

Romans 1:1-17 **Greetings from Paul to the Church at Rome**

Paul introduces his calling and desire for believers in Rome

¹ Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God ² which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, ³ concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, ⁴ and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. ⁵ Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, ⁶ among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; ⁷ To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reputation of the Christians in Rome – Paul's desire to minister to them

⁸ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. ⁹ For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers, ¹⁰ making request if, by some means, now at last I may find a way in the will of God to come to you. ¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established-- ¹² that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me. ¹³ Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now), that I might have some fruit among you also, just as among the other Gentiles. ¹⁴ I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. ¹⁵ So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also.

Value of the Gospel message

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Paul introduces his calling and desire for believers in Rome [Romans 1:1-7]

- ✚ Paul views himself a bondservant of Jesus Christ (Messiah) who has called him to be an apostle. [Romans 1:1]
 - ✧ As a called Apostle, Paul is (sanctified, consecrated, set apart), separated from the world and religiosity, fully dedicated to Gospel of God only.
- ✚ This Gospel for which Paul is separated, is not a new message, but is that which was promised before through the Holy prophets of God as found in the Holy Scriptures. [Romans 1:2]
- ✚ The Gospel pertains to Jesus Christ (Messiah) our Lord the Son of God. [Romans 1:3]
 - ✧ Jesus was born as a descendant of David according to the flesh which qualified Him to be in the kingly line in Israel.
 - ✧ Jesus was declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. [Romans 1:4]
 - ✧ All the miracles Jesus performed demonstrated He was the Son of God. The teachings He pronounced demonstrated His nearness with God the Father. But the Resurrection from the dead was the conclusive testimony.
 - ✧ Dead people had been brought back to life by prophets of the Old Covenant, and the apostles of the New Covenant, but after they died they did not rise from the dead.

- ✧ The eternal resurrection from the dead was reserved for Jesus alone to demonstrate that Jesus is the Son of God. It serves as proof that God is able to grant us resurrection in the last day as He promised, and it will be at the appointed time.
- ✧ It was through Jesus that the Apostles received grace and apostleship. [Romans 1:5]
 - ✧ The purpose of the call to apostleship was for the advancement of His Name (The Name of Jesus) through their obedience to the faith among all nations.
 - ✧ Paul brings the Romans into the equation by the words, "Among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ (Messiah). [Romans 1:6]"
- ✧ That was the introduction, now Paul addresses the letter: "**To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints:**" [Romans 1:7]
 - ✧ Here Paul reminds the believers in Rome of their standing before Jesus as **beloved of God**, and that as people called by the gospel indicates that they are **called to be Saints**.
 - ✧ We are not called to be casual spectators, but actively called to be Saints, so our conduct will be a witness of our calling from God and the Lord Jesus Christ (Messiah) to bring them both glory and honor.
 - ✧ Then he adds the formal greeting: "**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**"
 - ✧ As he begins his letter to the believers in Rome, Paul gives the Christian greeting and blessing, pronouncing "Grace to you." Our entire relationship with God through Jesus Christ is entirely based on the grace God has extended to us through Jesus.
 - ✧ Paul also indicates the source of our peace (shalom) which is from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (Messiah).

Reputation of the Christians in Rome – Paul's desire to minister to them

- ✧ The report Paul has heard about the believers in Rome is noteworthy to the point that Paul is able to thank God through Jesus Christ (Messiah) for them all, acknowledging that the reputation of their faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. [Romans 1:8]
- ✧ Paul calls God as his witness that Paul makes mention of the Saints in Rome always in his prayers. [Romans 1:9]
 - ✧ Paul indicates the relationship he feels with God whom Paul serves with his spirit (zeal, enthusiasm, and strength) in the Gospel (good news) of God's son Jesus.
 - ✧ In his prayers, Paul is expressing his great desire to go to Rome, that he may minister to the Saints in Rome, and impart some Spiritual Gift, that they may be established, and that Paul may be encouraged with them by their mutual faith. [Romans 1:10-12]
 - ✧ Paul wants the people at Rome to know that he has often wanted to come to Rome but was hindered to this point. [Romans 1:13]
 - ✧ Paul has wanted to have some fruit from their spiritual growth toward maturity among the believers at Rome as he has had among the other Gentiles.
 - ✧ A good teacher always desires to see the results of his effort taking hold in the changed lives of those with whom he has labored.
 - ✧ Because of his desire to be effective in his ministry of the Word of God in the Gospel of Jesus, Paul feels himself a debtor to everyone, the Greeks, barbarians, wise, and unwise, and now he feels ready to preach the Gospel to those in Rome itself.

Value of the Gospel message

- ✧ Paul is not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: [Romans 1:16]
 - ✧ The Gospel of Christ is the power of God to Salvation for everyone who believes, it does not benefit those who do not believe.
 - ✧ The Gospel was given for the Jew first as were all the revelations of God throughout Scripture.

- ✧ The Gospel is also for the Greek or Gentile for the Salvation of those who believe, again it does not benefit those who do not believe.
- ✧ The righteousness of God is revealed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - ✧ By the Gospel, one grows toward maturity from one level of faith to a higher level of faith.
 - ✧ All of this growth is fulfillment of Scripture that says, "**The Just shall live by faith.**"
 - ✧ We have faith in what we do not see because we believe the word of the one who brought the message and its source.
 - ✧ The message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ came from the Father God, and from the Lord Jesus Christ Who was raised from the dead, then was preached by His Apostles, so we may believe its truth because we know the source through the evidence that accompanied the message.
 - ✧ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." [\[John 20:29\]](#)