

## ROMANS 6-11

# Bold Questions that Demand Solid Answers

*Inductive Bible Study Guide*

## What is Inductive Bible Study?

Inductive Bible study is a method of examining a text and seeking to determine its teaching, meaning, and application through observation and questions designed to help us understand and apply what the text teaches. It involves four simple steps you can take on your own or in a group discussion.

### 1. READ

Read Romans 6:1; 6:15; 7:7; 8:31; 9:14; and 9:30 four or five times slowly. In a group, have different members read the passage aloud before beginning the questions. Also identify the four personal questions Paul asks in 10:18; 10:19; 11:1; and 11:11.

### 2. OBSERVE

What does the text say? Notice who is speaking, key terms, repeated words, the questions Paul raises, and the answers he gives.

### 3. INTERPRET

What does the text mean? Identify Paul's main argument, the role of the Law in exposing sin, and how this passage fits the larger flow of Romans 6–11.

### 4. APPLY

How should this text change me? What false assumptions must I abandon? What truths must I embrace? What will I do differently this week?



*Pastor Sam's sermon surveys the six key questions that shape Romans 6–11. Scan the QR code or use the link provided to access the message before or during your study.*

## The Six Questions Paul Raises in Romans 6–11

- ▶ Question 1 — *Shall we continue under sin's power? (6:1)*
- ▶ Question 2 — *Can we continue to practice sin? (6:15)*
- ▶ Question 3 — *Is the Law itself sinful? (7:7) — Three functions of the Law*
- ▶ Question 4 — *What do we make of God's mercy to us? (8:31) — Leading to Israel*
- ▶ Question 5 — *Is it unjust for God to withhold grace from Israel? (9:14)*
- ▶ Question 6 — *How did Gentiles receive the righteousness promised to Israel? (9:30)*

## OBSERVING THE TEXT CAREFULLY

*Keep Romans 6-11 open before you, along with your sermon notes, as you work through questions 1–4.*

1

Paul introduces each of his six major questions in Romans 6–11 with the same identifying phrase. What is that phrase, and what does it signal about the kind of reasoning Paul is inviting his readers to do? Find and list all six questions in the sermon notes.

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2

Look at the third question Paul raises — "Is the Law sinful?" (7:7). What is Paul's one-word response? Then list the three specific functions the sermon says the Law performed, noting the verse references Paul gives for each one.

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3

Paul raises the question of Israel in connection with his fourth question about God's mercy (8:31). What is the specific concern Paul addresses — what happened to Israel, and what does it raise in the minds of those who have received God's grace? How does Paul answer it in chapters 9–11?

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4

In the fourth group of follow-up questions (look for the phrase "I ask"), Paul asks four additional questions in chapters 10-11. List each question and its reference, then summarize in your own words the answer Paul gives to each one.

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## INTERPRETING THE TEXT THOUGHTFULLY

*Pastor Sam's sermon notes on this passage will provide helpful context for questions 5–8.*

5

Paul uses questions to "reshape how we think and what we believe" so that Christians will present their bodies to God fully and unreservedly. How do the first two questions (6:1 and 6:14) work together to establish the foundation for Christian living? What false conclusion does each question guard against?

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6

In 7:7-13, Paul identifies three functions the Law performs in the life of a believer. How does each function — defining sin, making sin appear exceedingly sinful, and pointing us away from Moses to the Deliverer — work together as a unified argument? Why is this progression essential for understanding why the Law cannot sanctify us?

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7

Questions 5 (Romans 9:14) and Question 6 (Romans 9:30) deal with Israel's failure to receive the righteousness God promised. According to Romans 9:30–33, what was the decisive difference between the Gentiles who received righteousness and Israel who did not? What does this reveal about the nature of faith versus works as the basis for a right standing before God?

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8

Paul's six questions — and their answers — lead ultimately not just to correct doctrine but to "joyful worship and exuberant life-transforming praise" (Romans 11:33–36). Why would getting the right answers to these questions produce that response? What is it about the depth of God's wisdom and mercy that moves a person from theological understanding to heartfelt worship?

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## APPLYING THE TEXT PERSONALLY

*Ask yourself the tough questions from this text — questions 9–12.*

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The answer to Question 1 (6:1) is that we have been united with Christ in His death to sin and resurrection to new life. How fully have you made the break Paul describes — with your old way of life, your old loyalties, and your old patterns of thinking? Is there a specific area where that break is still incomplete? What would completing it require?

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10

The big answer to Question 2 (6:14) is that we are betrothed to Christ and are now in a season of our sanctification — which is why making a quiet peace with ongoing sin is so serious. What sins in your life have you begun to accommodate rather than fight? How does viewing yourself as betrothed to Christ — set apart for Him — change your willingness to engage in that battle?

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11

The third function of the Law is to make you look beyond Moses to Christ as your Deliverer (7:24–25). Are there areas of your Christian life where you are still looking to rules, disciplines, or your own moral effort for power over sin rather than to the Holy Spirit? What would it look like to stop striving in your own strength and actively trust the Spirit's power in that area?

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12

Paul ends this section (chapters 6-11) with a doxology — "Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!" (11:33). When did you last respond to the gospel with genuine, overflowing wonder and praise? What truth about God's mercy — to you personally, or to people you might have written off the way some wrote off the Gentiles — moves you closest to that response right now?

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## A PRAYER TO CLOSE YOUR STUDY

### Based on Romans 7:7–13 and the Six Questions of Romans 6–11

*Father, we thank You for a God who asks questions — who does not simply hand us conclusions to memorize, but who stoops to lead us, step by step, through the reasoning of grace until we arrive at a place of genuine, life-changing wonder.*

*We have sat with six questions this morning, and the answers have undone us in the best possible way. We have been delivered from sin's dominion. We are not free to sin, but free from it — betrothed to Your Son, set apart for Him, waiting for the day He comes to receive us. The Law that once condemned us has done its work: it named our sin, made it appear as ugly and deadly as it truly is, and drove us past Moses to the only One who could deliver us — Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*And then You showed us what You have done with the very rebellion of nations — how the stumbling of one became the salvation of many, and how Your mercy outruns our worst failures and most stubborn rejection. There is no sin too great, no nation too hardened, no person too far gone for the grace that flows from the cross of Your Son.*

*Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God. We confess that we have treated these truths too casually — as doctrines to hold rather than wonders to worship. Forgive us. Awaken in us the kind of praise that wells up from a soul that has truly grasped what You have done.*

*And as we go from this place, may the answers to these questions renew our minds, transform our lives, and move us to present ourselves to You — body, will, desire, and ambition — as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable, for Your glory and for the joy of a world that still needs to hear. In the name of Jesus, our Deliverer and our Lord. Amen.*