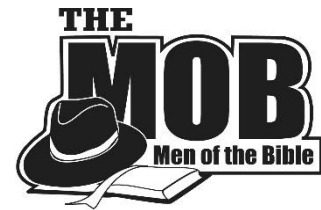


For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Romans 1:16-17



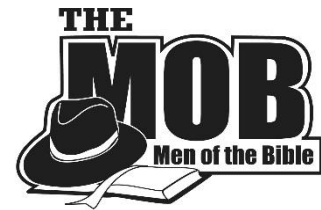
Announcements



- **Welcome to the MOB!** Website: www.ibcmob.net
- ["Sing We Now Noel" Christmas Musical Celebration at IBC, December 8-10, 2017, Purchase Tickets \(\\$5.00\) Online](#)
- **No MOB December 5th – Go see "Sing We Now Noel"**
Next MOB meeting: December 12th (Small Group A food)



Memory Verse



Hebrews 11:6 (NASB)

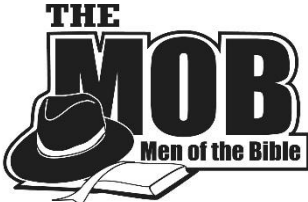
And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

Hebrews 11:6 (NASB)



Romans

Outline



Focus	Revelation of God's Righteousness			Vindication of God's Righteousness			Application of God's Righteousness	
	Reference	1:1 – 3:20	3:21 – 5:21	6:1 – 8:39	9:1-29	9:30 – 10:21	11:1-36	12:1 – 13:14
Division	Need for God's Righteousness	Imputation of God's Righteousness	Demonstration of God's Righteousness	Israel's Past: Election	Israel's Present: Rejection	Israel's Future: Restoration	Christian Duties	Christian Liberties
Topic	Sin	Salvation	Sanctification	Sovereignty			Service	
	Doctrinal						Behavioral	
Location & Time	Probably written in Corinth (Greece) around 57 AD							





Last Meeting



Our Key Thoughts were:

- Righteousness comes through faith in Christ, not the Law (vv21-22),
- Sinners are redeemed by the blood of Jesus (vv23-25),
- Justification comes by faith, not by works of any law (vv27-28),
- God justifies us by faith alone (vv29-30)

Our Scripture was:

- [Romans 3:21-31](#)

Our Supplemental Reading was:

- *Encountering Romans*, Chapter 7, pages 65-72

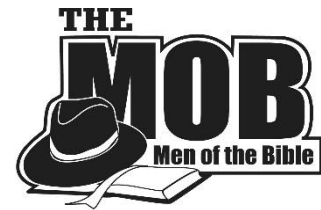
Encountering the Book of Romans

Chapter 7: “God’s Righteousness in Christ”

- The New Era of Righteousness
([Romans 3:21-26](#))
- Justification and the Law
([Romans 3:27-31](#))



This Meeting



Key Thoughts

- The church in Rome is reminded of the faith of Abraham... and so are we
- God calls believers to faith and, like Abraham, we are to trust Him wholly, even when we can't see the big picture
- God delivered on his promises to Abraham

Our Outline Tonight:

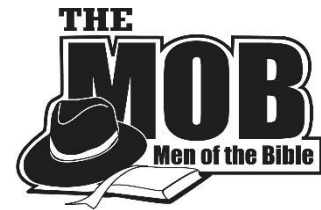
- God's Call
- God's Covenant
- God's Fulfillment
- God's Provision
- Abraham's Belief

Our Scripture for Tonight is:

- [Genesis 12:1-4](#)
- [Genesis 15:1-20](#)
- [Genesis 17:1-27](#)
- [Genesis 21:1-7](#)
- [Genesis 22](#)
- [Hebrews 11:8-10, 17-18](#)



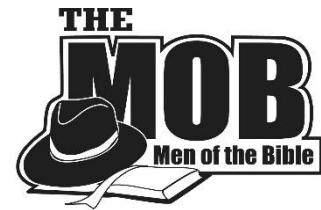
Genesis 12:1-4



Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.



