

# One Year through the New Testament

## ROMANS, CON'T 2

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| AUGUST 1: ROMANS 15:1-22      | 2 |
| AUGUST 2: ROMANS 15:23 – 16:7 | 2 |
| AUGUST 3: ROMANS 16: 8-27     | 3 |

## I CORINTHIANS 3

|   |    |
|---|----|
| AUGUST 4: I CORINTHIANS 1: 1-17         | 3  |
| AUGUST 5: I CORINTHIANS 1: 18-2:5       | 4  |
| AUGUST 6: I CORINTHIANS 2:6 – 3:4       | 4  |
| AUGUST 7: I CORINTHIANS 3: 5-23         | 5  |
| AUGUST 8: I CORINTHIANS 4: 1-21         | 5  |
| AUGUST 9: I CORINTHIANS 5: 1-13         | 6  |
| AUGUST 10: I CORINTHIANS 6: 1-20        | 6  |
| AUGUST 11: I CORINTHIANS 7: 1-24        | 7  |
| AUGUST 12: I CORINTHIANS 7: 25-40       | 7  |
| AUGUST 13: I CORINTHIANS 8: 1-13        | 8  |
| AUGUST 14: I CORINTHIANS 9: 1-18        | 8  |
| AUGUST 15: I CORINTHIANS 9:19 – 10:13   | 9  |
| AUGUST 16: I CORINTHIANS 10:14 – 11:2   | 9  |
| AUGUST 17: I CORINTHIANS 11: 3-16       | 10 |
| AUGUST 18: I CORINTHIANS 11: 17-34      | 10 |
| AUGUST 19: I CORINTHIANS 12: 1-26       | 11 |
| AUGUST 20: I CORINTHIANS 12: 27 – 13:13 | 11 |
| AUGUST 21: I CORINTHIANS 14: 1-17       | 12 |
| AUGUST 22: I CORINTHIANS 14: 18-40      | 12 |
| AUGUST 23: I CORINTHIANS 15: 1-28       | 13 |

## II CORINTHIANS 13

|                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| AUGUST 27: II CORINTHIANS 1:12 – 2:11 | 13 |
| AUGUST 28: II CORINTHIANS 2: 12-17    | 14 |
| AUGUST 29: II CORINTHIANS 3: 1-18     | 14 |
| AUGUST 30: II CORINTHIANS 4: 1-12     | 15 |
| AUGUST 31: II CORINTHIANS 4:13 – 5:10 | 15 |

# One Year through the New Testament

## Romans, con't

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### *August 1: Romans 15:1-22*

- 1) Who are the strong? Who are the weak?
- 2) How do the strong act?
- 3) Why was Scripture written?
- 4) Paul quotes a lot of Old Testament Bible passages in verse 9ff. Why?
- 5) What is the aim of a true preacher of Christ?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord Jesus Christ, you have the words that give me eternal life. Please make my heart attentive to your truth. Make me yearn to hear your Word faithfully and diligently. Amen*

### *August 2: Romans 15:23 – 16:7*

- 1) What did Paul want to do?
- 2) From chapter fifteen what was another intent of the apostle Paul in writing this letter?
- 3) What is there about the fellowship of believers we enjoy?
- 4) What were some of the reasons for Paul commending his fellow saints in Rome?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Father, I am hungry for your message of comfort and forgiveness. All last week I struggled against my sinful flesh, many times unsuccessfully. Fill me today with your Word of Christ, so that I will be strong against temptation this coming week. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 3: Romans 16: 8-27

- 1) Notice again the items that each of these people did for the apostle Paul or the impression they made on him.
- 2) If we are serving the Lord, why does Paul mention the things these people did?
- 3) Verse 17 is an important verse. Why is it important to stay away from the known false teacher?
- 4) How are we to regard our fellow Christians?
  - 5) How did we become Christians according to these verses?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Heavenly Father, as I meet other people today, help me treat them with love and kindness. Let me be ready to forgive their sins, eager to help them, and bold to confess my Savior to them. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

## I Corinthians

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### August 4: I Corinthians 1: 1-17

