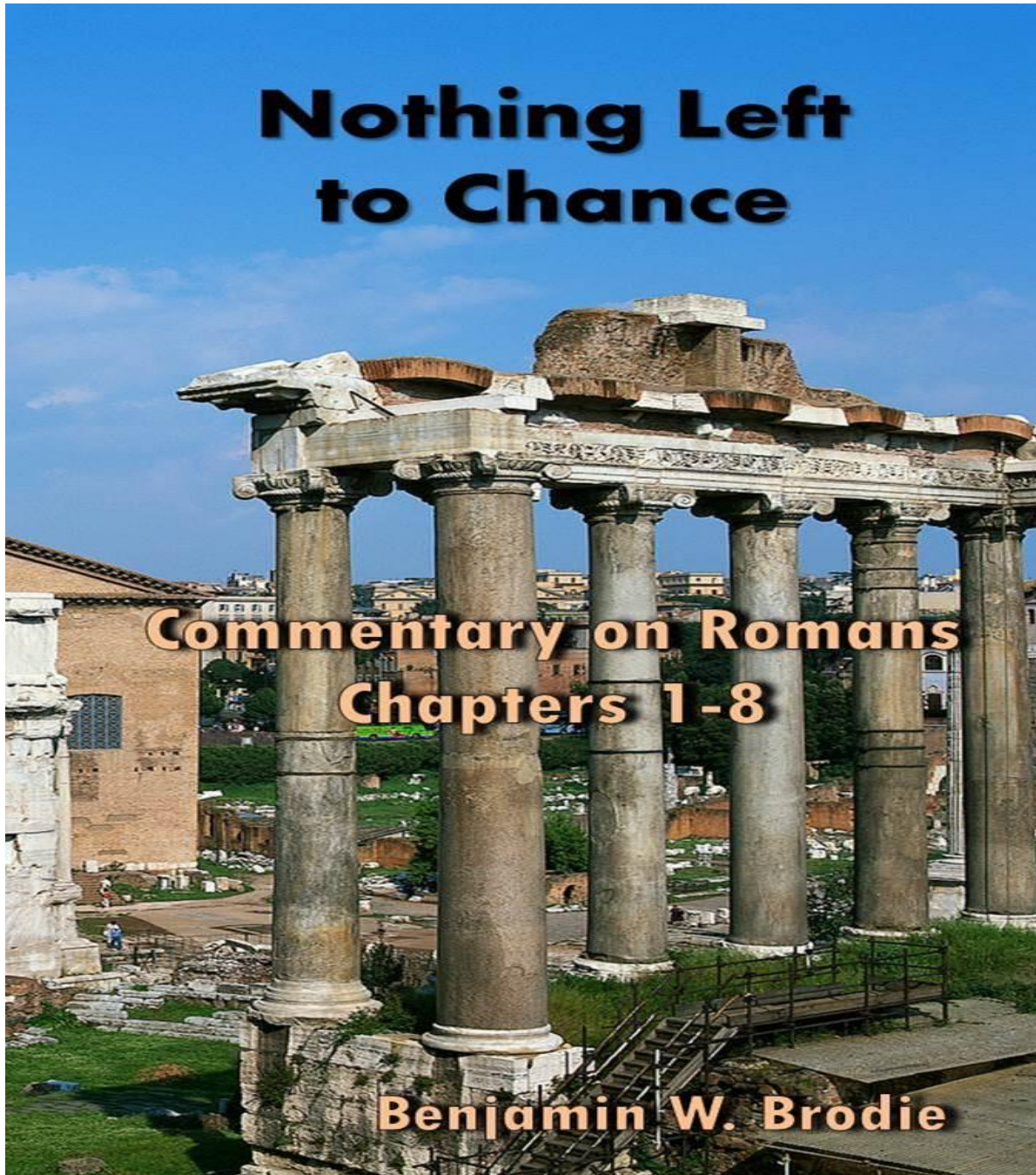
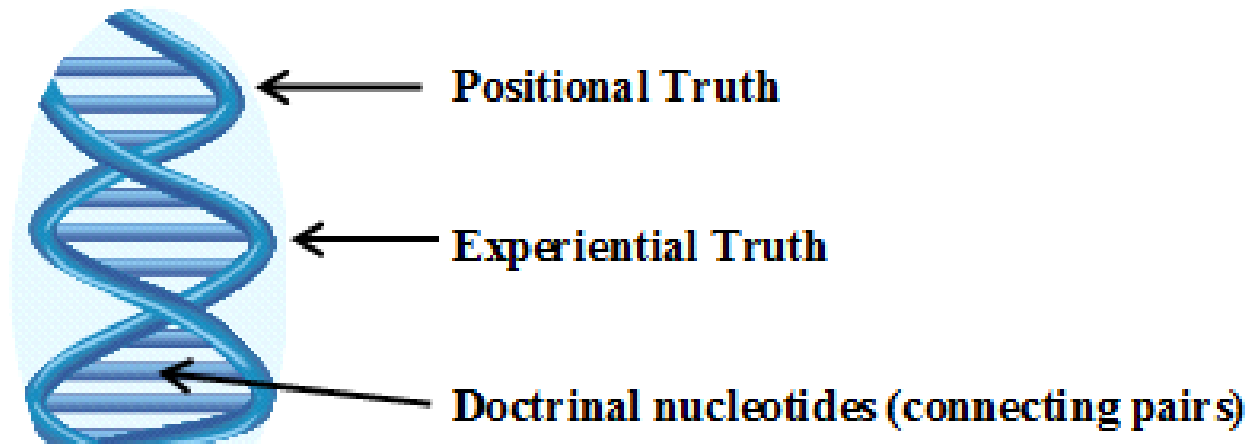


