

Lesson 1
Introduction to the Book of Romans
(Romans 1:1-17)

• **Questions**

1. How did Paul describe himself (1:1)?

2. When and how was the gospel promised (1:2)?

3. How did Paul describe Jesus' two-fold nature (1:3-4)?

4. What two things were accomplished in Jesus: "through whom" and "among whom" (1:5-6)?

5. How did Paul describe the Christians in Rome (1:7)?

6. What did the Roman Christians receive from God and Jesus (1:7)?

7. What did Paul thank God for (1:8)?

8. Who did Paul mention in his prayers and what did Paul request of God (1:9-10)?

9. Why did Paul want to come to Rome (1:11)?

10. How would Paul be comforted (1:12)?

11. What did Paul say about his plans to come to Rome (1:13; compare 15:22-29)?

12. What three things (the three “I am’s”) did Paul say about himself and the gospel (1:14-16)?

13. What is the gospel and to whom is it given (1:16)?

14. What is revealed in the gospel (1:17)?

15. What condition is given to mankind by God for salvation and for righteous living (1:16-17)?

• **Digging Deeper**

1. What does the word “apostle” mean (1:1)?

2. When and how did the gospel come to Rome? When did Paul write the epistle to the Romans and where was he when he wrote it? What was the social makeup (Jew / Gentile) of church membership at Rome and how does this relate to the content of Paul’s epistle?

3. What is the “spirit of holiness” (1:4)?

4. What can be learned about “faith” from verse 5 (see also Rom. 16:26)?
5. Was there one or more local churches in Rome (compare 1:7 with 16:3-16)?
6. What was the “spiritual gift” that Paul wanted to impart (1:11)?
7. Who were the “Greeks” and “Barbarians” (1:14)?
8. What does the word “gospel” mean (1:1, 9, 16)? Romans 1:16 states the theme of the whole book of Romans. What is the theme?
9. What is the “righteous of God” (1:17; compare Rom. 10:3)?
10. What Old Testament scripture is quoted in Romans 1:17?
11. What does the following phrase mean: “from faith unto faith” (1:17)?

• **Applications for Today**

1. The gospel did not begin with Jesus in the four gospels; it was promised before in the Old Testament (1:1-2).
2. The scriptures come from a holy God, they are holy themselves, and they make us holy (1:2).
3. The resurrection demonstrated Jesus to be the Son of God with power (1:3-4).

4. True faith for all people today is an obedient faith (1:5; see also 16:26).
5. Christians are “called” to belong to Jesus and to be saints, set apart from sin and serving the Lord (1:6-7).
6. Our obedient faith needs to be so obvious and committed that it is well known by others even around the world (1:8).
7. It is good to pray for our brethren (1:9-10).
8. Christians need to grow to the point of being established (grounded) in the faith (1:11).
9. Comfort and encouragement are brought about by a strong faith between brethren (1:12-13).
10. Like Paul, we need to feel indebted to others to do what we can to save them. We need to put our all into saving others, be eager and ready at all times to save others, and not be ashamed of telling others the gospel (1:14-16).
11. God’s power to save mankind is in the gospel. It is not in a “social gospel” (feeding people and clothing them), some other man-made plan, or in the building of a fancy church building (1:16).
12. The gospel reveals how to be right with God and live right with God. Righteous Christians “live by faith” when they trust God every day, accept His will every day, and follow His word every day (1:17).