



Romans – an Introduction

—



Romans 1:1-7

- Message from Paul (v. 1)
- Written in 57 AD
- From Corinth, Greece near the end of his third missionary journey
- Host is Gaius (16:23), baptized by Paul (1 Cor. 1:14)
- To the saints in Rome (v. 7)

Paul describes himself:

Bondservant

- Greek *doulos* = servant, in bondage, slave, one who belongs to another, is in service to another; could not resign
- Paul is in service to Messiah Jesus
 - *Gives up his own interests to give himself to the concerns of his master*

Paul describes himself:

Apostle

- Greek *apostolos* = messenger, one sent on a mission, one sent forth with orders, envoy, delegate
- Witness of Jesus' resurrection
- Signs, wonders, mighty deeds
- “Called” (Acts 9:1-19)

Paul describes himself:

Paul meets the requirements of an apostle:

- Experienced/saw Jesus after his resurrection (Acts 9:3-5; 1 Corinthians 9:1)
- Sent on a mission (Acts 9:15-16)
- Performs mighty deeds (conversions, miracles; 1 Corinthians 9:1; Acts 20:7-12)

Paul describes himself:

– “separated”

– To the Gospel of God

– From: see Philippians 3:4-8

Paul describes himself:

“separated”

- To the Gospel of God
- From:
 - *Jewish traditions*
 - *Zeal that denied the Messiah/Christ*
 - *Anything that would keep him from knowledge of Christ Jesus his Lord*
 - *Anything that would keep him from gaining Christ*
 - *His own righteousness from the law*

Gospel (Good news) of God

- Promised by God
- Given through prophets
- Found in the Holy Scriptures (Old Testament)
- Concerning God's Son = Jesus = Christ (Messiah) = our Lord



Gospel (Good news) of God

Twofold aspect to message about Messiah/Christ:

1. According to flesh – descendant of David
2. According to holy Spirit – Son of God with power



Paul separated to the gospel of God

– Received grace

– Received apostleship



Paul separated to the gospel of God

– Received grace

– Received apostleship

– To bring gospel of God to the nations

“Called”

- Greek *klétos*
- Called, invited, called to some office (divinely selected and appointed)

“Called”

- Greek *klétos*
- Called, invited, called to some office (divinely selected and appointed)
- Beloved of God
- To be saints (*hagios* = sacred, holy, set apart by and for God)



Blessing

- Grace – Greek *charis* = good will, loving kindness, favor
- Free love, unmerited favor

Blessing

- Grace – Greek *charis* = good will, loving kindness, favor
- Free love, unmerited favor
- Peace – Greek *eiréné* = peace, quietness, rest

Life Action

- Recognize and acknowledge your calling
 - Matthew 20:16 “many are called, few chosen”
 - Romans 8:28 “called according to God’s purpose”
 - Ephesians 4:1 “walk worthy of your calling”
- Recognize and acknowledge God’s grace
- Live in the peace that God gives