Nothing Left to Chance

**Commentary on Romans
Chapters 1-8**

Benjamin W. Brodie





THINK ABOUT IT



- Did Paul decide to become a Christian and apostle by his own volition?
- Is Romans an epistle that focuses on evangelism or on assisting believers to grow spiritually?
- What does God eventually do when sinners refuse to acknowledge Him as Creator of the universe?
- What are the characteristics of a reprobate mind?

Son of God	Eternity past	Decrees planned	Deity declared	<i>Ipsa facto</i>
Son of man	Time	Decrees executed	Deity demonstrated	Resurrection

Verse	Bad Decision	Result
23-24	Exchanged incorruptible God for corruptible men/beasts	God turned them over to immoral lusts
25-26	Exchanged the truth of God in creation for a lie	God turned them over to sexual perversion
27-28	Rejected approved standards, accepted disapproved standards	God turned them over to a reprobate mind

THINK ABOUT IT



- What is the relationship of the Church Age believer to the Mosaic Law?
- Does the word *repentance* always involve turning to Jesus Christ by faith?
- Has keeping the law ever saved anyone?
- Can sacraments save your soul?
- Do you need to be water baptized to go to heaven?

People	Production	Reward
Unbelievers	Contentious, disobedient to the truth, misled by unrighteousness	Divine Anger (judgment in time) Divine Indignation (judgment in eternity)
Positive Believers	Spiritual fortitude, Striving for glory, honor, incorruptibility	Spiritually rich life

People	Production	Reward	Order
Unbelievers	Evil	Personal stress, historical trouble	Jews first, then Gentiles
Positive Believers	Good	Glory, honor, prosperity	Jews first, then Gentiles

Gentiles	Sin	Without the law	Perish
Jews	Sin	Under the law	Judged

THINK ABOUT IT



- Is God unrighteous because He condemns those who refuse to believe in Jesus Christ?
- Has there ever been a man who kept the law to perfection and thereby attained salvation?
- What does “the faithfulness of Jesus Christ” mean?
- Which came first in the order of salvation – God’s sovereign grace or the positive volition of man?

1. There is none righteous, not even one.

2. There is none who understands.

3. There is none who seeks after the God.

4. Everyone has turned aside.

5. They have become depraved.

6. There is none who attains integrity, not even one.

7. Their vocal chords are a tomb which has been opened.

8. They practice deceit with their tongues.

9. The venom of cobras is upon their lips.

10. Their mouth is full of cursing and bitter words.

11. Their feet are swift to shed blood.

12. Historical disaster and personal suffering are in their paths.

13. They have not understood the way of prosperity.

14. There is no fear of God before their eyes.

THINK ABOUT IT



- What is the difference between justification *before God* and justification *before men*?
- Was Abraham a Jew or a Gentile when he was justified?
- Which comes first ... justification by faith or the imputed righteousness of Christ?
- Why must the resurrection always be taught in conjunction with Jesus' death on the cross?



