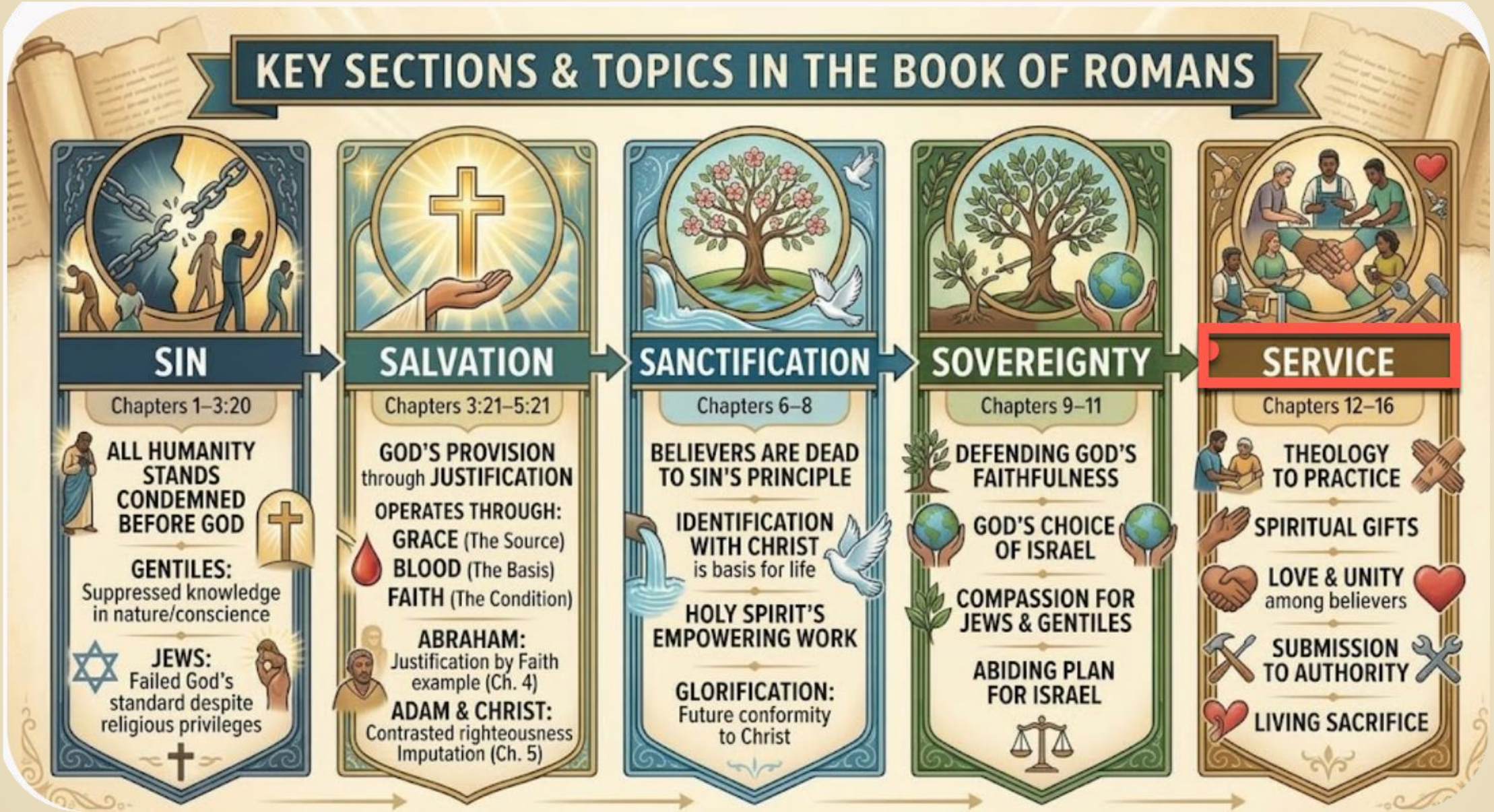


We are doing an overview of Jeremiah this week In RBI, and these verses are a reminder that our activities and deeds are being watched ...action to follow

From Todays Headlines...WND. *Think it won't happen?*

- "In Wyoming, last weekend God haters blockaded every entrance to **Foundations for Nation's** small country church in a vile attempt to keep Christians out of their community. In previous correspondence, these people specifically branded Christians as a threat to the community.
- "In Maine, the state Supreme Court ruled that **a mother cannot take her teenage daughter to any church or even read the Bible**, agreeing with a lower court judge that Bible-believing churches can be 'harmful.'
- "In California, the City of Los Angeles ordered **a city employee to undergo counseling to overcome his Christian beliefs regarding LGBTQ**, effectively characterizing his Christian faith as a mental illness.
- "Also in California, **Christians were unlawfully denied a permit and prohibited from holding a public outdoor worship service,** but the City of Los Angeles allowed a "Pride Parade" the next week.
- "In Indiana, the **Future Farmers of America (FFA) forbids Fellowship of Christian Farmers International (FCFI) from participating in the FFA's national convention** because Christian groups aren't welcome.
- "In Washington, **worshippers were violently assaulted and pelted with human waste**, while the Seattle mayor labeled the Christian victims as 'right-wing extremists.'
- "Again, in California, the Santa Fe School District ordered a 6-year-old to undergo reeducation counseling to overcome her Christian views about transgenderism.
- "In Virginia, a cross-dressing man is suing the nation's largest Christian university in an effort to force it to abandon its Christian doctrine."

