



## **PART 11: CRUCIFORM FAITH**

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*

Romans is one of the most interesting and engaging books in the Bible – precisely because it shapes the way we think about so much of the universe we inhabit.

*~ Douglass Moo*

Paul's point in Romans is that the community that is created by this gospel must live as the true renewed humanity, in its internal and external life. In particular, it must reflect God's intention that Jew and Gentile come together as one worshipping body in Christ.

*~ N. T. Wright*

This is written in order that divine grace might be magnified and the arrogant boasting of human merit might be utterly destroyed.

*~ Martin Luther, on Romans 9*

Romans 9 is about the enlargement of God's mercy to include Gentiles, not about the narrow and predetermined fate of each individual.

*~ Ben Witherington III*

Though justice be thy plea, consider this,  
That in the course of justice, none of us  
Should see salvation.

*~ Shakespeare*

Paul's point is that what counts is grace, not race.

*~ N. T. Wright*

It is not through the Law of Moses that the promise to Abraham is fulfilled but through the faithfulness of Christ. Only in this way has God devised to bring all nations to himself.

*~ George Howard*

In the Kingdom of God, wherein God rules the saved, there are not second-class citizens, no "separate but equal"; rather, there is "neither Jew nor Gentile".

*~ David H. Stern*

Through Christ, God has called into existence a people, composed of Jew and Gentile alike, led by God's Spirit and defined not by Torah but by faith, in whom all the promises of God have come true.

*~ N. T. Wright*

I am not ashamed of the gospel.

*~ The Apostle Paul*