

Lesson 2

Paul Greet the Beloved in Rome

Romans 1:6-17

After having introduced himself to the beloved, the church of God in Rome, and having given some of the doctrine of the gospel. Paul moves to greet the beloved and encourage them of the love that God has given him for them. Convinced of their true faith in Christ, he praises God for them and also encourages them by letting them know he prays for them and desires that if it be God's will, he may come to them, for encouragement himself, and also to strengthen them. In verses 6-7 of Romans 1 Paul refers to the beloved as the "called" of God, called as saints. Bringing full circle Paul's commission to preach and teach the gospel which he was given grace from God to do through Christ. Paul was to preach the true gospel as a bond servant of Christ, which he did without shame. God would bring about obedience of faith through His word, resulting in conversion of the saints in Rome. After greeting the saints in Rome, Paul begins to lay out the doctrine of the gospel. Paul calls all men to account, showing them through God's word that all men are unrighteous and are shut up under sin. The gospel convinces men of their sin and misery. We are to seek for the truths of the gospel through the study of God's word. Like Paul, preach it and teach it without reservation being convinced that the gospel "The Whole Truth of the gospel" is the power of God for salvation. What is the gospel? What is the full scope of the gospel? Let's look intently at the word of God and have the Holy Spirit teach us.

1. Begin this week's study by committing this work to God. Ask Him for a teachable heart, for wisdom and discernment of the truths of His gospel. Ask Him through the study of His word to sear in your heart what He has done for you through His grace.

2. Read Romans 1:6-15.
 - A. To whom was Paul writing according to verses 6-7?

 - B. How does Paul refer to them?

 - C. What blessing does Paul say over them?

3. What is Paul thankful for according to verse 8?
 - A. How is Paul able to offer up thanksgiving to God according to verse 8?
 - B. Where is the faith of the saints in Rome being proclaimed?

4. Paul states in Romans 1:8 that “he serves God in his spirit in the preaching of the gospel”. What is meant by this statement? It may help to look up what “serve” means. Look up the word in your word study tool and record what you learn.
 - A. Serve: Strong’s reference # 3000

 - B. Also look up the following scripture references that will help interpret what Paul is saying.

Philippians 3:1-3-

2 Timothy 1:1-3-

Hebrews 12:28-29-

5. What is Paul’s prayer, as recorded in Romans 1:9-10?

6. Paul longs to see the saints in Rome. Why does he long to see them? Read verses 11-12.

7. What does Paul want the believers to be aware of according to Romans 1:13?

8. What is his reason for wanting to come to them?

A. What does Paul mean when he says, "That I may obtain some fruit among you also, even as among the Gentiles?"

B. What is fruit? It may help to define what the word "fruit" means. Look it up in your word study tools and record its meaning.

Fruit: Strong's reference # 2590-

C. Look up the following scripture references that will help interpret this meaning.

Romans 6:8-14-

Galatians 5:22-23-

Philippians 4:16-17-

Hebrews 13:15-

Romans 16:5

9. What would Paul use that would be the agent of producing fruit? Look at Romans 1:1 and Romans 1:9.

10. In Romans 1:14, Paul states that he is under obligation to whom? Explain the meaning of each.

Greeks:

Barbarians:

Wise:

Foolish:
11. In other words Paul is under obligation to _____?

12. What is Paul eager to do?

13. Read Romans 1:16. What is the power of God for salvation?

A. Was Paul ashamed of it? What had it done in him?

14. Read Romans 1:17. What is revealed in the gospel?

- A. Righteousness of God is revealed from _____ to _____.
- B. The righteous man shall live by _____.

Verses 16-17 of Romans 1, are the overarching themes, if you will, to this whole book of Romans. It is the gospel, and the gospel alone that is the power of God for salvation. The gospel reveals the righteousness of God, the Holy Spirit works through the truth of the gospel to open the hearts and minds of men to believe, and the Holy Spirit working through the truths of the gospel compels men on to sanctification until the end.

What is meant by, “the righteousness of God is revealed in the gospel”? There is a multifaceted answer to this question. Paul will take the rest of the book of Romans to answer it. He will start in Romans 1:18-3:20, using the gospel to bring men to the understanding that they are unrighteous and accountable to a Holy Righteous God, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.” How can a Righteous, Just God show mercy and kindness to an unrighteous wicked man? Chapters 3:21-8:39 reveal to us, that He justifies the wicked through His Son Jesus Christ. O, Praise Him! Finishing out the book, he reveals what the gospel teaches of sanctification. “For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith.” Mingled through all this teaching, the gospel will rebuke those who oppose it. The gospel will rebuke those who add works to faith in Christ alone. “The righteous man shall live by faith,” and it will rebuke those who think you can be saved by grace and still live any way you like.

Before we move on into the next few chapters I think it important that we understand what Paul means in Romans 1:16, “The gospel is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the ***Jew first*** and also to the Gentile”.

15. Read the following scripture references that lay out for us what is meant by Paul when he says "to the Jew first."

Genesis 12:1-3:

In Abram all the families of the earth will be blessed.

Exodus 19:6:

Deuteronomy 7:6-8:

Isaiah 43:10:

Israel was a witness of God's existence.

Galatians 3:8

Gospel was preached in the Old Testament to Abraham.

Matthew 15:24:

Christ's ministry was to Israel first.

John 4:22:

Through Israel salvation would come to the world.