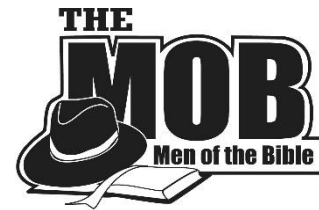
Genesis 15:1-6



After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.



Genesis 15:7-12



And he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him.



Genesis 15:13-20

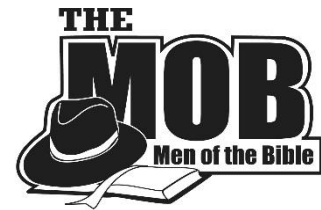


Then the Lord said to Abram, “Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.” When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.

On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites.”



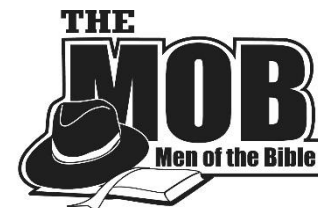
Genesis 17:1-7



When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.



Genesis 17:8-14



And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.” And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”



Genesis 17:15-21

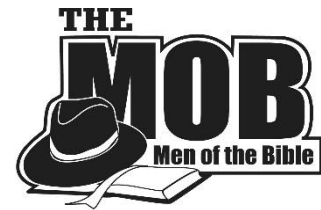


And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, “Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?” And Abraham said to God, “Oh that Ishmael might live before you!” God said, “No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year.”



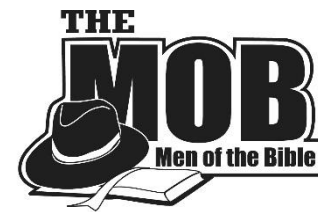
Genesis 17:22-27



When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham. Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all those born in his house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him. Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised. And all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.



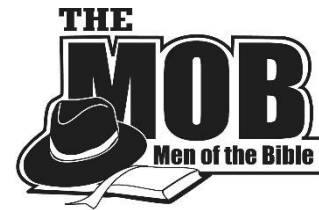
Genesis 21:1-7



The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised. And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. And Sarah said, “God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me.” And she said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”



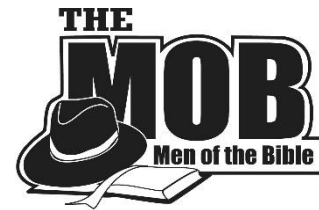
Genesis 22:1-5



After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.”



Genesis 22:6-10



And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.



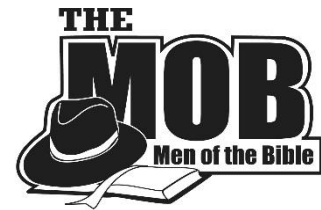
Genesis 22:11-14



But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide” as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”



Genesis 22:15-18



And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”



Hebrews 11:8-10, 17-19

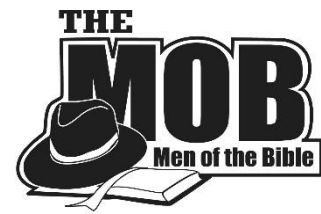


By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.



