SOFTWARE & TECH

Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary

PUBLISHED
November 25, 2026

REFERENCE
#1795582286195397

Discovering the Depths of Paul's Epistle: An Introduction to the Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary

For decades, serious students of the Bible have searched for commentaries that do more than merely explain the text—they seek works that bring the Scripture to life, that throb with the urgency of divine truth and the warmth of pastoral care. Few expositors have achieved this with the power and precision of Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, the Welsh physician-turned-preacher who ministered at Westminster Chapel in London for nearly thirty years. His multi-volume **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary**stands as one of the most detailed, theologically robust, and spiritually penetrating expositions of any New Testament book ever produced in the English language.

What makes this commentary so remarkable is not merely its length—though it runs to fourteen volumes covering chapters 1 through 14—but the manner in which it was delivered. These are not academic lectures written in a quiet study. They are verbatim transcripts of Lloyd-Jones's Friday evening Bible studies, preached verse by verse, often spending months on a single chapter. The result is a work that combines meticulous theological analysis with the urgency and application of live preaching. Readers do not simply learn about Romans; they are drawn into the grand drama of redemption that Paul unfolds.

For pastors, teachers, and lay Christians who want to understand the gospel in its full biblical context, the **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary**remains an indispensable resource. It is a work that rewards slow, careful reading and invites the reader into a deeper encounter with the living God.

Who Was Martyn Lloyd-Jones? The Man Behind the Commentary

To appreciate the commentary fully, one must understand the man who produced it. Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1899–1981) was a medical doctor who abandoned a promising career in medicine to enter the Christian ministry. He became the pastor of a small Welsh church before being called to Westminster Chapel in London in 1939, where he preached until his retirement in 1968.

Lloyd-Jones was known for his expository preaching—a method of taking a passage of Scripture and explaining it systematically, verse by verse, with careful attention to its original meaning and contemporary application. He rejected the trend toward topical preaching that he believed often bypassed the difficult parts of Scripture. Instead, he insisted that the preacher's task was to open the text and let it speak for itself.

His approach to Romans was no exception. From 1955 to 1968, he devoted his Friday night Bible studies to a detailed exposition of Paul's letter. These sessions were open to the public and attracted hundreds of listeners who came week after week to hear the Word expounded with clarity and power. The recordings were later

Martyn Lloyd-Jones's Romans Commentary series.

A Unique Blend of Doctor and Preacher

Lloyd-Jones's medical training gave him a keen analytical mind, which he brought to bear on the biblical text. He was not content with superficial readings. He asked hard questions: What does this verse mean in its original context? How does it connect to the surrounding argument? What does it reveal about God, humanity, and salvation? At the same time, his pastoral heart meant that he never allowed theology to become abstract. He constantly applied the text to the lives of his hearers, addressing their doubts, fears, and struggles with the gospel.

This combination of intellectual rigor and pastoral warmth is what makes the **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary** so distinctive. It is a work that engages the mind without neglecting the heart.

The Scope and Structure of the Commentary

The full series comprises fourteen volumes, each covering a specific section of Romans. The titles give a sense of the progression:

- The Gospel of God (Romans 1)
- The Righteousness of God (Romans 2–3)
- Atonement and Justification (Romans 3:20–4:25)
- Assurance (Romans 5)
- The New Man (Romans 6)
- The Law: Its Functions and Limits (Romans 7)
- The Life of the Spirit (Romans 8:1–17)
- The Final Perseverance of the Saints (Romans 8:17–39)
- God's Sovereign Purpose (Romans 9–10)
- The Remnant of Grace (Romans 11)
- The Christian Life (Romans 12–13)
- Christian Unity (Romans 14–15)
- The Love of God (Romans 8—a standalone volume on that chapter)

As the list indicates, the commentary covers Romans 1 through 14 in exhaustive detail. Unfortunately, Lloyd-Jones did not live to complete the work on chapters 15 and 16, though his existing material on those chapters is available in recorded form. Even so, the scope of what remains is breathtaking.

Verse-by-Verse Exposition

The hallmark of the **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary**is its meticulous verse-by-verse approach. Lloyd-Jones believed that every word of Scripture was inspired by God and therefore worthy of careful study. He would often spend an entire evening exploring the meaning of a single phrase, unpacking its theological implications and showing how it fit into Paul's larger argument.

For example, in his exposition of Romans 8:28—"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose"—Lloyd-Jones devotes an entire chapter to the word "know." He distinguishes between intellectual assent and the deep, experiential certainty that comes from the Holy Spirit. This kind of careful attention to the text is characteristic of the entire series.

Key Theological Themes in the Commentary

Throughout the **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary**, several major theological themes emerge. These are not merely academic interests for Lloyd-Jones; they are the living truths that animate the Christian life.

The Sovereignty of God

Few themes are more prominent in Lloyd-Jones's exposition than the sovereignty of God. He insists that Romans cannot be understood apart from a robust doctrine of God's absolute authority over all things—including salvation. His treatment of Romans 9, in particular, is a masterclass in Reformed theology. He does not shy away from the difficult passages about election and reprobation. Instead, he argues that these truths are meant to humble us and to magnify the grace of God.

For Lloyd-Jones, God's sovereignty is not a cold doctrine but a source of immense comfort. If our salvation depended on us, we would have no assurance. But because it depends on God, we can rest in His unchanging purposes.

