

# ROMANS

SEEING WHAT IS RIGHT • THROUGH GOD'S EYES

# Ground Zero



# Ground Zero

- **Definition of GROUND ZERO**
- **1:** the point directly above, below, or at which a nuclear explosion occurs
- **2:** the center or origin of rapid, intense, or violent activity or change; *broadly* : [CENTER](#)
- **3:** the very beginning : [SQUARE ONE](#)



# Ground Zero

- **Have you had a spiritual ‘ground zero’?**
- **The critical point where you have been clear with yourself – it is all for Christ or nothing?**



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‘Ground Zero’ How to Relate to God

# Ground Zero – Romans 1-11

## ❖ Module 1 – “Condemned” *God’s Righteous Judgement Ch. 1-3*

<sup>18</sup> The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, Romans 1:18 (NIV84)

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23 (NIV84)



# Ground Zero – Romans 1-11

❖ **Module 1 – “Condemned”** *God’s Righteous Judgement Ch. 1-3*

❖ **Module 2 – “Credited”** *Righteousness through Faith Ch. 4-5*

However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. Romans 4:5 (NIV84)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5:1 (NIV84)



# Ground Zero – Romans 1-11

- ❖ **Module 1 – “Condemned”** *God’s Righteous Judgement Ch. 1-3*
- ❖ **Module 2 – “Credited”** *Righteousness through Faith Ch. 4-5*
- ❖ **Module 3 – “Resurrected”** *Living Righteously through Christ Ch. 6-8*

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— Romans 6:6 (NIV84)

So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. Romans 7:21 (NIV84)

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. Romans 8:37 (NIV84)



# Ground Zero – Romans 1-11

- ❖ **Module 1 – “Condemned”** *God’s Righteous Judgement Ch. 1-3*
- ❖ **Module 2 – “Credited”** *Righteousness through Faith Ch. 4-5*
- ❖ **Module 3 – “Resurrected”** *Living Righteously through Christ Ch. 6-8*
- ❖ **Module 4 – “Secured”** *God Righteously Determines Ch. 9-11*

“It does not, therefore, depend on man’s desire or effort, but on God’s mercy.” Romans 9:16 (NIV84)

“for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”  
Romans 10:13 (NIV84)

“For God has bound all men over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.” Romans 11:32 (NIV84)



# Ground Zero – Romans 1-11

**“Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! 34 “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?” 35 “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?” 36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.”**

**Romans 11:33–36 (NIV84)**



# Ground Zero – Romans 1-11

- **Romans 1-11**
  - There are 523 **Indicatives** – that is what we call action words. Facts. Most of these are simply declaring truth to us.
  - There are only 13 **imperatives** - that is what we call action words that command us to do something
  - **That means there averages barely 1 command per chapter!**
- **Romans 12-16**
  - There are only 115. **Indicatives**
  - There are 49 **imperatives!**
  - **That means there averages about 10 commands per chapter!**

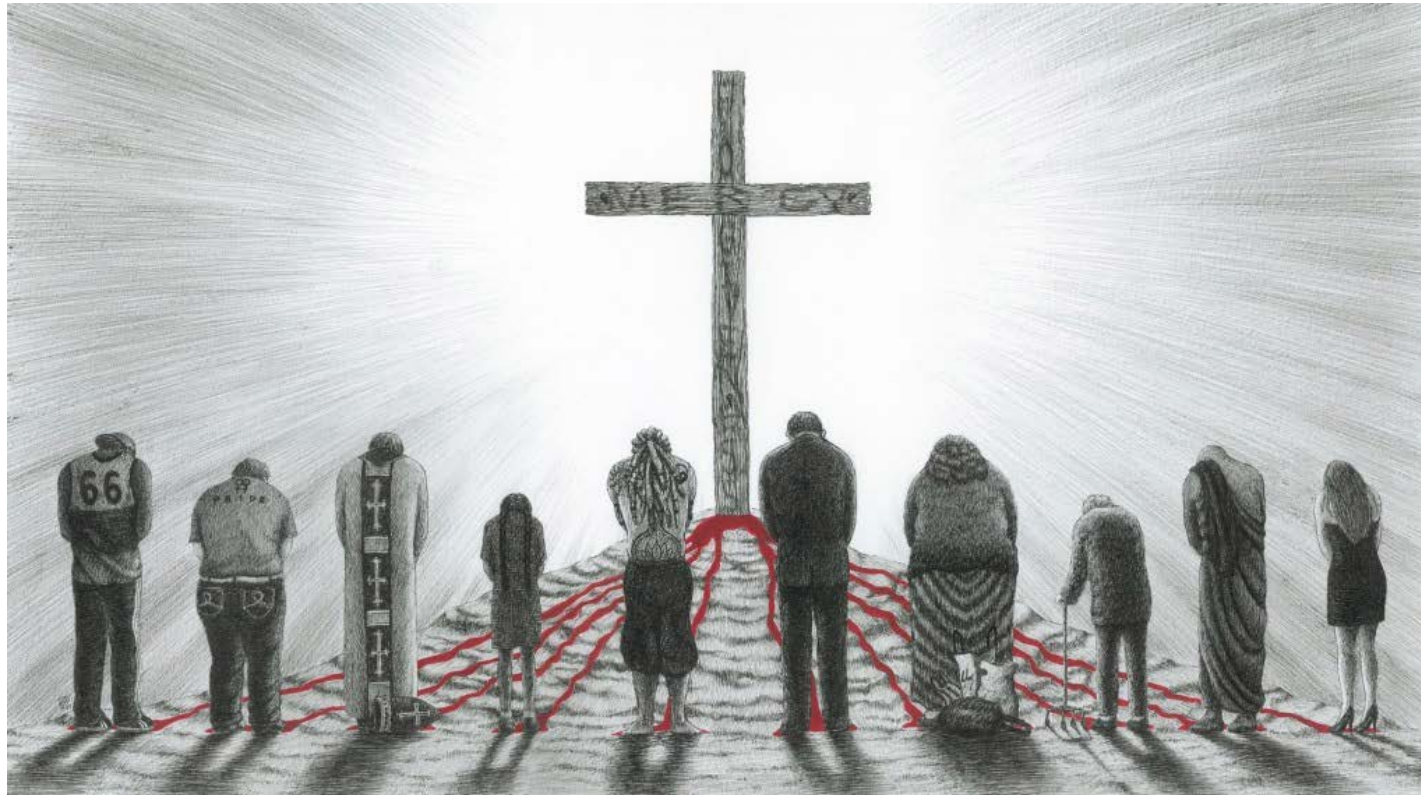
**Chapters 1-11 – Done: What God did in Christ!**

