

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 12:14-21

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Sunday, March 23, 2025

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

BUSTED OR BROKEN ?

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology
And How The Justified Shall Live by Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Spiritual Worship, Godly Service, Dedication, Devotion, Sacrifice, The Will of God.

Romans 12:14-21

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.

16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. 17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*" says the Lord. 20 Therefore "*If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.*" 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

In the words of the great Bible scholar and Expositor Dr. Albert Barnes;
"The passage before us is certainly one of, if not the most difficult to live out –
yet we must if we are to take the title of Christian."

Which is why I've decided to call this last section of
Romans Chapter 12;
BUSTED or **Broken?**

To be **BUSTED** is to get caught. It is to be knowledgeable of your guilt and sin - but you're not willing to acknowledge that you are a guilty sinner.

But to be **Broken** is to be brought to the place of knowing that - you're in need of a Saviour and you're not Him.

It's Only in Christianity that Being Broken - is a Good Thing !

Matthew 21:44

And whoever falls on this Stone (speaking of Himself) will be broken; but on whomever it (Stone) falls, it will grind him to powder."

Let's Take a Drive Down The Famed Roman's Road of Salvation

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9

That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:13

For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Are you **BUSTED** or **Broken** When you Hear These Verses?

BUSTED OR BROKEN ?

1.) Coming to the end of yourself

vs. 14-16

COMING TO THE END OF YOURSELF BUSTED OR BROKEN ?

1a.) The end of self-defense

vs. 14

Verse 14

**Bless those who persecute you;
bless and do not curse.**

F.Y.I.

Persecution is part of the Christian life. In fact, the word Witness.
Comes from the Greek word Martyr.

Acts 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

bless grk: eu'lo'ge'o
to speak well of or to give value to. to make the truth known to your audience
(friend or foe alike)

Persecute grk: dioko
Having the cause to flee or to run, be put to flight,
to be ostracized or marginalized.

THIS IS THE END OF SELF-DEFENSE

To be a blessing to those who hate you is to be like Jesus to them. It is to treat them completely different then how the world would treat them if the world were under attack by them. – the world would kill them.

Our Godless Human Nature cannot tolerate this deeply spiritual revelation
of the Nature of God toward those who hate Him.

1 Peter 2:20-23

For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. **21** For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: **22** “Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit found in His mouth”; **23** who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously.

Curse grk: kataraoimai
to not bring a curse down upon them or to damn them in word nor to speak against them in a way so as to misrepresent the Kingdom of God.

In The Long Run - Our Witness Matters

Matthew 10:34-36

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.
35 For I have come to “set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; **36** and “a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’

In and through it all – we’re to show them Jesus Christ

WE MUST COME TO THE END OF SELF-DEFENSE

COMING TO THE END OF YOURSELF BUSTED OR BROKEN ?

1b.) The end of self-focus

vs. 15-16a

Verse 15-16b

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep
16a Be of the same mind toward one another.

Rejoice grk: chairo
to be glad for, to greet another with joy. to joy over.

Weep grk: klaio
to weep from the core of your being, to empathize with those weeping,
to weep with the knowledge of knowing.

Same Mind grk: autos / phroneo
to have the same understanding, to take on the same angle of view.

Toward grk: eis
to be before, around, behind, present for good.

Every Single Person You Know in Life is Struggling in Some Way.
Every Single Person You See in Life is Struggling in Some Way.

As of Today - We are living a godless & loveless world that is getting worse by the day – if not by the hour.

SO WHAT ARE WE TO DO ?

We're to be witnesses like never before –
because today is the day – forget about tomorrow.

To be **BUSTED** is to be envious about others being blessed. You're not able to Rejoice with those who are being favored by God. – it eats on you !

James 4:1-2a

Where do wars and fights *come* from among you? Do *they* not *come* from your *desires* for pleasure that war in your members? **2** You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war.

To be **BROKEN** is to be happy when others are doing well and excelling. You're genuinely happy for them and you show it.

1 Corinthians 12:26

And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

1b.) The end of self-focus

vs. 16b

Verse 16b

Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble.

High Things	grk: hupselos things that cause conceit. a lofty or elevated view of things, things that cause or infuse into the mind a level of arrogance, to be in a place that is out of the reach of others. exalted, haughty, to be self-esteemED.
Associate	grk: sunapago to be carried away with or to allow yourself to be taken to the place of. (those in a lessor status or station of life)
Humble	grk: tapeinos devalued, less in status, depressed (not in emotions) or those who are lowly and do not meet the approval of the gentry.

James 2:1-4

My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. **2** For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, **3** and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool," **4** have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?

James 2:9

but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

1 Timothy 5:21

I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.

Romans 2:11

For there is no partiality with God.

Acts 10:34

Then Peter opened his mouth and said:
"In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.

1 Peter 1:17

And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear;

**COMING TO THE END OF YOURSELF
BUSTED OR BROKEN ?**

1c.) The end of self-aware

vs. 16c

Verse 16c

Do not be wise in your own opinion.

Wise

grk: phronimos (-)

in the negative sense = **not** to think of yourself above, beyond, or better than others in rank, status, or blood, **not** to think of yourself as being wiser than others, **not** more sensible than others, **not** more reasonable than others.

Romans 1:21-22

Although they knew (about) God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile (empty, confused, worthless) in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. :22 Professing (to demand, to assert, to announce) to be wise, they became fools (morons)

Opinion grk: dokeó,
having a grandiose or inflated estimation of one's self-being, conceited, being proud of what and or of who they are. having generous thoughts of oneself.

Luke 7:36-50 NLT

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. 37 When a certain immoral woman from that city heard He was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. 38 Then she knelt behind Him at his feet, weeping. (BROKEN) Her tears fell on His feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw this, he said to himself, *"If this man were a prophet, He would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a sinner!"* (BUSTED) 40 Then Jesus answered his thoughts. "Simon," he said to the Pharisee, "I have something to say to you." "Go ahead, Teacher," Simon replied. 41 Then Jesus told him this story: "A man loaned money to two people - 500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. 42 But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?" 43 Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt." "That's right," Jesus said. 44 Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn't offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, (BUSTED) but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair (BROKEN) 45 You didn't greet me with a kiss, (BUSTED) but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing My feet. (BROKEN) 46 You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint My head, (BUSTED) but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume. (BROKEN) 47 "I tell you, her sins - and they are many - have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. (BROKEN) But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love." (BUSTED) 48 Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 The men at the table said among themselves, "Who is this man, that He goes around forgiving sins?" (BUSTED) 50 And Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you (BROKEN); go in peace."

Friend - It's Time to Get Up and Die. Die to Yourself. To the Me. Myself the I in Your Life. It's Time to Die.

End of Study

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