

Looking into Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome

EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE ROMANS

1. Unashamed

The Roman Empire

in 117 AD, at its greatest extent



Paul wrote this letter to Rome
from Corinth in about 57 AD.

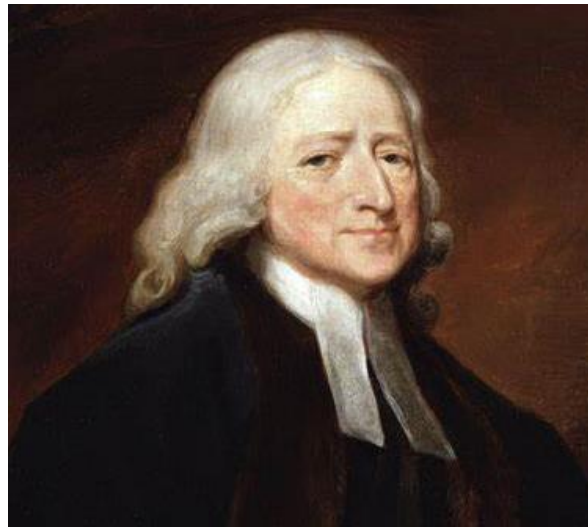


Martin Luther (1483–1546)

“This epistle is really the chief part of the New Testament and is truly the purest Gospel.

It is worthy not only that every Christian should know it word for word, by heart, but also that he should occupy himself with it every day, as the daily bread of the soul.

...the more we deal with it, the more precious it becomes and **the better it tastes.**”



John Wesley (1703–1791)

John Wesley was saved from empty religion through Paul’s letter to the Romans. He wrote that, while hearing a reading of Luther's preface to it,

“I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation, and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.”

John Calvin (1509-1564)

“When anyone understands this Epistle, he has a passage opened to him to the understanding of the whole Scripture.”

C.H. Dodd (1884–1973)

“The Epistle to the Romans is not a systematic theology but a letter. But it is a letter written **with a precise and deliberate purpose.** It is a masterpiece of theological exposition.”

F.F. Bruce (1910-1990)

“The Epistle to the Romans is the fullest and most comprehensive statement of the gospel of salvation in the New Testament.”

Paul's letter to the Romans

Chapter	Content
1	Introduction, theme and the wrath of God
2	How the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ enable sinners to be justified before God through faith
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	Israel's part in God's plan
10	
11	
12	How then should a Christian live?
13	
14	
15	
16	Greetings to the saints



It takes about 1 hour
to read Romans out loud.

Romans 1 – Part 1

Chapter	Content
1	Introduction, theme and the wrath of God
2	How the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ enable sinners to be justified before God through faith
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Chapter	Verses	Content
1	1 - 7	Greeting
	8 - 15	Introduction
	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME

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1	1 - 7	Greeting
	8 - 15	Introduction
	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME

[From] Paul,

a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle,
 set apart for the gospel of God,
 which He promised beforehand through His prophets
 in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son,
 who was descended from David according to the flesh
 and was declared to be the Son of God in power
 according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection
 from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,
 through whom we have received grace and apostleship
 to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake
 of His name among all the nations,
 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all those in Rome

who are loved by God and called to be saints:


Grace to you and peace

from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Romans 1:1-7)

- } About Paul
- } About the gospel
- } About Christ
- } About Paul's calling
- } About the believers

Chapter	Verses	Content
1	1 - 7	Greeting
	8 - 15	Introduction
	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME



About **Paul**:

- a servant of Christ Jesus
- called to be an apostle
- **set apart** for the gospel of God

About **Christ**:

- descended from David after the flesh
- declared to be the Son of God by His resurrection

About **Paul's calling**:

- through Christ Paul received grace and apostleship
- to bring about **the obedience of faith**
- among **all** the nations

About **the gospel**:

- God promised it **beforehand**
- through His prophets
- in the holy Scriptures

Faith itself is the obedience?
or
Faith that leads to obedience?

What is this?

Chapter	Verses	Content
1	1 - 7	Greeting
	8 - 15	Introduction
	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME



About **the believers** in Rome:

- called to belong to Jesus Christ
- loved by God
- called to be saints


hagios = “separated”
and so, in Scripture,
separated from sin and
consecrated to God.

What is a saint?

The greeting

Grace to you and **peace**
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
(Romans 1:7)

Chapter	Verses	Content
1	1 - 7	Greeting
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	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME



- I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because **your faith** is proclaimed in all the world.
- Without ceasing I mention you always in my prayers
- **I long to see you**, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you...
- I have often intended to come to you...
in order that I may reap some harvest among you...

Chapter	Verses	Content
1	1 - 7	Greeting
	8 - 15	Introduction
	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME



What is the debt?

Not what he had received FROM them but what he had received FOR them.

I am **a debtor** both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. So I am eager to **preach the gospel** to you also who are in Rome.

But aren't they already Christian?

(Romans 1:14-15)

Chapter	Verses	Content
1	1 - 7	Greeting
	8 - 15	Introduction
	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME



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.

Gentiles


For in it the righteousness of God is revealed
from faith to faith, as it is written,
“The righteous shall live by faith.”

Habakkuk 2:4

(Romans 1:16-17)

Romans 1 – Part 2

Chapter	Content
1	Introduction, theme and the wrath of God
2	How the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ enable sinners to be justified before God through faith
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	Israel's part in God's plan
9	
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11	How then should a Christian live?
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14	
15	Greetings to the saints
16	



Chapter	Verses	Content
1	16 - 17	THE GREAT THEME (memorised!)
	18 - 23	God is revealed in nature
	24 - 32	Those who rejected Him, God gave up to their sinful ways resulting in...