



CONDEMNATION

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ON LINE HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

Full-size and ready-to-print handouts, coloring pages, memory verse tokens and posters for this volume are available online. Visit www.biblevisuals.org and search for S1019 for ready-to-print PDF downloads.

Lesson 1

WHO ARE CONDEMNED

NOTE TO THE TEACHER

In this Visualized Bible series, there are five volumes on the book of Romans:

- Volume 19—Condemnation (Romans 1:18–3:20)
- Volume 20—Justification (Romans 3:21–5:11)
- Volume 21—Sanctification (Romans 5:12–8:39)
- Volume 22—God and Israel (Romans 9:1–11:36)
- Volume 23—The Christian’s Walk (Romans 12:1–15:33)

Romans is actually a letter written by Paul to the Christians in Rome. He was looking forward to his first visit to that city. Paul may have written from the city of Corinth on his third missionary journey. It is a letter written to believers in Christ, not unbelievers, to help them understand that God is righteous and just.

Our first series is on the subject of condemnation. It is not a pleasant subject but must be understood in order to appreciate God’s gift of salvation. Paul shows in the Roman letter that man is absolutely guilty before God and therefore deserves His wrath and punishment. Paul also tells of God’s mercy, which brings people to salvation. (See Titus 3:5.) Remember to keep this balance in your own teaching. As you present the wrath of God, present also His love. As you teach about His judgment, teach also of His mercy.

Although you may have taught the conversion of Paul, you should repeat this teaching now. This will help your students to understand that the human author of the book of Romans knew from experience the meaning of *condemnation*.

Scripture to be studied: Romans 1:1-32; Acts 9:1-19

The aim of the lesson: To show that Paul knew from experience the meaning of condemnation.

What your students should know: God condemns those who reject His Son, but pardons those who receive Him.

What your students should feel: An eagerness to have their sins forgiven.

What your students should do: Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and receive Him as Saviour.

Lesson outline (for the teacher’s and students’ notebooks):

1. Stephen unjustly condemned for faith in Christ (Acts 6:8–7:60).
2. Saul condemned for not believing in Christ (Acts 9:1-6).
3. Saul no longer condemned (Acts 9:6-21).
4. Paul writes God’s message of condemnation.

The verse to be memorized:

He that believeth on Him [the Lord Jesus Christ] is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:18)

THE LESSON

Today we begin a study of the book of Romans. Please write in your notebook under the heading ROMANS the theme of the book: “The Righteousness of God” (or “God Is Always Right”).

We shall see that God is right in *condemning* sinners. He is right in *justifying* and *sanctifying* believers. He is right in *choosing Israel*.

Does some of this sound like a foreign language? “Condemn,” “justify,” “sanctify” and “choose” appear often in the Bible. By the time we finish studying Romans, you should understand the meanings of these words and be able to explain them to others. Listen carefully!

Our memory verse contains the word *condemned*. This is the subject of the lessons in this first series on Romans. If we understand the meaning of condemned, we shall understand these lessons. In your notebook, under the title “CONDEMNED,” write Romans 1:18–3:20 and the meanings of “condemned” which follow.

First, “condemn” means *to declare guilty*. John came inside and saw some delicious bananas. (*Teacher:* Use a name and a fruit that your students know.) Handing John one banana, his mother said, “You may have only one. I want to take the others to some sick friends.” John went outside and ate the banana. The next time he went inside, Mother was gone. He stuffed two of the biggest bananas under his shirt (or whatever boys wear in your part of the world). He was outdoors again when Mother called: “John, come here! You took some bananas.” The bananas were gone and Mother *declared* John *guilty*.

Second, “condemn” also means *to prove guilty*. Mother had not seen John take the bananas, but she saw the bulge in his