- 1) What are the different names Paul calls himself and what do they mean?
- 2) What are words he uses to describe the church at Corinth and what do they mean?
- 3) How did the testimony about Christ get confirmed in the city of Corinth?
- 4) What ought to be a goal in a church?
- 5) Why?
- 6) What was happening in Corinth?
- 7) Why does the apostle say the wisdom of the world is not compatible with knowledge about the cross of Christ?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O God of peace, I turn aside from an unquiet world, seeking rest for my spirit and light for my thoughts. I bring my work to be sanctified, my wounds to be healed, my sins to be forgiven, my hopes to be renewed. In you through your Son there is perfect harmony. Draw me to yourself, and silence the discords of my wasteful life. Your greatness is beyond my highest praise. Take me out of the loneliness of self, and fill me with the fullness of your peace. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 5: I Corinthians 1: 18-2:5

- 1) What is the real problem with the wisdom of the wise?
- 2) Why is Christ and him crucified so foolish?
- 3) How does the preacher, as Paul was, a demonstration of the power of God?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord, I rejoice in the rest you give me. Guide the use of my free time. Don't let my actions result in shame or injury, but help me find joy and blessing in the free time you place at my discretion. Amen.*

## August 6: I Corinthians 2:6 – 3:4

- 1) When does the message of the cross become logical and reasonable?
- 2) What is so comforting about the Holy Spirit working in us and convincing us what was foolish is really the wisdom of God?
- 3) How does 2:14 relate to the doctrine of original sin?
- 4) Where was the Corinthian congregation along the spiritual growth lines?
- 5) How did they show they needed some maturing?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O God of peace, I turn aside from an unquiet world, seeking rest for my spirit and light for my thoughts. I bring my work to be sanctified, my wounds to be healed, my sins to be forgiven, my hopes to be renewed. In you through your Son there is perfect harmony. Draw me to yourself, and silence the discords of my wasteful life. Your greatness is beyond my highest praise. Take me out of the loneliness of self, and fill me with the fullness of your peace. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 7: I Corinthians 3: 5-23

- 1) How does God's work require teamwork?
- 2) How could Paul say that he was an expert builder?
- 3) If someone lays the foundation of gold and silver, why does that spell trouble?
- 4) How does the fact that our bodies are temples serve as a real motivation?
- 5) What is the 'wisdom of the world?'

Important questions and thoughts:

*Faithful Jesus, you have blessed me with another day. Let all my actions be dedicated to you. Strengthen my faith, so I may meet you face to face in heaven. Amen.*

## August 8: I Corinthians 4: 1-21

- 1) What are the secret things of God?
- 2) What seems to have been happening with some of the church members in Corinth and their relationship with Paul?
- 3) Paul uses a lot of sarcasm here to expose what some of the people in Corinth thought of Paul. What is the point he is making?
- 4) Who was opposing Paul?
- 5) Paul was coming back to the people of Corinth? Why?

Important questions and thoughts:

*God our Father, your Son welcomed all who came to him. Even the outcasts and despised. Give me a faith that dares to come to you, trusting only in your love. Give me a love that accepts others, as I have been accepted by you through your Son. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 9: I Corinthians 5: 1-13

- 1) The Devil did a lot of harm in the church in Corinth. What is mentioned here?
- 2) What was the congregation supposed to do with the man in Corinth who was caught in sin?
- 3) What does that mean?
- 4) Why was it important to do something about it rather than “live and let live?”
- 5) What does entertaining sin lead to?

Important questions and thoughts:

*I am so weak yet so strong, Lord. I am so feeble, so full of doubt, and so slow to believe; yet so resolute, so certain, and so energetic. Just like you because you are in me. Live through me and help me be like you. Take possession of all my body members, my soul, my entire being and make me to live as you've made me to be. Amen.*

## August 10: I Corinthians 6: 1-20

- 1) There appeared to be people in the church at Corinth who sued one another. What was wrong with that?
- 2) How was the church to deal with that?
- 3) Paul lists many sins and says that such won't inherit the kingdom of God. Does that mean we are without hope?
- 4) What is he talking about when he says that everything is permissible but not all things are beneficial?
- 5) What are the reasons Paul says we should not be falling into sexual immorality?
- 6) What do you think about when you are reminded that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord God, you created our world and society to be orderly and to have authority figures. You created our world and society in this way to bring your blessings to us. We give you thanks for the order and the authority that our parents brought to our growing up, for those blessings have served us well. Bless our parents during these times of their lives and give us a respect and love that lasts beyond the years of childhood. Teach us to imitate the love your Son felt for his mother even when that love was inconvenient. Bless our loving, just as the love of our parents blessed our living. For Jesus' sake we pray. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 11: I Corinthians 7: 1-24