Outline



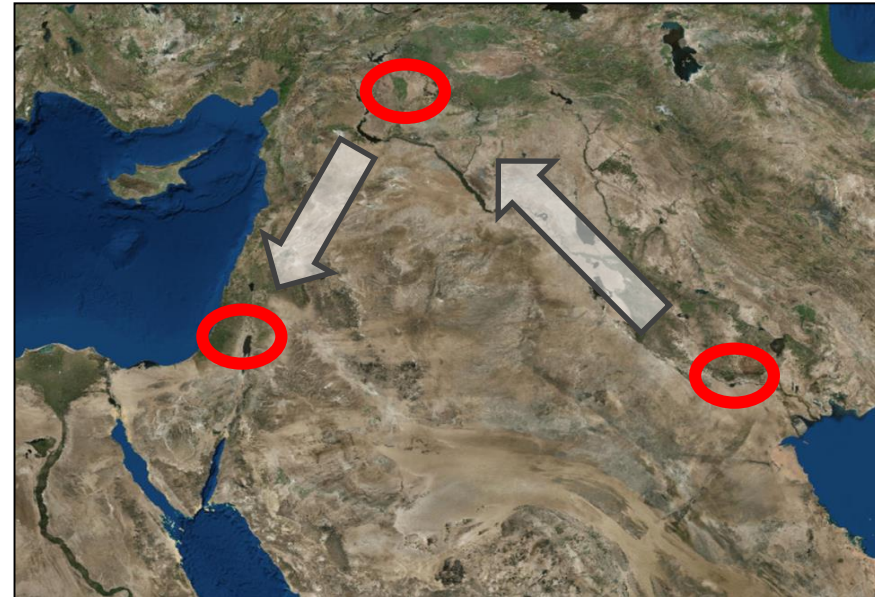
The Faith of Abraham – Part 1

- God's Call (Genesis 12)
- God's Covenant (Genesis 15 and 17)
- God's Fulfillment (Genesis 21)
- God's Provision (Genesis 22)
- Abraham's Belief (Hebrews 11)

God's Call: Genesis 12

- **Observation:**

“Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from
your country...
your kindred...
your father's house...”
...So Abram went.”



God's Call: Genesis 12

- **Observation:**

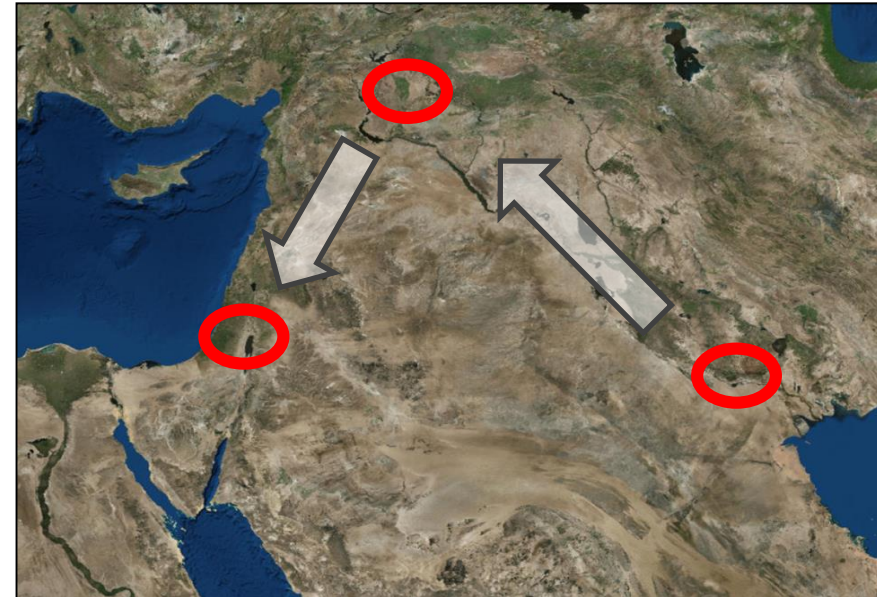
“Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from
your country...
your kindred...
your father's house...”

...So Abram went.

- **Interpretation:**

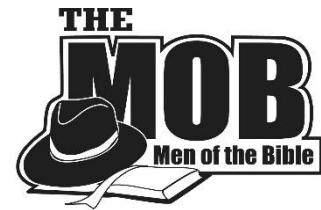
Abram's faith prioritized God above:

- his nation
- his people
- his family





Loving God Wholly is *Still* Our Command



- “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” ([Matthew 22:34-40](#))
- “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.” ([Matthew 10:37-38](#))
- “And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life.” ([Matthew 19:29](#))

- **Observation:**

God said to Abraham:

- "Your reward shall be very great"
- "Number the stars... so shall your offspring be"
- "To your offspring I give this land"
- "I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring"
- "Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac"

- **Interpretation:**

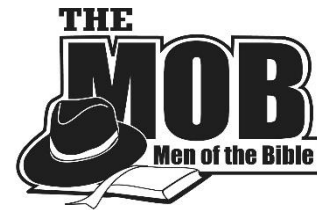
God initiated the covenant with Abram and gave him signs that God was serious about the keeping it:

- Vision of God walking through the sacrifices
- God changed his name from Abram to Abraham ("father of many")
- Circumcision for Abraham, his household, and his male offspring

And he believed the Lord,
and He counted it to him
as righteousness.



