



INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 1: 1-7 This Book of Romans introduces the letters written to the Christian churches in Rome by Paul, probably written from Corinth. No person is a true follower of Jesus Christ unless he is enslaved by Christ. And that's how Paul was committed to Christ. He introduces himself as a servant of Jesus Christ which is being a slave (1:1). His next point is that he is called to be an apostle, also separated (set apart to) unto the gospel of God (1:2). Paul called Jesus a descendant of King David to emphasize that Jesus truly fulfilled the Old Testament Scriptures predicting that the Messiah would come from David's line (1:3). He also declared Jesus to be the Son of God with power...as they received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith, which is God's mission, noting that they also are • beloved of God • called to be saints • and recipients of grace and peace (1:4-7).

LESSON: I. PRAYERS OFFERED ROMANS 1:8-10

1:8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. As Paul writes, first, he thanks God through Jesus Christ for the people's faith; that they were known around the world for their good report; each one of them.

1:9 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;— God is Paul's witness whom he serves in spirit; that he has not ceased praying for them; he takes time to ask God to strengthen and help other believers and churches whom he did not know. Therefore, if the believer is serving God in spirit, he is serving God in body (meaning in person). He knew only a few of the believers in the Roman church, for he had never met most of them, but he prayed for them (mentioning them in his prayers).

1:10 Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. He became so personally involved that he begged God to give him opportunity after opportunity to go and have a prosperous journey sharing Christ with them.

II. PLANS ANTICIPATED ROMANS 1:11-13

1:11 For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;— Paul longed to see Jesus' believers in Rome, that he may impart some spiritual gift (that is, the truth of the grace of God) that will strengthen them.

1:12 That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me. Then Paul lets them know that when they get together, he also wanted to be comforted and be encouraged with them in the same faith he wanted to encourage them with. Their mutual faith together would encourage each other. It's like iron sharpening iron.

1:13 Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles. Paul calls them brethren, for at this point he didn't want them to be ignorant, but many times he had tried to visit them, but was prohibited. He really wanted to work among them that he might see spiritual fruit, just as he has seen among other Gentiles.

III. PREACHING VALIDATED ROMANS 1:14-17



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

1:14 I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. The Gospel stirred him with such a deep sense of indebtedness and a readiness to reach all men. He says he's a debtor both to the Greeks and to the Barbarians; the wise and the unwise. All needed to hear the Gospel of Christ!

1:15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. This has made Paul ready to preach the gospel to those in Rome.

1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Knowing what Paul has in him, he's not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. He says it's the power of God to bring salvation (deliverance from being lost) to every one that believes; to the Jews first then to the Greek.

1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For in the Gospel is the righteousness of God revealed. We're moved from faith to faith, showing us that it's faith that the just shall live by.

SUMMARY:

As Paul writes, he first thanked God through Jesus Christ for the people's faith; that they were known around the world for their good report; each one of them (1:8). God is Paul's witness whom Paul serves in spirit; that he has not ceased praying for the people; he takes time to ask God to strengthen and help other believers and churches whom he did not know. Therefore, if the believer is serving God in spirit, he is serving God in body. He knew only a few of the believers in the Roman church and had never met most of them, but he prayed for them (1:9). He became so personally involved that he begged God to give him opportunity after opportunity to go and share Christ with them (1:10) **(1:8-10)**.

Paul longed to see them that he may impart some spiritual gift (truth of the grace of God) that will strengthen Jesus' believers in Rome (1:11). Paul then lets them know that when they get together, he also wanted to be comforted and be encouraged with them in the same faith he wanted to encourage them with (1:12). Paul calls them brethren, for at this point he didn't want them to be ignorant, but many times he had tried to visit them, but was prohibited. He really wanted to work among them that he might see spiritual fruit, just as he has seen among other Gentiles (1:13) **(1:11-13)**.

The Gospel stirred Paul with a deep sense of indebtedness and a readiness to reach all men. He says he's a debtor both to the Greeks and to the Barbarians; the wise and the unwise (1:14). He's ready to preach the gospel to those in Rome (1:15). And he's not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for the gospel is the power of God to bring salvation (deliverance from being lost) to every one that believes; to the Jews first then to the Greek (1:16). For in the Gospel is the righteousness of God revealed, from faith to faith, for it's faith that the just shall live by (1:17) **(1:14-17)**.