- 1) What is a purpose of marriage according to these words?
- 2) How is one to be considerate when it comes to sex?
- 3) How does Satan use sex in his schemes?
- 4) What gift did Paul have?
- 5) What is a good reason to stay unmarried?
- 6) What about divorce?
- 7) How is an unbelieving husband sanctified through marriage?
- 8) What is Paul's point in verses 17ff?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O Lord, you promise that in all things you work for the good of those who love you. Help me see your loving hand in this time of trouble. Save me from doubt, relieve my anguish, and lead me through these dark days with the light of your presence, for Jesus sake. Amen*

## August 12: I Corinthians 7: 25-40

- 1) Why did Paul say it was better to stay single?
- 2) What ought to be a priority in our lives?
- 3) Does Paul sound like he is against marriage?

Important questions and thoughts:

*If angels worship you, O Lord God, then certainly should I. Your angels are stronger and wiser than anything or anyone on earth, yet you are stronger and wiser still. Thank you for employing such capable servants to watch over me. As I entrust my life and soul to them, I really entrust my life and soul to you, for you are the commander of all angel armies and Savior of my soul. Help me to remember that you stop at nothing to care for me, and to lead me safely through this world to everlasting life. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 13: I Corinthians 8: 1-13

- 1) What does Paul say we can do with meat sacrificed to idols?
- 2) What does Paul say about the idols that people worship in the world?
- 3) What do some people do to worship those idols?
- 4) Does that matter?
- 5) When do we need to be careful when it comes to doing things about which the Bible says neither 'yes' nor 'no'?
- 6) Who is the weak brother?

Important questions and thoughts:

*When I face the reality of my weakness and the mess I've made with my mistakes Lord, open my heart to share them with you. To share them with the faith and confidence that you understand, and that you forgive, and that you redirect circumstances to be helpful and not harmful for those you love. Open my eyes to see the temptations to lie to you, others, and myself so that I look good, and strengthen me to resist such sin, not boasting in myself but trusting in you. Amen.*

## August 14: I Corinthians 9: 1-18

- 1) What did some in Corinth seem to take exception to as this chapter begins?
- 2) What was Paul driving at when he said that he too claimed the rights of a called worker?
- 3) Why did Paul support himself?
- 4) What gave Paul the greatest of joy?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Dear Lord, you calmed the storm on the Sea of Galilee. Nothing is too great for you to do. We would be so bold to ask you to do this for you have told us to pray boldly but we also want to pray what is your will. If it is not your will to calm the storm, we pray that you use your mighty power to minimize the loss of lives and damage done. Yet we know you do use disasters and trials for your good purposes. We simply put all this into your powerful hands and Give us the faith to accept what you deem best. Lord, you know what we want. Hear our prayer. Amen*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 15: I Corinthians 9:19 – 10:13

- 1) What does it mean that the Christian is free?
- 2) When and why do we make ourselves slaves?
- 3) What are apt comparisons with life and a race?
- 4) In spite of their status with God, what happened in the wilderness?
- 5) What is the lesson to be learned from them?
- 6) What is God's promise when it comes to the temptations and tests that we experience?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Compassionate Savior, too often I forget how many in our world are homeless, poor, and hungry. In your mercy relieve their suffering and pain. Especially do we remember those who have been displaced and made homeless by Hurricane Charley. Use me Lord is a small way to help those who are desperately in need. Remind me that when I help a person in need I am serving you. Amen.*

