

**Book of Romans – Introduction**

*Who is Your Master?*

**Romans 1: 1-2**

**April 14, 2024**

## Paul's Ministry Chronology

# of books	Journey	Acts	Date	Books
1	1	13-14	48-49	Gal
<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15:36-18:22</b>	<b>50-52</b>	<b>1-2 Thess</b>
3	3	18:23-21:17	53-57	1-2 Cor, Rom
4	4	28:16-31	60-62	Eph, Col, Phlm, Phlp
2	Between Imprisonments	Post Acts	62-66	1 Tim, Titus
1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Imprisonment	Post Acts	67	2 Tim

# Outline of the Epistle

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Six main sections:

1. Summary, Introduction and Theme (1:1-17)
2. Sin (1:18-3:20)
3. Salvation (3:21-5:21)
4. Sanctification (6:1-8:39)
5. Sovereignty (9:1-11:36)
6. Service (12:1-16:27)



## Paul's Conversion<sub>1</sub>

- **Road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-19, over 134 miles “as the crow flies”)**
  - vv 1-2 seeking to arrest more Jews
  - vv 3-9 Blinded by light from Heaven
  - vv 10-19 Visited by Ananias, sight restored



**Paul did not waste his life!**

**No Reserves . . . . .**

**No Retreats . . . . .**

**No Regrets!!**

***May this be our legacy!***

Verse 1 - 2

Bondservant

**An Apostle, separated to the Gospel**

**Bondservant** = “*dulos*” = My will consumed with the will of my Master

**Apostle** = simply means “*sent ones*”

**NAR** = **New Apostolic Reformation**

- Claims that God is doing a new thing, raising up apostles and prophets with signs and wonders
- They claim to usher in the kingdom and make the world ready for the return of Christ
- This is contrary to Scripture; things will get worse and worse prior to Jesus' return

**Matthew 24: 37; Luke 18: 8**

Apostles of the Church describe what a person does, not who the person is

**What is this bondservant, slave thing, all about?**

- *No one wants to be a slave; we think of the awfulness of slave traders*
- *Owning another human being, forcing them to serve is the worst of the worst abuses!*



A bondservant, slave of Christ, is voluntary, an honored position of service for our Lord

I willingly submit, place myself under, the Lord

He owns me, directs me, and is my Master!

THE DIFFERENCE:

My Master loves me, cares for me, blesses me and dies for me

I OWE MY MASTER EVERYTHING!!

Every human born into this world are slaves of Satan,  
their master

Jesus came to set the captive free – Galatians 5: 1 (NIV)

*“It is for freedom that Christ set us free”*

Jesus freed us by dying for us; He died in our place,  
paying our sin debt in full!

**Those who are really free are those who bow to Jesus  
as their Lord and Savior**

Those who do not want Jesus will continue to be slaves  
of their master, Satan!