Justification
by faith
(Abraham
believed God)

Imputation of
Christ's
righteousness
("because of")



Sovereignty and
Omnipotence of
God displayed in
divine decrees

Imputation of the
righteousness of
Christ "destined"
for every believer

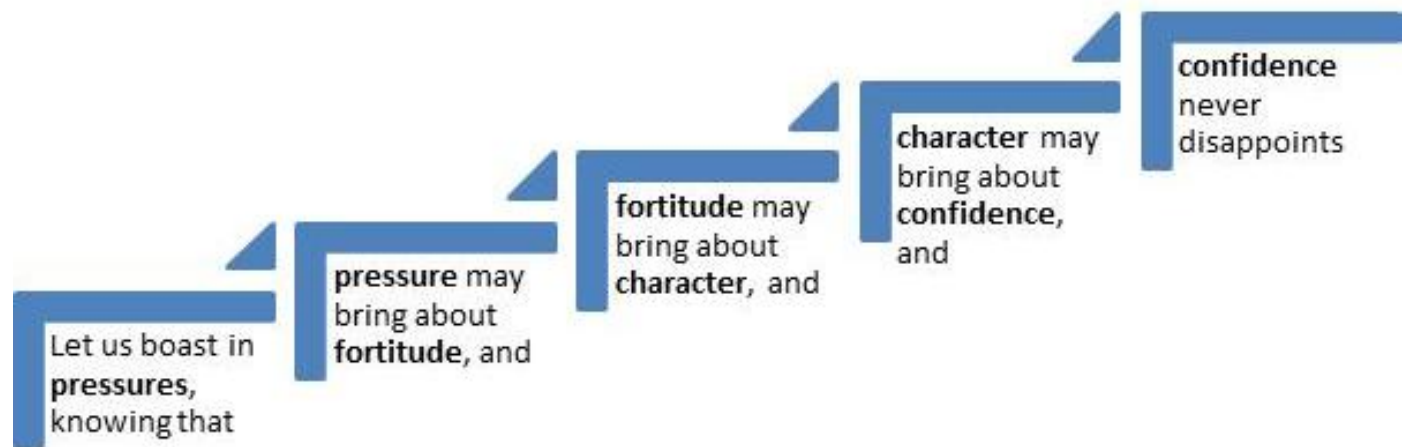
According to
Grace (not works,
law, circumcision
or debt)

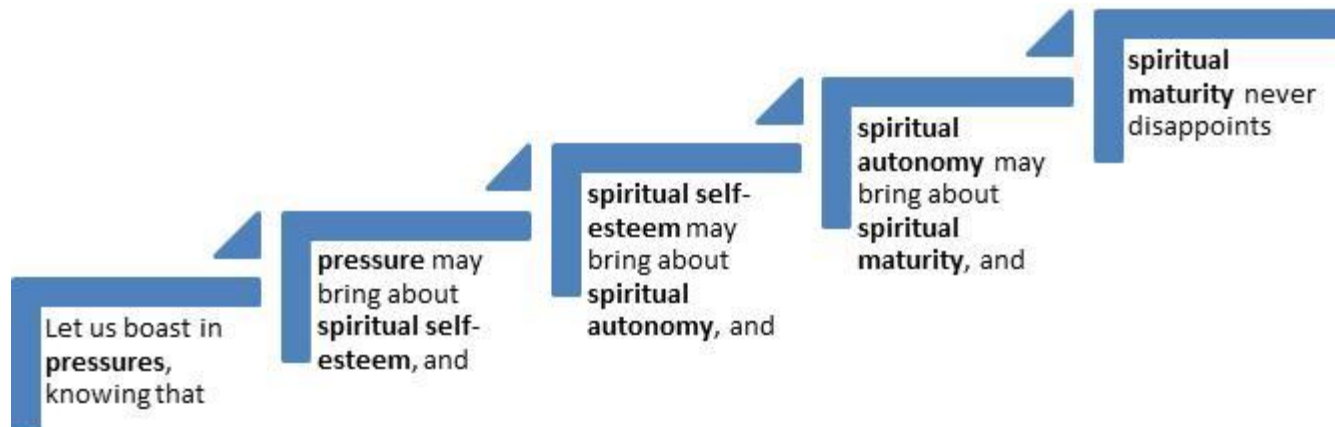
Justification by
faith "because of"
the imputation of
the righteousness
of Christ and
"according to"
grace

THINK ABOUT IT



- How does a Christian grow by outside pressure?
- Is God's redemptive love indiscriminate or does it have specific recipients?
- What is the difference between justification by His blood and salvation from wrath through Him?
- Who is your federal head: Adam or Christ?
- Is the law a major part of God's plan or a side issue?