**Chapters 12-16 – Do: What we should do in response!**



# Ground Zero – Romans 1-11

## ❖ Module 5 – “Transformed” Righteousness Through Christ Ch.12-16



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‘Ground Zero’ How to Relate to God

Romans 12:1-2

Pew Bible Pg. 803

# 1.Step One: Offer Yourself

*“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.” (Romans 12:1, NKJV)*

- Does not say – make yourself holy! **Done - Romans 1-11**
- What do I actually own? What does God **‘need’**? **My heart!**

*“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.” (Romans 12:1, NIV84)*

- True , complete worship, is the giving of myself, living out the gospel. Caring for the poor, integrity at work & school, honouring my parents, abstaining from immorality etc. etc.



# 1.Step One: Offer Yourself

**“In view of God’s acts of mercy it is entirely fitting that we commit ourselves without reservation to him. To teach that accepting the free gift of God’s grace does not necessarily involve a moral obligation on our part is a heresy of gigantic proportions. The popular cliché “He is Lord of all or not Lord at all” is absolutely right. *Mounce, R. H.***



## 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit

- **Command # 1 (Imperative)**

*“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world,  
.....(Romans 12:2a, NLT)*

- **stop allowing yourself to be molded and shaped by what society says you should be**



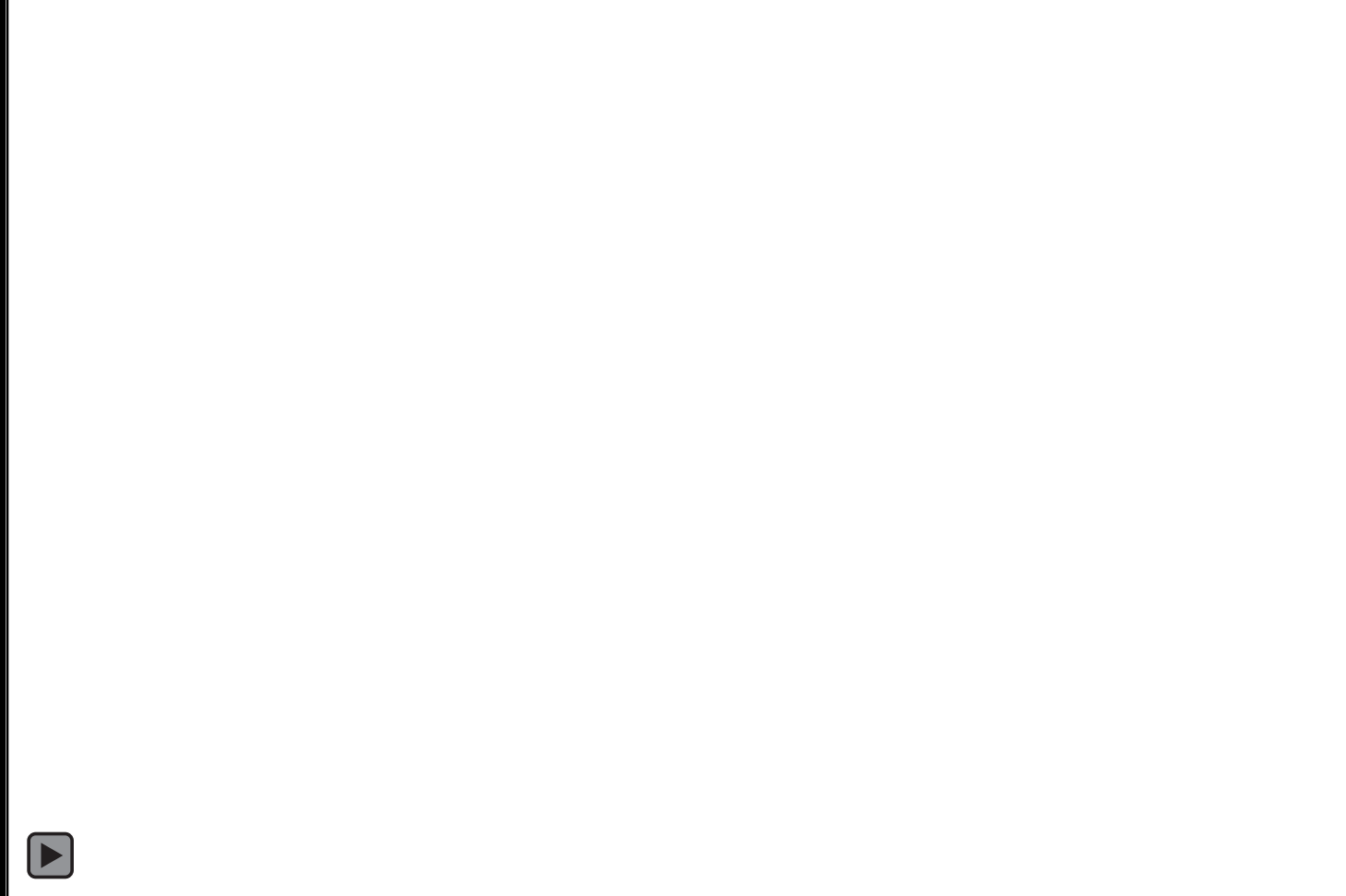
## 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWAQvHBCYZM>



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## 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g756ro3hjM4>

**Let It Go**

**James Bay**

**From walking home and talking  
loads ..... Oh, this delusion in our  
heads**

**Is gonna bring us to our knees  
So come on, let it go  
Just let it be**

**Why don't you be you  
And I'll be me**

**Everything that's broke  
Leave it to the breeze  
Why don't you be you**

**And I'll be me  
And I'll be me...**

**Songwriters: Paul Michael Barry / James Bay  
Let It Go lyrics © Universal Music Publishing  
Group**



## 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit

- **Who determines who you are?**
