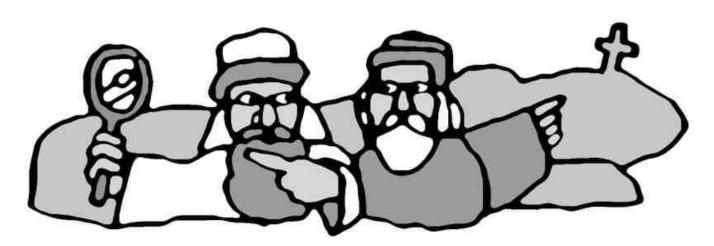
# WETRO MATERIAL SININI PAOA MATERIA SININI PAOA MATERIA SININI PAOA MATERIA SININI PAOA MATERIA SININI PAOA MATERIA

#### METRO NEW YORK WORLD MINISTRY

ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL CONTRIBUTING NOTES
For the week of October 7 – October 13, 2017
Lesson #2 of "Salvation by Faith Alone: The Book of Romans"



# The Controversy

Memory Text: "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. ." (John 1:17 KJV).

#### **Additional Verses for Meditation and Study This Week:**

Hebrews 8:6; Matthew 19:17; Revelation 12:17; Leviticus 23; Acts 15:1-29; Galatians 1:1-12;

**Main Thought for the Week:** The backdrop to the book of Romans is the controversy over the role of circumcision and the ceremonial law among the Christian believers - particularly the Gentile believers. This week, we will be looking at the process used for coming to a resolution to this crisis, with emphasis on seeking God's will in all things. It is easy to conclude that there should never be controversy in the church of the living God, but as long as the Great Controversy rages, we can expect to find mini-conflicts raging among God's people. There is no need to fear, however, for the Spirit of God is prepared - as the administrator of the body of Christ - to guide us through these issues and into the necessary solutions according to God's will. We just have to be willing to submit to Him when He has shown us His good will and pleasure.

## **A Better Covenant**

#### **Sunday's Summary – October 8:**

| 1. | What are the better promises of the "New Covenant" that make it a better covenant? |
|----|--|
|    | Hebrews 8:6  |
|    | Jeremiah 31:31-34  |
|    |  |
| 2. | Is there any change to the moral law in the New Testament?                         |
|    | Matthew 19:17  |
|    | James 2:10-11  |
|    | Revelation 12:17; 14:12  |
|    |  |
| D  | iscuss/Consider: What is it that makes the promises of God so powerful? What ca    |
| th | e promises of God tell us about the law of God?                                    |
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| Pl | ERSONAL NOTES:   |
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## **Jewish Laws and Regulations**

### **Monday's Summary – October 9:**

**SUMMARY THOUGHTS:** Before we can understand what Paul is speaking about in Romans, it is important to understand how he is using the term "the law." Jesus and the apostles often used that term to refer to the 10 Commandments, but sometimes they used it to refer to following as well: (a) The first 5 books of the Bible; (b) All of the laws, statutes and judgments given to Israel by God through Moses. Much confusion arises because people often choose whichever interpretation of "law" they want to suit a particular situation without looking at the context found in the scriptures in question.

| 1. | What was the primary distinction that God used to differentiate between the moral law and |  |  |
|----|---|--|--|
|    | the laws of ceremonies and rites and types?   |  |  |
|    | Deuteronomy 31:25-26  |  |  |
|    | Deuteronomy 10:2-5  |  |  |
| D  | iscuss/Consider: How can we help people understand the difference between laws            |  |  |
| th | at are types and shadows vs those laws that are perpetual and eternal?                    |  |  |
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| P  | ERSONAL NOTES:  |  |  |
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## **As the Custom of Moses**

#### **Tuesday's Summary – October 10:**

| 1. | What was the underlying source of the dissension?  |
|----|--|
|    | Genesis 17:10  |
|    | Acts 15:1,5-6  |
|    | Romans 2:28-29   |
|    |  |
| II | LUMINATION: While looking to God for direct guidance, he [Paul] was ever ready to              |
| re | cognize the authority vested in the body of believers united in church fellowship. He felt the |
| ne | eed of counsel, and when matters of importance arose, he was glad to lay these before the      |
| ch | aurch and to unite with his brethren in seeking God for wisdom to make right decisions.        |
| _  | Ellen G. White, <b>The Acts of the Apostles</b> , p. 200                                       |
| _  | • /0 •1 •• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •   |
|    | iscuss/Consider: What are some of the reasons why that Jews were reluctant to let              |
| go | of the ceremonial rites and practices that they had long practiced?                            |
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| P  | ERSONAL NOTES:   |
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## **The Gentile Believers**

#### **Wednesday's Summary – October 11:**

| . What were some of the key reasons that the Apostles mentioned in seeing God's direction |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| in this controversy?  |  |  |
| Acts 15:7-10  |  |  |
| Acts 15:12-17   |  |  |
| Isaiah 42:5-7   |  |  |
| Discuss/Consider: Do we make it a practice to settle our disputes according to the        |  |  |
| principles found in God's Word - particularly Acts 15?                                    |  |  |
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| PERSONAL NOTES:   |  |  |
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## Paul and the Galatians

#### Thursday's Summary – October 12:

| 1.         | How serious did Paul consider this controversy in the early church?                             |
|------------|---|
|            | Galatians 1:1-12  |
|            | Romans 3:26-31  |
|            |   |
| IL         | LUMINATION: Through the influence of false teachers who had arisen among the                    |
| bel        | lievers in Jerusalem, division, heresy, and sensualism were rapidly gaining ground among        |
| the        | e believers in Galatia. These false teachers were mingling Jewish traditions with the truths of |
| the        | e gospel. Ignoring the decision of the general council at Jerusalem, they urged upon the        |
| Ge         | ntile converts the observance of the ceremonial law.  |
| <b>—</b> ] | Ellen G. White, <b>The Acts of the Apostles</b> , p. 383  |
| PF         | ERSONAL NOTES:  |
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# Wrapping It All Up...

Friday's Summary – October 13:

| Reflections on the week   |  |  |
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| <b>Appeal:</b> God has established a method of resolution for His church. Are you willing to implement this method, as shown in Acts 15, by the grace of God?                         |  |  |
| <b>Final Thoughts:</b> At Metro New York World Ministry, we seek to encourage every listener  |  |  |
| to embrace God's methods for Bible study, doctrinal clarity and conflict resolution. God's method does not focus or rely upon our wisdom or even our piety. It relies upon each of us |  |  |
| being open to the will of God, as revealed in His Word and in His leading in our lives and the  |  |  |
| church. When we get to the place that we can say "For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and   |  |  |
| to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; (Act 15:28)" then   |  |  |
| we will know that we are operating in harmony with the will of God, and that we are prepared  |  |  |
| to move forward in faith.   |  |  |
| PERSONAL NOTES:   |  |  |
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