## August 16: I Corinthians 10:14 – 11:2

- 1) People in Corinth, after becoming Christians, seemed to have had time breaking away from idolatry of the temples in which they once worshipped. Paul uses the oneness of the elements, the bread and body and the wine and the blood, of the Lord's Supper to demonstrate what the people in Corinth were doing by going back to the temple. Why did that need to be avoided?
- 2) In verse 22ff the apostle speaks of practices in which we have full liberty. What is the warning he makes?
- 3) What should we always be looking to do when it comes to the lives we live?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Compassionate Savior, too often I forget how many in our world are homeless, poor, and hungry. In your mercy relieve their suffering and pain. Especially do we remember those who have been displaced and made homeless by Hurricane Charley. Use me Lord is a small way to help those who are desperately in need. Remind me that when I help a person in need I am serving you. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 17: I Corinthians 11: 3-16

- 1) What is the subject of this section?
- 2) What is the difference between our status with God and our role we have in his kingdom?
- 3) What did an uncovered head mean in the city of Corinth?
- 4) What did a covered head mean?
- 5) What does he mean when he says that woman was created for man?
- 6) Verse sixteen tells us that the principles of this chapter remain but that local application might be practiced differently. Where in our world would you see some difference in local application?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O Lord, be gracious and kind to all who are in trouble. Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, and give your strength to those who are weary and weak. Do what is best for them according to your gracious will, and keep them faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## August 18: I Corinthians 11: 17-34

- 1) This section has to do with the Lord's Supper. The people in Corinth were abusing it. How?
- 2) The congregation had a meal as they celebrated the Lord's Supper. What happened in it?
- 3) When did Jesus institute the Lord's Supper?
- 4) What do we receive in the Lord's Supper?
- 5) According to verse 27 what can happen in the Lord's Supper?
- 6) Verses 28, 29 tell us how we avoid taking it in an unworthy manner. How does that happen?
- 7) What did they need to get rid of?
- 8) What are points you see in this section about the Lord's Supper?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O Lord, you promise that in all things you work for the good of those who love you. Help me see your loving hand in this time of trouble. Save me from doubt, relieve my anguish, and lead me through these dark days with the light of your presence, for Jesus sake. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 19: I Corinthians 12: 1-26

- 1) What are spiritual gifts?
- 2) How do we come to know Jesus?
- 3) What are the different gifts God gives to his church?
- 4) Why is comparing the church to a body such a good comparison?
- 5) What gifts do you have?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O Lord, be gracious and kind to all who are in trouble. Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, and give your strength to those who are weary and weak. Do what is best for them according to your gracious will, and keep them faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## August 20: I Corinthians 12: 27 – 13:13

- 1) God gives great gifts to his church. What is the greatest?
- 2) What is love?
- 3) When is love not present?
- 4) How does love make all gifts worthwhile?
- 5) How long will love last?
- 6) How can we practice more perfect love?

Important questions and thoughts:

*It's so much easier, Lord, to perform a habitual ritual without thinking. It's less threatening when I can just keep doing the same thing with which I am comfortable. And yet you often drive me away from myself to you. You seek my best interests, because I so foolishly don't know what they are. And you guide me despite myself. Fill my heart with appreciation for such grace, and an awareness that praises you with joy. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 21: I Corinthians 14: 1-17

- 1) In this section Paul compared prophecy and tongues since many in Corinth had the gift of tongues. Which is the more useful gift?
- 2) Why?
- 3) Prophecy seems to be the ability to proclaim the Word of God. Why is that such a great gift?
- 4) While the gift of tongues was a gift that God gave to his church, why does it have some limitations?
- 5) What does this section have to say about gifts in general?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Almighty God, angels bow in reverence before you. I, too, acknowledge your glory and worship you--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As I work this week in your holy name, grant me your grace for the days ahead. In Jesus' name I pray.*

## August 22: I Corinthians 14: 18-40

- 1) Why are intelligible words better than an unknown tongue according to the apostle?
- 2) Why did God give the gift of tongues?
- 3) What is the purpose of the Word that God has given us?
- 4) What must be done if someone speaks in a tongue that not everyone understands?
- 5) God is a God of order. What does that mean?
- 6) Verses 34,35 speak of the role of woman. How is that different than the status of women?
- 7) What do these verses speak about the role of men?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O Lord, be gracious and kind to all who are in trouble. Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, and give your strength to those who are weary and weak. Do what is best for them according to your gracious will, and keep them faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 23: I Corinthians 15: 1-28