God's Fulfillment: Genesis 21



- **Observation:**

The Lord visited Sarah as He had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as He had promised. And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac.

- **Interpretation:**

God said it, God did it, even with the sometimes imperfect faith of Abraham and Sarah (Isaac means "he laughs/to laugh")

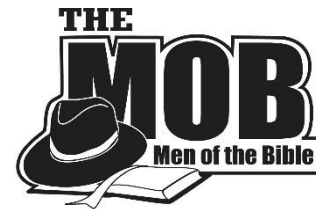
- A continual reminder of God's sovereignty and our humanity

Genesis 21 puts in motion God's fulfillment of His Abrahamic Covenant:

- Offspring, nation, land, great name
- "All the families of the earth shall be blessed in you."



God's Provision: Genesis 22



- **Observation:**

God tests Abraham's faith by calling on him to sacrifice his son Isaac.

Why? Because God told him to.

- **Interpretation:**

Prior, Abraham has shown faith in God's words and actions, but here:

"Abraham must understand that he is utterly dependent, he must cling consciously to his God, who gives and takes away beyond all understanding...." (Cahill)

"The test allows the patriarch to demonstrate to himself, to Isaac, to the world, but most of all to God that his faith is not driven by what he will receive out of it, but by his commitment to God. God and God alone motivates his faith." (Walton)

Abraham understands that the Most High, Everlasting, Almighty God is also JEHOVAH JIREH – the God who Provides (Walton)



Abraham's Belief: Hebrews 11



- **Observation:**

By faith Abraham obeyed....He went out, not knowing where he was going.

For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named."

He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead

- **Interpretation:**

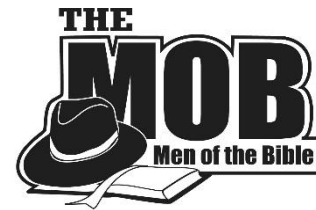
Abraham did not have the whole picture, but trusted in God

Hebrews 11:6

"And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."



This Meeting Recap



Key Thoughts

- The church in Rome is reminded of the faith of Abraham... and so are we
- God calls believers to faith and, like Abraham, we are to trust Him wholly, even when we can't see the big picture
- God delivered on his promises to Abraham

Our Outline Tonight:

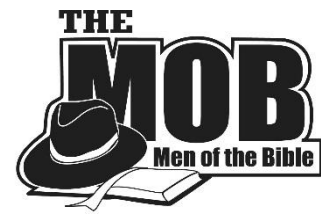
- God's Call
- God's Covenant
- God's Fulfillment
- God's Provision
- Abraham's Belief

Our Scripture for Tonight is:

- [Genesis 12:1-4](#)
- [Genesis 15:1-20](#)
- [Genesis 17:1-27](#)
- [Genesis 21:1-7](#)
- [Genesis 22](#)
- [Hebrews 11:8-10, 17-18](#)



Discussion & Application



1. What does it mean to you that God called Abram?
2. What does it mean to you in today's world that Abram left his country, his kindred, and his father's house? How do we show similar faith?
3. How did Abraham exhibit his faith?
4. Have there been times when you had to trust God without knowing the whole picture? What happened?
5. How do the Abrahamic covenants and promises affect your beliefs as a modern-day Christian?
6. How are all the families of the earth blessed through Abraham?