Justification by the death of Christ

going to heaven

righteousness

rending of the veil

wilderness

Kingdom of Heaven

positional truth (standing)

absolute righteousness of God imputed to the believing sinner

sovereignty of God

Salvation by the resurrection of Christ

heaven to go to heaven in

power

Pentecost

Canaan

Kingdom of God

experiential truth (state)

relative righteousness of man attained by doctrinal saturation of the mind

man's responsibility

	Adam	Christ
Quantity	One transgression	Many transgressions
Methodology	Judicial verdict	Grace gift
Result	Condemnation	Justification
Scope	Entire human race	The redeemed, His sheep

ADAM

Transgression	Spiritual death	positional	All humans
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JESUS CHRIST

Justification	Foundation blessings	positional	All believers
<i>Much more</i>	Surplus grace	experiential	Mature believers
<i>Much more</i>	Gift of righteousness	experiential	Mature believers
<i>Much more</i>	Rule through Christ	experiential	Mature believers

THINK ABOUT IT



- Can a Christian live a lifestyle of sin? Does grace teaching encourage sin?
- Is legalism a good thing or merely another facet of wickedness?
- What's the difference between legalistic precepts and grace principles?
- Can you grow close to God without Bible doctrine?

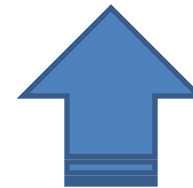
SUCCESS

FAILURE

Variable/Relative

State/condition in life
Responsible Christian
Progressive sanctification
Newness of Life

State/condition in life
Irresponsible Christian
No experiential sanctification
Living in Sin



Fixed/Absolute

Our standing/position in Christ
Sovereignty of God
Justification
Dead to sin

OLD MAN
enslaved to
the sin nature

OLD MAN
died together
with Christ

NEW MAN
dead to the
sin nature

NEW MAN
enslaved to
righteousness

NEW MAN
living for God
in Christ Jesus

Verse	Status	Means	Result	Outcome
21	Then, slaves of sin, free from righteousness	A wage earned	Fruit bringing shame	Death
22	Now, free from sin, slaves of God	A gift received	Fruit bearing sanctification	Eternal life

THINK ABOUT IT



- Can the law help you grow spiritually?
- Does the law prevent you from sinning?
- Is sanctification enhanced by the law?
- Does the law help you produce good works?
- Did Paul have a split personality?
- Does anything intrinsically good reside in us?
- Can an unbeliever have an integrated soul?

The wife	Church Age believer
The 1 st husband	The sin nature
The 1 st marriage counselor	The law
The 2 nd husband	Jesus Christ
The 2 nd marriage counselor	Holy Spirit

VERSE	WORD	TRANSLATION	EMPHASIS	NATURE
15	κατεργάζομαι	Accomplish	End result	Sin, failure
	πράσσω	Practicing	Motivation	Positive
	ποιέω	Doing	Activity	Negative
16	ποιέω	Doing	Activity	Negative
17	κατεργάζομαι	Accomplish	End result	Sin, failure
18	κατεργάζομαι	Accomplish	End result	Sin, failure
19	ποιέω	Doing	Activity	Positive
	πράσσω	Practicing	Motivation	Negative
20	ποιέω	Doing	Activity	Negative
	κατεργάζομαι	Accomplish	End result	Sin, failure
21	ποιέω	Doing	Activity	Positive