- 1) What is the definition of “gospel?”
- 2) What is the importance of having so many witnesses of the resurrection of Christ?
- 3) How was Paul different from the other apostles?
- 4) What were some people preaching about the resurrection in Corinth?
- 5) Why is teaching “no resurrection” absolutely useless?
- 6) How is Jesus the “first fruits of them that sleep?”
- 7) What is the truth about Adam? (verse 21)
- 8) What is the truth about Jesus? (verse 21)

Important questions and thoughts:

*It's so much easier, Lord, to perform a habitual ritual without thinking. It's less threatening when I can just keep doing the same thing with which I am comfortable. And yet you often drive me away from myself to you. You seek my best interests, because I so foolishly don't know what they are. And you guide me despite myself. Fill my heart with appreciation for such grace, and an awareness that praises you with joy. Amen.*

## II Corinthians

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### August 27: II Corinthians 1:12 – 2:11

- 1) From the tone of what you read, what does it seem that some are calling into question?
- 2) What led some to think that Paul was somehow insincere about his intentions?
- 3) While he couldn't always keep a time schedule, what was Paul faithful about?
- 4) How had Paul grieved them with his first letter?
- 5) What is he particularly talking about in verses 5-11?
- 6) How could Paul forgive? How can we forgive someone their sins?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord God, I thank you that you have kept me through the night from all harm and danger. I am grateful you have brought me to the start of a new day. Truly your mercies are new every morning. Your love covers the sins of yesterday and your promises give me hope for today. Handle the many problems I am facing. Lighten the burdens that weigh heavy on my heart. Give special help to those who are struggling. Grant me a spirit of joy as I dedicate my life to you. Into your hands I commit my body and soul and all things. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 28: II Corinthians 2: 12-17

- 1) Paul gives a bit of a travelogue. Who was he looking for?
- 2) What is a triumphal procession? How is it ours in Christ?
- 3) How is a Christian an aroma and a stench at the same time?
- 4) What did Paul not do so that no one could accuse him?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord of the Church, we bow before you in humble thanksgiving for the blessings you have bestowed on our congregation. Bless the work of those servants whom you have called to lead us into a deeper understanding of your Word. Preserve the spirit of unity and peace among us. Stir up our hearts and the hearts of our fellow believers to give eager and generous support to the spreading of your Word. Prosper the work that is being carried out in our missions, at home and abroad. Send laborers into your harvest in the power of your Spirit. Let your kingdom come, and let your will be done among us and among all people; for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

## August 29: II Corinthians 3: 1-18

- 1) There were people in Corinth who denied Paul's apostleship. Yet he called them his letter. What does he mean?
- 2) Why is a pastor's competence from God?
- 3) How does the ministry of the Gospel both one that kills and one that brings life?
- 4) Verse 10-18 are somewhat difficult. What does Moses represent, the Law of the Gospel?
- 5) Why did they cover his face when he came back from speaking to God?

Important questions and thoughts:

# One Year through the New Testament

## August 30: II Corinthians 4: 1-12

- 1) Why is anyone a minister or servant of God?
- 2) What is the result of our ministry?
- 3) How is the Gospel veiled? Why?
- 4) Why is it unveiled in the hearts of believers?
- 5) We are jars of clay. Why is that such an apt description?
- 6) How was death at work in Paul's life so that life could be at work in those who heard?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Grant us, O Lord Jesus, to live this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain, that reaching the evening victorious over all temptation, we may praise you, the eternal God, for you govern all things and are praised now and forever. Amen.*

## August 31: II Corinthians 4:13 – 5:10

- 1) Why does speaking follow belief?
- 2) Why is it important that we keep the eyes of faith fixed on Jesus?
- 3) Why is a tent a good comparison when it comes to our bodies?
- 4) What does it mean for you to live by faith and not by sight?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Merciful Lord of the church, by whose Spirit we are one and by whose Word the Spirit works, we thank you each day for the servants you have given to teach and preach your Word among us: the pastors, teachers, and missionaries. Bless them in their work, O God, and bless their work for the joy of the gospel of Jesus and the glory of your saving name. Continue to supply more servants of the Word to the end of time by moving the hearts of the young among us to aspire to the ministry. That all may know Jesus, we pray. Amen.*