  - You? ‘You be you and I’ll be me’???
  - Your creator?
- **What is the standard, the basis for how you live and behave?**
  - You? Our societal norms? ‘You be you and I’ll be me’???
  - The Word of God?



## 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit

You be you and I'll be me .....

**This 'works' as long as you agree with the cultural fads and social norms and certainly do not stand for biblical values and true biblical Christlikeness**



## 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit



### **Trinity Western loses fight for Christian law school as court rules limits on religious freedom 'reasonable'**

Supreme Court of Canada says 7-2 decision will ensure open access for LGBT students

Kathleen Harris · CBC News · Posted: Jun 15, 2018 9:48 AM ET | Last Updated: June 15



# 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit

**JB Philips translation**

***“do not let the world squeeze you into its mold”***



## 2.Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit

**Is 'you being you' about being what you want and what fits in or is 'you being you' all about being on the exciting journey of determining what your creator has made you to be and become all that He has made you to be?**



# 3.Step Three: Let the 'potter' mold you

- **Command # 2 (Imperative)**

*"...but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think..."* (Romans 12:2b, NLT)



# 3.Step Three: Let the 'potter' mold you

## Examples of Metamorphic Rocks



Gneiss



Slate



Quartzite



Schist



Marble



Phyllite



# 3.Step Three: Let the 'potter' mold you

## Metamorphosis



# 3.Step Three: Let the 'potter' mold you

- **Command # 2 (Imperative)**
- *“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”* (Romans 12:2, NIV84)
- All I am commanded to do is **let** Him transform!



# 3.Step Three: Let the 'potter' mold you

- *“And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:18, NIV)*



# Ground Zero

- **Have you had a spiritual ‘ground zero’?**
- **The critical point where you have been clear with yourself – it is all or nothing?**



# Ground Zero

- **Step One: Offer Yourself**
- **Step Two: Stop Copying the Counterfeit**
- **Step Three: Let the Potter Mold you**

