

Romans

Author: Paul

Date: A.D. 57

A.D. – 53 Paul's third missionary journey begins

54 Nero becomes emperor

57 Paul writes letter to Romans while in Corinth

57 Paul's return trip to Israel

57~59 Paul imprisoned in Caesarea

59 Paul's journey to Rome

Audience: the church in Rome, made up of Jews and Gentiles; Probably started by Jews who had been at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit filled the apostles, Peter preached, and 3000 got saved (Acts 2).

Purpose: to introduce himself, and declare the Good News

Setting: Paul probably finished his work in the east, and was planning on going to Rome to meet and encourage the Roman church on his way to Spain. But he first had to deliver the collection to Jerusalem for the needs of the Christians there.

Outline:

A. What to believe (Ch. 1-11)

(1:1-17) Introduction, presentation of the faith

(1:18-3:20) The hopeless, lost condition of the human race, their need for salvation

(3:21-5:21) Presentation of the Good News:

Salvation is for all people, no matter what your heritage, identity, or sin

You are saved by grace, not works, through faith in Jesus Christ, justified and not guilty

(6-8) Freedom that comes with salvation

(6) freedom *from* power of sin

(7) freedom *from* the domination of the law

(8) freedom to *become* like Christ and know God's endless love for you

(9-11:12) God's plan for Israel, past, present, future

(11:13- 36) God's provision for the **unity** of the Jews and Gentiles in the body of Christ

B. How to behave (Ch. 12-16)

(12) Complete submission to Christ=

(12:3-8) - Using spiritual gifts to serve others

(12:9-21) - Loving others genuinely

(13:1-14) - Being good citizens

(14-15:4) Freedom guided and tempered in love, build each other up in the faith, help the weak

(15:5-13) Unity stressed again, especially between Jews and Gentiles

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(15:22-16:27) Paul's personal greetings and instructions to his friends and leaders of the church

Themes:

Salvation: Romans 3:19-23 – you are a sinner – confess;

6:23 – the wages of that sin is death – separation from God eternally!

5:8 – but in your sin, Christ died for you!!! LOVE

10:8-13 – believe in heart, confess out loud, **you will be saved**

- Rom 9:10-13** **Election** – God’s choice of an individual or group for a specific purpose or destiny.
- Rom 4:25; 5:18** **Justification** – God’s act of declaring us “not guilty” for our sins, making us “right” with Him.
- Rom 3:25** **Propitiation** – The removal of God’s *punishment* for sin through the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- Rom 3:24;8:23** **Redemption** – Jesus Christ has paid the price so we can go free. The price of sin is *death*; Jesus paid the price.
- Rom 5:2; 15:16** **Sanctification** – Becoming more and more like Jesus Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. **(process)**
- Rom 8:18-19, 30** **Glorification** – The ultimate state of the believer after death when he or she becomes like Christ (1 John 3:2).

“None of us can be fully Christlike by ourselves – it takes the entire body of Christ to fully express Christ. By actively and vigorously building up other believers, Christians can be a symphony of service to God.”

- New Living Translation, Life Application Study Bible and commentary