Justification by Faith Alone

The doctrine of justification is central to Romans, and Lloyd-Jones expounds it with rare clarity. He carefully distinguishes between justification—the legal declaration that the sinner is righteous in God's sight through faith in Christ—and sanctification, the process by which the believer is made morally holy. He warns against confusing the two, insisting that justification is a complete and finished work, while sanctification is a progressive work that continues throughout life.

His exposition of Romans 3–4 is particularly valuable for those who struggle to understand how faith alone can be the basis of our acceptance with God. He shows that this is not a new idea but the consistent teaching of the Old Testament, as demonstrated in the life of Abraham.

The Life of the Spirit

Lloyd-Jones's treatment of Romans 8 is widely regarded as one of the finest expositions of this chapter ever written. He devotes multiple volumes to it, exploring every aspect of the Spirit's work in the believer's life. He emphasizes that the Christian life is not a matter of trying harder but of walking in the power of the Holy Spirit. He addresses the assurance of salvation, the role of suffering, and the certainty of future glory with a combination of theological precision and pastoral warmth that is rare in any era.

The Place of the Law

In his exposition of Romans 7, Lloyd-Jones tackles the vexed question of the law's role in the Christian life. He argues that the law is good and holy but that it cannot save or sanctify. Its purpose is to drive us to Christ, to expose our sin, and to show us our need for grace. The believer is free from the law as a means of salvation but still called to fulfill the law through love, empowered by the Spirit.

This nuanced view of the law avoids both legalism and antinomianism, offering a balanced biblical perspective that is desperately needed in the contemporary church.

What Makes This Commentary Different from Others?

There are many excellent commentaries on Romans, from the scholarly works of Douglas Moo and Thomas Schreiner to the devotional insights of John Stott. So what sets the **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary** apart?

1. It is preached, not written. The spoken word has a different quality than the written word. Lloyd-Jones is not merely informing his hearers; he is pleading with them, warning them, encouraging them, and calling them to respond. This gives the commentary a sense of urgency and immediacy that is often missing from more academic works.
2. It is exhaustive. Most one-volume commentaries on Romans cover the entire book in six or seven hundred pages. Lloyd-Jones devotes fourteen volumes to just fourteen chapters. This means he has space to explore every nuance of the text in a way that few others can match.

3. It is theological. Lloyd-Jones does not shy away from the great doctrines of the faith. He engages with the Reformed tradition, with the Puritans, and with the great theologians of church history. The reader comes away not only with a deeper understanding of Romans but with a richer grasp of systematic theology.

4. It is pastoral. For all its theological depth, the commentary is never cold or theoretical. Lloyd-Jones constantly applies the text to the lives of his hearers. He addresses their fears, their doubts, and their struggles with the gospel. He is a physician of the soul as well as a teacher of the mind.

The Lasting Impact and Relevance

Decades after they were first delivered, the expositions that make up the **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary**continue to bless readers around the world. They have been translated into multiple languages and are widely available in print, digital, and audio formats. New generations of Christians discover them each year, drawn by the reputation of the preacher and the depth of the content.

Why does this commentary endure? Because it deals with the timeless truths of the gospel. The questions Paul addressed in Romans—human sinfulness, divine judgment, justification by faith, the work of the Spirit, the sovereignty of God, the unity of Jew and Gentile—are as relevant today as they were in the first century. Lloyd-Jones does not offer cultural commentary or political analysis. He offers the Word of God, faithfully explained and applied.

For pastors preparing sermons, the commentary is a goldmine of exegetical insight and homiletical wisdom. For lay Christians seeking to grow in their understanding of the faith, it provides a thorough education in the doctrines of grace. For anyone who wants to know God more deeply, it is a spiritual feast.

Practical Application for Today's Reader

Engaging with the **Martyn Lloyd Jones Romans Commentary**requires time and patience. This is not a book to be skimmed or consulted for a quick quote. It is a work to be read slowly, meditatively, and prayerfully. Here are a few suggestions for getting the most out of it:

- Start with a single volume. You do not need to read all fourteen volumes from cover to cover. Choose a volume that addresses a topic you are currently wrestling with—assurance, the law, the Holy Spirit, or the sovereignty of God—and work through it carefully.
- Read with your Bible open. Keep a copy of Romans handy and follow along as Lloyd-Jones expounds each verse. This will help you see how his insights arise directly from the text.

Related Articles

- **Are James Blunt And Emily Blunt Related**
  URL: https://signage.openstack.org/are-james-blunt-and-emily-blunt-related.pdf
- **Was Remember Me Based On A True Story**
  URL: https://signage.openstack.org/was-remember-me-based-on-a-true-story.pdf
- **Ess Employee Self Service Costco**
  URL: https://signage.openstack.org/ess-employee-self-service-costco.pdf
- **The Case For Christianity By Cs Lewis**
  URL: https://signage.openstack.org/the-case-for-christianity-by-cs-lewis.pdf

TOPIC INDEX

#martyn • #lloyd • #jones • #romans • #commentary

DIGITAL EDITION

martyn-lloyd-jones-romans-commentary

DIGITAL EDITION

martyn-lloyd-jones-romans-commentary

DIGITAL EDITION

martyn-lloyd-jones-romans-commentary

DIGITAL EDITION

martyn-lloyd-jones-romans-commentary