



## **PART 2: GETTING WHAT YOU WANT**

Reading Romans is like the experience of a man groping in a dark church tower who reaches out to grab whatever he can – and grasps the rope that rings the bell that wakes up the entire community.

*~ Karl Barth*

In Romans Paul teaches that the gospel is the means, the active personal power that God uses to rescue people from darkness and death. But the gospel does more than rescue – it restores. It confers on us the resolve and strength to live lives that please God, because we walk in the love that comes from God.

*~ Douglas Moo*

For Paul, “the gospel” is not a system of salvation. It is simply an announcement about Jesus as Messiah and Lord. It is not a new religious option, but simply the call to follow Jesus.

*~ N. T. Wright*

Nothing is more evident about the heart of God than his desire for fellowship with those created in his image.

*~ Kenneth Boah*

Idolatry is an attempt to use God for our purposes, rather than to give oneself to God’s service.

*~ Charles F.D. Moule*

Idolatry exists even among Christians of all denominations who worship God not in spirit and truth, but either in the deadness of an outer form, or in a pharisaical, carnal trust in their own opinions and doctrines.

*~ William Law*

When we hear of God’s wrath, we usually think of thunderbolts from heaven. Instead, God’s anger goes quietly and invisibly to work in handing sinners over – to themselves.

*~ John Stott*

God’s wrath operates not by God’s intervention but precisely by his *not* intervening, by letting men and women go their own way.

*~ John Ziesler*

For Paul, the problem is not that God is unknowable; the problem is that humanity does not want to know God.

*~ Craig H. Hill*

I am not ashamed of the gospel.

*~ The Apostle Paul*