Today we continue the Practical/ Service Section



Romans 13 What did we learn?

Romans 13 addresses connected parts of everyday Christian life: **how we relate to government**, **how we treat one another**, and **how we conduct ourselves personally**.

Relating to Government:

Paul explains that governing authority ultimately exists under God's direction. In general, resisting legitimate authority means pushing back against the order God has allowed in society. Governments are meant to discourage wrongdoing and support what is right. That does not mean every government is always fair or just, but it does mean God can use governing structures to preserve order. For Christians, submission is not only about avoiding punishment; it is also a matter of conscience. That includes paying taxes and giving leaders the respect they are due.

Relating to One Another:

The chapter then shifts from outward obedience to the motivation behind it. Loving other people fulfills the heart of the law because commands against adultery, murder, theft, and coveting all come back to one basic principle: love your neighbor as yourself. In other words, obedience is not just about following rules. It is about genuinely caring for the well-being of others.

Conducting ourselves with urgency:

Paul also reminds us that the fulfillment of salvation is drawing closer, so this is no time to drift spiritually. Christians are called to leave behind destructive patterns such as drunkenness, sexual immorality, quarreling, and jealousy, and instead reflect the character of Christ. The practical message is simple: because God is at work in the world and His redemptive plan is moving toward completion, believers should live with holiness and love—not settle for outward conformity.

Romans 14:1-4 Do Not Pass Judgment on One Another

14 *As for the one who is weak in faith,* ***welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.***

2 One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables.

3 Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.

4 Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

Understanding weak and strong Christians

Paul is using the illustration of those who are dependent on rules for “earning” their salvation as weak. This just means they don’t have the strength of faith another brother or sister who is “strong” might have. *One is freer than another, by belief.*

This is very important a concept to get inside us. Some will not eat pork or meat, fast, or drink alcohol of any type. Others have ritual things they do like rosary beads, fasting, or wearing certain clothes, or not wearing certain clothes.

For those differences, we need to respect one another and those doing what they believe is right for them, and not judge others who do something different, or do not do what we do.

Unity in essentials, diversity in nonessentials.

Romans 14:5-12 Who do we honor and live for?

5 One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind.

*6 The one who observes the day, observes it **in honor of the Lord**. The one who eats, eats **in honor of the Lord**, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains **in honor of the Lord** and gives thanks to God.*

7 For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.

8 For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God;

11 for it is written, (Isa 45:23)

*"As I live, says the Lord, **every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."***

*12 **So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.***

The gist is that Christian freedom permits diverse practices in morally neutral matters, provided they're exercised with genuine devotion to Christ and without condemning those who choose differently.

Romans 14:13-19. *Stumbling Blocks*

13 Therefore let us not pass judgment on one another any longer but rather ***decide*** *never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.*

14 I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself, but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean.

15 For if your brother is grieved by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. By what you eat, do not destroy the one for whom Christ died.

16 So, do not let what you regard as good be spoken of as evil.

17 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

18 Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men.

19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

This is hard to do, but easy to think about

Paul reminds us that Christian freedom is not just about what we feel free to do. It is also about how our choices affect others.

Paul asks us to stop judging one another and avoid putting obstacles in another believer's path. Instead of asking, "Who is right?" we should ask, "How will my choice affect their faith?"

Something may not be unclean in itself, but someone who believes it is unclean should not go against their conscience.

If what we eat hurts another believer's faith, we are not acting in love. ***That person matters more than our freedom—they are someone Christ died for****. God's kingdom is not about food and drink, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.*



So rather than insisting on our rights, Paul encourages us to make peace and build each other up. Serving Christ this way pleases God and earns the respect of others.

The takeaway? *A clear conscience does not remove our responsibility to care for others. Maturity means being willing to set aside our freedom when doing so helps someone else grow in faith.* ***Without love, freedom can become selfishness****.*

20 Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for anyone to make another stumble by what he eats.

21 It is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that causes your brother to stumble.

22 *The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God.* ***Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves.***

23 But whoever has doubts is condemned if he eats, because the eating is not from faith. For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

Romans 14:22. … What does it mean?