## BONDSERVANTS IN SCRIPTURE:

*JESUS, Paul, Timothy, James, Peter,  
Jude, and believers – YOU!!*

**When I say that Jesus is my Lord, I declare my allegiance to Him alone!**

**As a bondservant, I renounce all the past masters of my life**

**As a bondservant, I give my life, my allegiance, totally to Christ, my Savior**

**As a bondservant, I will have no other gods controlling my life**

**Renounce is a big deal! You are proclaiming out loud to the demonic realm:**

*“I renounce all past strongholds in my life”*

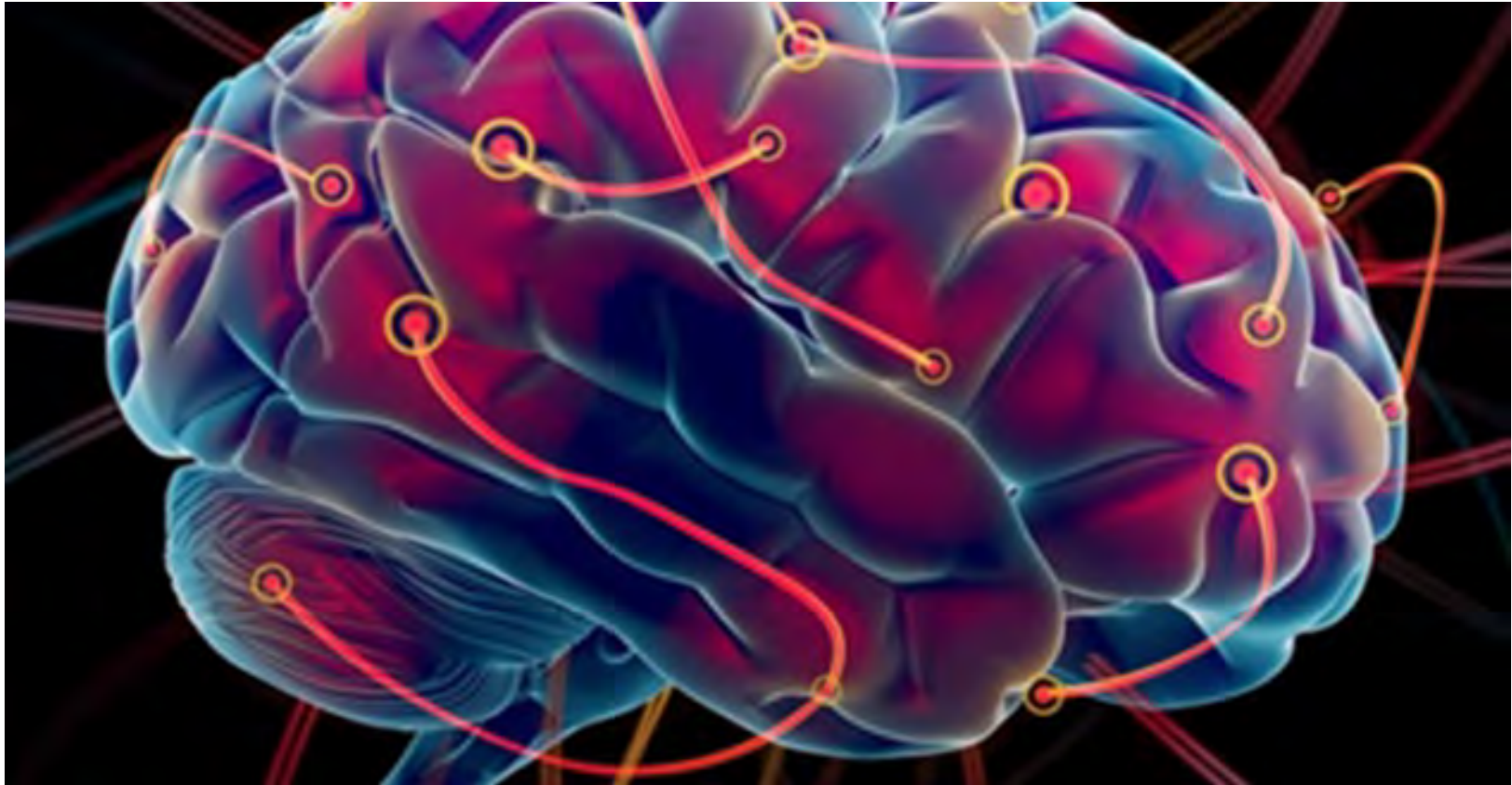
**Strongholds:**

A fortress, a prison; ways of thinking that are contrary to God

Ways of thinking that dominate your being, that **CONTROL YOU!**

We must deal with anger, lust, a critical spirit, addictions of every sort, ***and things we justify over and over!***

**Strongholds: Ways of thinking that are deeply embedded in our minds, controlling our lives**





To overcome a stronghold, a person must dwell in Christ and take captive every thought!

*“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”*

2 Corinthians 10: 5 (NIV)

## CLOSING THOUGHTS:

**Who is your master?**

We are all slaves to  
something or someone

**Are you living as a slave to your past?**

Some abuse or unfairness  
you have not let go of?

**Are those feelings controlling you, destroying  
your peace, robbing you of purpose?**

**We must change from slave thinking to overcomer, freed-man thinking!**

**I cannot control** what has happened in the past  
*(the pain is real)*

**I cannot control** what is happening in our world  
*(constant daily stressors)*

**I cannot control** how others respond to what is  
happening in our world *(the sky is falling)*

**I cannot control** someone else *(nor do I want to)*  
Impact, yes! Control, no!

**What I can control** is me – my responses, in the now!

Paul, speaking of the abuse of the Jewish leaders:

*“ . . . . I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things, I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ.”*

(Philippians 3: 8) NIV

All the stuff of life is secondary to knowing Christ!

Jesus is my power source, my peace source,  
my hope source, my change source!

**Is Jesus really your Master,** or is some event or someone in your past your master?

**Is Jesus really** in control of your life?

**What master controls you when your foundations are shaken?**





***WHO IS YOUR MASTER?***

***HOPEFULLY, YOU CAN SAY WITH VIGOR . . . . .***

***THE LORD JESUS CHRIST!!***



**Jesus – Kurios – Master – Ruler – Owner**