THINK ABOUT IT

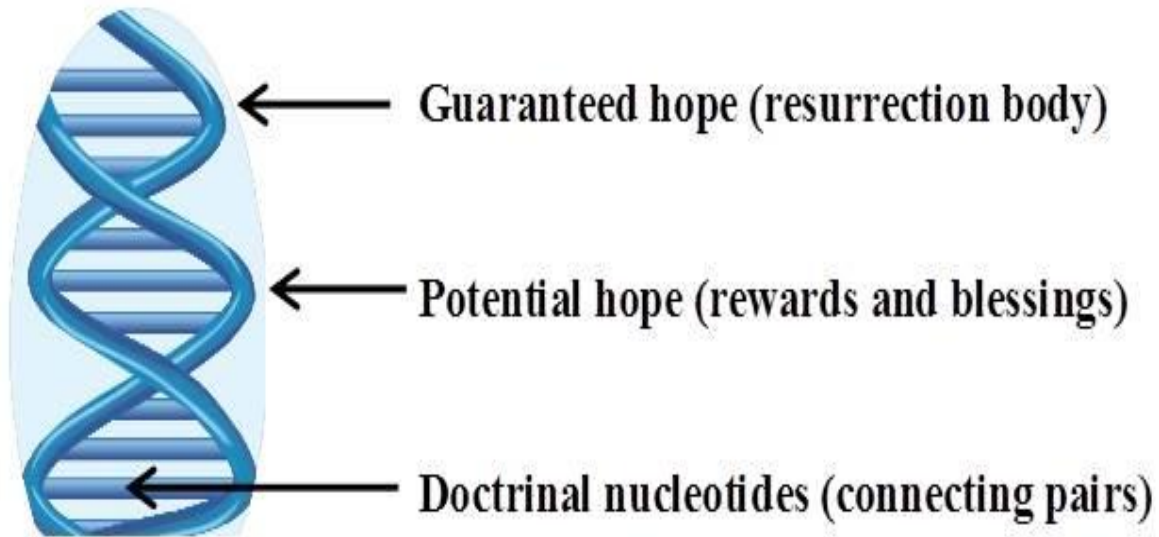


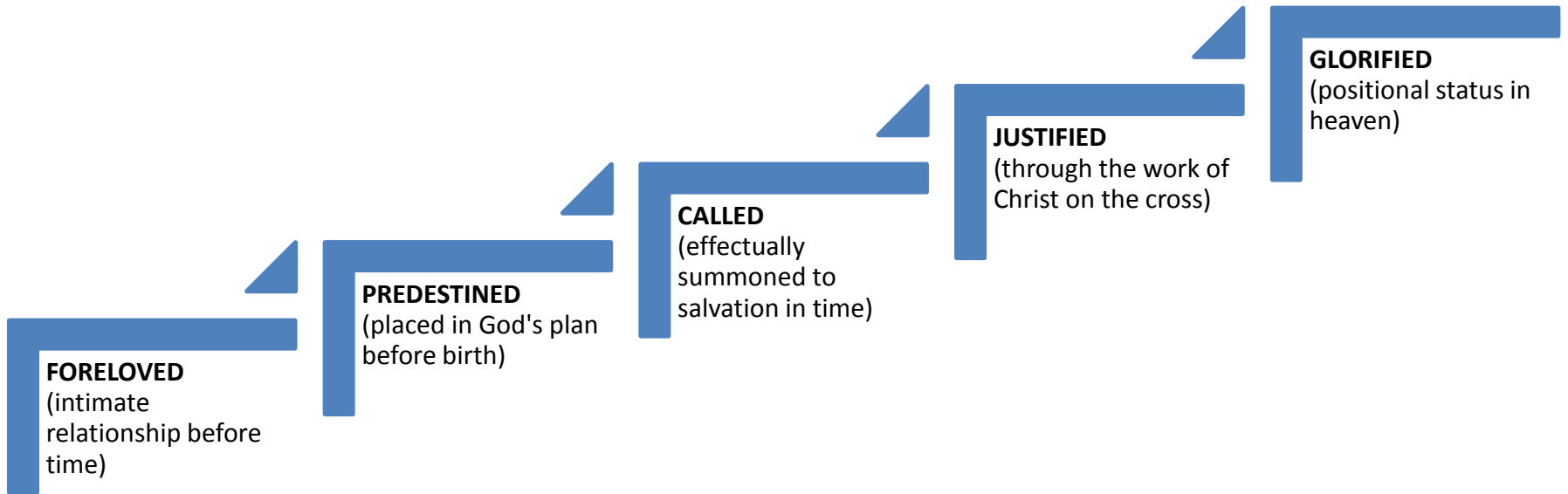
- Does our eternal destiny depend upon our volition or God's sovereignty and omnipotence?
- Do all Christians live the abundant or victorious life?
- How do you obtain a spiritual *toga virilis*?
- Will all Christians become joint-heirs with Christ?
- What is the policy of God for Church Age believers?
- Which will is more sacred, God's will or man's will?

<i>On the one hand</i>	<i>On the other hand</i>
Physical body	Human spirit
Spiritually dead	Spiritually alive
Imputed sin	Imputed righteousness
Carnality	Energized by the Spirit

Rom	Spiritual Christian	Carnal Christian
8:4	Walks according to the Spirit	Walks according to the flesh
8:5	Sets mind on Spirit	Sets mind on flesh
8:6	Life and peace	Death
8:7		Hostile to God Not subject to God Unable to obey God
8:12	Puts to death the deeds of the body	Lives according to the flesh
8:13	Those being led by the Spirit of God	Walks according to the flesh
8:17	Joint-heirs of Christ	Those who do not suffer with Him

All Christians	Winner Christians
Position, standing	Experience, state
Children of God	Adult (full grown) sons
Heirs of God	Joint-heirs with Christ
Basic guaranteed blessings	Addl. blessings with a condition
By heredity (in Christ)	Through continued obedience
	Sharing thru undeserved suffering
	Reigning with Him in eternity
	Servant kings (<i>metachoi</i>)
	Faithfulness, endurance
Spectators (potential participants)	Participants with rewards





Question	Verse	Answer
Who can be against us?	31	No one
Who will bring any charge against God's elect?	33	No one
Who is he that attempts to condemn us?	34	No one
Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?	35	No one
What can separate us from the love of Christ?	35	Nothing