Romans 14:22 reminds us that our convictions about matters Christians disagree on… belong between us and God. We do not need to broadcast them or use them to judge others.

Paul makes two connected points.

- First, keep these convictions between yourself and God. Your views about food or special days are not something you need to impose on everyone else.
- Second, it is a blessing to make choices with a clear conscience. *When you sincerely believe a choice honors God, you can live it out without constantly second-guessing yourself.*

This fits the larger message of Romans 14: we have freedom in Christ, **but we should not show it off in ways that hurt another believer's faith.** Romans 14:22 speaks to those who feel free to eat certain foods or treat days alike.

Paul's point is simple: *you do not have to prove your freedom or make someone else feel less mature. Hold your convictions with privacy and integrity—be settled before God, while treating others with care.*

The takeaway? You do not need everyone's approval to be confident in your faith. That confidence comes from a clear conscience before God, not from winning an argument or getting others to agree with you.

How does this play out in Today's World?

- Christians should/must uphold one another
- Our beliefs matter, and we do not uphold all other "Christian" beliefs, BUT are they essential to the Christian Faith, and Biblical? If so, we treat them as brothers and sisters.
- If they are not, we do not quarrel or make a show of disagreement but will privately and prayerfully ask God to handle it with them... *and Pray.*
- With the increasing hostility and open hatred for Christian beliefs, and Christians themselves, we must follow God and leave the result to God. As in the clay blob in the potter's hand, God is in control and will decide how to shape the clay to be what He desires.
- We must be firm in our beliefs, and not hesitate to be salt and light, even in opposition, but do it with love and kindness not hatred and vitriol.

Application Basics

For application, the key principle in this chapter is

- Our need to limit the expression of our liberty out of love for God and our fellow believers.
- Fellowship among Christians is not to be based on everyone's agreement on disputable questions.
- Christians do not agree on all matters pertaining to the Christian life, nor do they need to when those matters do not affect a person's salvation.
- We are Baptists, and we have a set of fundamental beliefs about our relationship with Christ, and our worship methods and styles. This is right for us, and we should always stay faithful, but not excusive.

What do we takeaway from Rom Ch 14?

- *Romans 14 is about a **divided church**. The Christians in Rome disagreed over whether believers should keep following certain Jewish practices from the law of Moses. Paul steps into the tension between the "weak" and the "strong" (likely Jews and Gentiles) and encourages them to be united and to welcome one another.*
- *This chapter is where the letter gets practical. Paul spent **chapters 1–11 on theology** and **chapters 12–13 on how we live**, building the case for unity between Jewish and non-Jewish believers. Now he tackles the everyday issues that were dividing the Roman Christians.*
- ***Here's the main point:** Every believer answers to God, not to each other, for how they live. Food and holy days are what we call **adiaphora,** meaning things Scripture neither requires nor forbids.*
- ***So how do we apply it**? We hold our freedom loosely, out of love for God and for each other. Being fellow Christians doesn't mean agreeing on every disputable question. We won't see eye to eye on everything in the Christian life, and we don't have to when it doesn't touch salvation.*

Adiaphora from the Greek Word Adiaphoron, meaning "indifferent or neutral"

On a personal level…

There are some things that are neutral from the scripture that are still very important and affect our worship. We can accept another's Christian experience and still be troubled in our spirit about some practices. When this occurs, we should not be ugly about it but also not just accept them as what we would do.

- Calvinism versus Free Will
- Replacement /Dominion Theology
- Baptism by immersion or sprinkling
- Open or closed Communion
- Congregational or Hierarchical church governance
- Spirit Gifts
- Prophecy

Uncompromising Beliefs

SOLA SCRIPTURA – In the Scriptures alone- We are people of the Book

SOLA GRATIA – In GRACE alone, no works
SOLA FIDE – Faith alone, no Jesus plus

SOLA CHRISTUS– In Christ Alone

SOLI DEO GLORIA – Glory to God alone

Priesthood of the Believer – This means that no other person stands between us and the Lord, no intermediary, no priest, no confessional, no Saints. *Each of us can and must go straight to the Lord (see Matt 27:51)*

Soul Competency

Next week

We will pick up where we left off; ***Read Romans Ch. 15 on the Example of Christ***

- *Pray for our Nation and its leaders,* ***and the leaders elected***
  - *Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and Peace for Israel*
  - *Pray for the end of the wars, and the killing*
- *Pray for our State and its Leaders,* ***and the leaders elected***
- *Our Church, the Pastors and Leaders – safety and faithfulness*
- *Pray for the needs of our class members and families*

Thank God for his mercy and grace for each of us as we struggle with life. Pray that you will be empowered to turn over your life to righteousness.

Remember, we are the clay in the potters' hands, and our nation is also in His hands. Let God be God

