

Romans 1:1-7

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) Paul wrote the book of Romans from Corinth early in the spring of 58 A.D., just before leaving for Jerusalem to arrive before Pentecost (Acts 20).
- 2) Although a dedicated group living in the heart of the Empire, believers in Rome had not had the benefit of teaching of any of the Apostles.
- 3) Romans addresses questions that everyone asks:
 - What is God like?
 - Is Jesus really God?
 - Why is there suffering?
 - How can God send people to hell?
 - Why do men reject God and Jesus?
 - What are election and predestination?
 - Why are there sex perversions, hatred, crime?
 - What is the standard by which God condemns?
 - How can a sinner be forgiven and justified by God?
 - What is the importance of Christ's death and His resurrection?
 - How do Christians deal with issues that are neither right nor wrong?
 - How can a person who has never heard the gospel be held spiritually responsible?
- 4) Paul's purpose was to set forth in a systematic fashion the doctrine of justification. He wrote about how people are set right with God and how that relates to conduct.
- 5) *1:1* In absolute commitment, Paul enslaved himself to Jesus Christ, to be His servant and to obey His will.
- 6) *1:1* To be an Apostle of Jesus, one had to physically see the risen Christ and had to receive from Jesus a commission to the office of Apostle. Jesus called Paul to be His Apostle to the Gentiles on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:15).

- 7) *1:1* The most important thing about the Gospel is that it is of God. It originated with God; it was not invented by man (Romans 15:16; 2 Corinthians 11:7; 1 Thessalonians 2:2, 8, 9; 1 Peter 4:17).
- 8) *1:2* The very foundation of the Gospel is the completion of a promise from a God who cannot lie.
- 9) *1:2* God made a commitment to His creation that although there had to be consequences for the willing rebellion of Adam and Eve, a rescue would come (Genesis 3:15; Psalm 45; Psalm 72; Jeremiah 31:31–34).
- 10) *1:2* God used the Old Testament writers (prophets) to communicate His will, accomplishing His purposes by writing down what God revealed.

GREEK WORDS

Doulos—bond-servant, slave

Apostolos (ap-os'-tol-os)—a delegate; specially an ambassador; officially a commissioner of Christ, messenger, 'he that is sent'

Aphorizō—set apart

Euangelion—common term used in emperor worship common in the first century whereby Caesars claimed deity-demanded worship from every person in the empire. Favorable events relating to the emperor were proclaimed to the citizens as "good news."

TODAY'S SONGS

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"Good Good Father" words and music by Patt Barrett and Anthony Brown
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