



# THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL

ROMANS 1 - 4

## Sermon Series Study Guide

A 5-week video series by Dr. John Neufeld

### Week 2: THE DARKNESS OF SIN &

What does it mean to be a Christian? What is the message of the Gospel? What is the heart of the Christian message? Sometimes people stumble and have no idea whatsoever, but I believe the book of Romans can clear the fog. When you strip everything back, culture, politics, entertainment, no book better describes what it means to be a follower of Christ. The Book of Romans is a discovery of the heart of the Christian message, the Good News, the Gospel. It is Christianity 101... four chapters that lay bare the very foundation of our faith.



**BACK** to the **BIBLE**  
Canada

Week 2:

# THE DARKNESS OF SIN &

The message of Romans 1 is a message of presenting our need for the Gospel. In this message Dr. Neufeld presents a verse by verse understanding of the chapter, a chapter that in many ways we might find disturbing, but in other ways must be understood so that we might grasp the depth and breadth of the Good News. As Dr. Neufeld suggests, "Until we see the blackness of the world that we are presently living in, who will save us from this present darkness? Until that thought occurs to us, we will never look for a savior. But once it does, our hearts and our minds become open to the fact that God has brought one."

*"So the identification of personal sinfulness, overwhelmed with our indebtedness to God, a deep abiding sense that if or when I stand before God's judgment seat, I am ruined and condemned. I've got no way of making it before God's bar of judgment. I am in a disastrous situation. That's the starting point of becoming a Christian. Jesus came for only people who are overwhelmed with their innate sinfulness."*

- DR. JOHN NEUFELD

## READ: Romans 1

Romans 1:16, 17

*"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes. To the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it, the righteousness of God is revealed from faith, for faith, as it is written. The righteous shall live by faith."*

### My Notes:

<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
---	---



# THE DARKNESS OF SIN &

## *“The Heart of the Gospel”* Week 2 Study Questions:

### REFLECT:

- How does Paul identify himself in the first few verses of Romans? Why is this critical to our reading and to the Church in Rome?

---

---

---

---

---

---

- Paul in vs 11 says, “For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you.” What does Dr. Neufeld suggest this gift is that Paul is referring to? And what might that suggest about the gifts that God has granted you as a Spirit filled believer?

---

---

---

---

- In vs 18 Paul says, “For the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven.” How should we understand the “wrath” of God?

---

---

---

### RESPOND:

- When I consider the condition of this world, the condition of my life, my hope for today and for eternity, when I consider Paul’s words regarding the darkness of sin as opposed to grace, and faith, where would I say I’ve placed my trust?

---

---

---

---

# THE DARKNESS OF SIN &

## Prayer Point:

Dear Lord, perhaps more than ever, I understand the darkness of my sin that separates me from you. But, I also recognize it is because of this great darkness that you have shared an even greater light, a light of salvation. Lord may I grasp hold of the urgency of sharing that light with others.

## Additional Resources:

Click the links below to access some of the latest blogs, messages, and videos from Back to the Bible Canada and our friends at Laugh Again and indoubt!



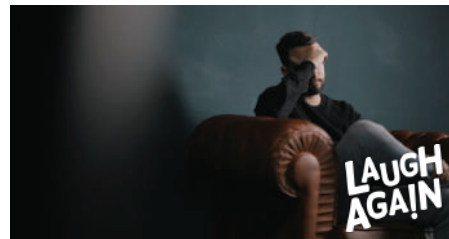
Check out Dr. Neufeld's expanded audio series,  
*The Heart of the Gospel: Romans 1-4*  
<https://www.backtothebible.ca/series/romans-the-heart-of-the-gospel/>



### *Assurance of Salvation*

Back to the Bible Canada

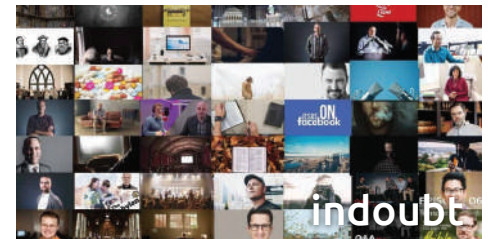
<https://www.backtothebible.ca/messages/assurance-of-salvation/>



### *Job Interview Fails*

Laugh Again

<https://laughagain.ca/blog/job-interview-fails/>



### *Let's Party (And Talk about SIN)*

indoubt

<https://indoubt.ca/episodes/episode-100-lets-party-and-talk-about-sin/>