Next Meeting



The Faith of Abraham – Part 2

Review:

- [Genesis 12:1-4](#); [Genesis 15:1-20](#);
- [Genesis 17:1-27](#); [Genesis 21:1-7](#); [Genesis 22](#)
- [Hebrews 11:8-10, 17-18](#)

Study:

- [Romans 4:1-25](#)
- *Encountering Romans*, Chapter 8 (pages 73-80)

Reminder: No MOB December 5th – Go see “Sing We Now Noel”

Next MOB meeting: December 12th (Small Group A food)

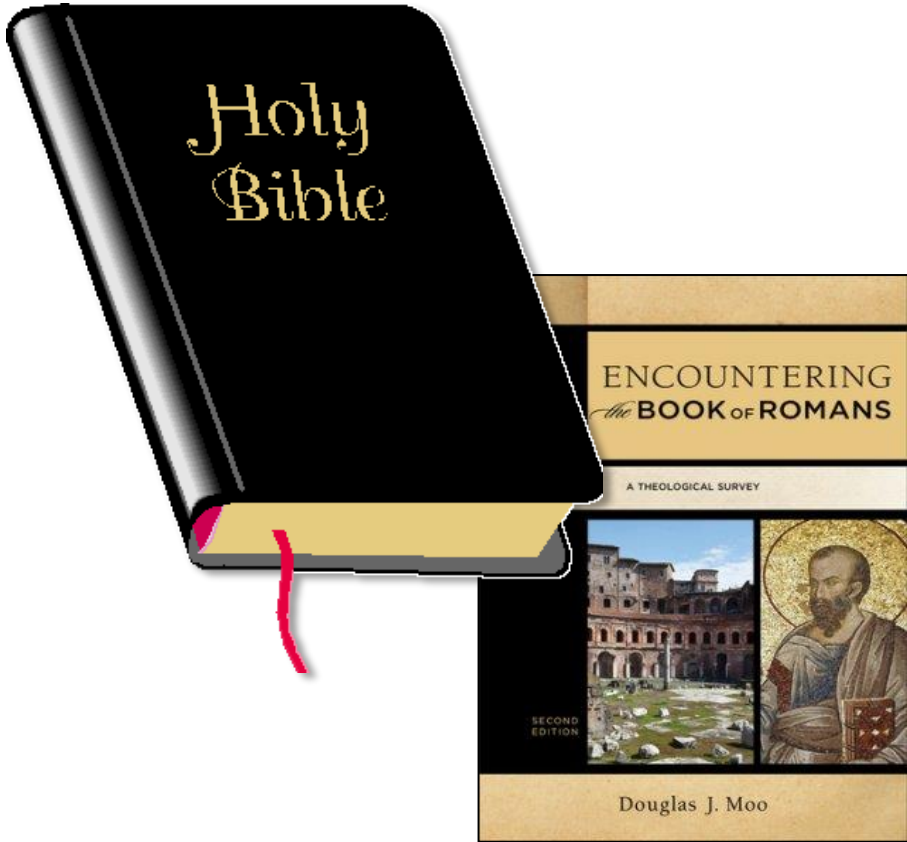


Closing



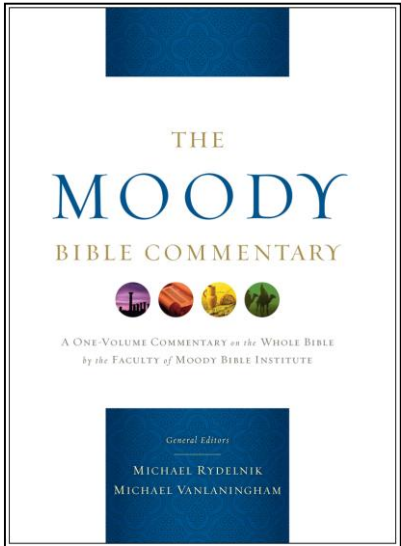
- Questions?
- Comments?
- Closing Prayer

Resources



<http://www.ibcmob.net/resources.html>
<http://biblegateway.com>
<http://biblehub.com> (includes Strong's Definitions)

Supporting Reference (Dave's)



MOB Reference Material



Bibliography



- Walton, John H. (2001). *The NIV Application Commentary: Genesis*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- Cahill, Thomas. (1998). *The Gifts of the Jews*. New York: Talese/Anchor Books.
- Rydelnik, Michael and Michael Vanlaningham, editors. (2014). *The Moody Bible Commentary*. Chicago: Moody Press.