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Written by Lisa Morris/ Conforming to the Truth

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## Lesson 1

Paul, Set Apart for the Gospel of God

## Romans 1:1-5

Paul is consistent in introducing himself when he begins to pen his letters, Romans is no exception. He gives clear understanding that he is called of God to preach the gospel, that he is a bond servant of Christ Jesus. He writes with great authority, and he is not ashamed of the proclamation given to him by God. As a bond slave of Christ, and through his love of Christ, Paul is eager to preach the truth of the gospel, and rebuke those who stray from it and are preaching false doctrine.

Sefore you begin this study of Romans commit this work to God. Ask Him through the power of the Holy Spirit to teach you, to give you wisdom and insight to His word. Ask Him to give you a teachable heart and that He conform you to the truth of His word. Make this a daily discipline as you work through this book. Jeremiah 33:3 says," Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things that you do not know." Claim this verse as you work through this study.

✓ You are encouraged to read the book of Romans through each week as you work through this study. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Paul masterfully writes this book, breaking it down into several sections. He begins with a greeting to the beloved of Rome. He then moves on to explain man's need for salvation, God's work of justification, and His work of sanctification. He then concludes this letter. Since this letter is broken up into different sections, the reading plan is also broken up into these same sections, prayerfully making it easy for you to see the order of salvation.

Suggested reading plan:

Day 1: Romans 1-3- Greetings and an explanation of mans need of salvation

Day 2: 4-5 - God's Justification

Day 3:6-8- God's Sanctification

Day 4: 9-11- Israel

Day 5:12-16- Works of sanctification and conclusion

- 1. Romans 1:1 "Paul introduces himself." How does he describe himself?
- 2. Paul describes himself as having authority when he calls himself an apostle, letting the reader know that his apostleship was a calling of God (Romans 1:1) and Jesus Christ (Galatians 1:1), a position he did not take upon himself. According to 1 Corinthians 15:9-10, Paul claimed to be unworthy of this apostleship, "For I am least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me." So Paul calls himself an apostle one given authority. How can he make this claim? What are the criteria of an apostle? Are there still apostles today?
- A. Begin by looking up the word "apostle" in your word study tools and record what you learn.

Apostle: Strong's reference # 652-

- B. What can be seen in scripture is that there are some requirements to make a claim as an "Apostle." Read Acts 1:21-26. What does it say about the one who would replace Judas?
- C. There are also distinctions made about, "The Apostles." Read the following scripture references and record what is being taught.

Matthew 10:1-20-

Luke 22:14-

Acts 1:26-

Acts 9:1-10-

Ephesians 2:19-20-

Ephesians 3:5-

Ephesians 4:11-

Jude 1:17-

Revelation 21:14-

This is not an exhaustive list. The words apostle/apostles, occurs 74 times in the King James Version of the Bible.

A. Paul wrote 12 of the books that make up the New Testament, almost half of the New Testament. In eight of those letters, he introduces himself as an apostle. How can Paul make this claim to this Apostleship? Read Galatians 1:10-17; Galatians 2:7-9; Romans 1:4-5. Record what you learn.

≪ Keep in mind that the scriptures were written by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit speaking what He heard God say.

- D. After having read and studied the preceding verses, are there apostles today?
- 3. In Romans 1:1, Paul states the He was set apart for the gospel of God. Read the following scripture references and record what is taught, and what it means that Paul was set apart for the Gospel of God.

Acts 9:1-10, records Saul's/Paul's conversion. Read these verses to familiarize yourself with this passage. Read Acts 9:15 pay close attention to what is being said.

Acts 13:1-3- (Paul's First missionary Journey)-

Galatians 1:15-16-

Galatians 2:7-9-

Ephesians 3:1-12-

- 4. According to Romans 1:1-2 when was the gospel promised and by whom was it promised? Through whom did this promise come? Read the following passages that also record this same truth. Luke 1:70; Acts 3:21; Romans 3:21.
- 5. Read Romans 1:3. What is the gospel promised, according to verse 3?

6. Paul begins in most of his writings proclaiming some of the doctrines of the Gospel. As do Peter and the writer of Hebrews. Read the following scripture references and record the doctrines of the gospel that are taught in each. This will be a most rewarding work. How much the believer needs to know and understand the Gospel of Christ! Someone reading and studying through this workbook may not be a believer. I pray as you work through these passages, that God opens your heart and mind to the truths of His glorious gospel, and as result, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you are called into the family of God!

Romans 1:3-5-

1 Corinthians 1:2-9-

Galatians 1:3-5-

Ephesians 1:3-14-

Philippians 1:6-

Colossians 1:4-6-

1 Thessalonians 1:2-6-

1 Timothy 1:15-16-

2 Timothy 1:7-10-

Titus 1:1-3-

Titus 3:3-7-

Hebrews 1:1-4-

1 Peter 1:1-5-

2 Peter 1:1-4-

Each of these truths of the gospel need to be prayed over and studied individually. You are greatly encouraged to so! They must be studied in light of all the scriptures. If they are not studied, and just skimmed over, false doctrines of thought will arise, resulting in false proclamation. This is my prayer for each of us as we endeavor to systematically study this book of Romans:

I pray that the eyes of your hearts may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. I ask that you will be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all power according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

Ephesians 1:18-19, Colossians 1:9-12.