Romans The Gospel: God's Saving Power

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Theme

The gospel, God's saving power (1:16), is available for all people to become right with God (1:17)—all who submit to God's righteousness (10:3) through obedience of faith (1:5; 16:26)—that the body of Christ may work together in love to glorify God (chs. 12-15)

Background

- Paul greatly desired to see the Christians at Rome
 - Acts 19:21
 - Rom. 1:10-15; 15:20-32
- It was God's will for Paul to go to Rome (Acts 23:11)
- The voyage to Rome & shipwreck (Acts 27)
- Final leg of journey to Rome (Acts 28:11-15)
- Arrival at Rome (28:16)

Background

- Tertius served as the amanuensis (one who takes dictation, 16:22)
- Gaius was host to Paul and the whole congregation (16:23)
 - If this is the Gaius at Corinth (1 Cor. 1:14),
 Paul is writing Romans from Corinth,
 perhaps AD 57-58
 - Phoebe, of Cenchrea—a suburb of Corinth, was most likely the one who delivered the letter to the Romans (16:1-2)

Key Words & Phrases

- Faith, belief, believe, faithful, faithfulness (69 times)
 - **-1:8, 12, 16-17, 3:22-26**
- Righteous, righteousness, just, justification (53 times)
 - -6:13, 16, 18-20; 10:3-6, 10
- Sin, sins, sinned (55 times); sinner (4x)
 - 3:9, 20; 4:8; 5:12-13, 20-21; 6:1-2, 6-7

Key Words & Phrases

- Gospel (12 times)
 - **-1:1, 9, 15-16; 2:16; 15:16, 19-20**

Verses to Remember

- 1:20
- 2:28-29
- 3:10, 23-25
- 4:1-3, 20-25
 - v. 25: while διὰ (dia) with the accusative is used—usually translated "because of," perhaps here the traditional translation is best ("for") in the sense of "for the sake of" or "in order to bring about;"

Outline

- 1:16—Chs. 1-11
 - The Gospel Is God's Saving Power
- 1:17—Chs. 12-16
 - The Righteous Will Live By Faithfulness

Outline

- Salvation, Judgment, Righteousness & Faithfulness (Chs. 1-4)
- From Death to Life (Chs. 5-7)
- What It Means to Be in Christ (Ch. 8)
- "The Universal God—The Universal Message" (Chs. 9-11)
- Christians with Work Boots on (Chs. 12-16)

Outline by Chapter

- Ch. 1: The Gentiles are lost due to sin
- Ch. 2: The Jews are lost due to sin
- Ch. 3: Everyone is lost due to sin, but thanks be to God for Christ, grace and the gospel!
- Ch. 4: Faith illustrated—Abraham's obedience
- Ch. 5: Death introduced by Adam, life by Christ
- Ch. 6: Dead to sin
- Ch. 7: Dead to the law
- Ch. 8: Life (freedom) in Christ

Outline by Chapter

- Ch. 9: God's sovereignty
 - "In this passage Paul is not discussing the Predestination of Individuals to Salvation or Condemnation, but is asserting God's Absolute Sovereignty in the choice and management of Nations for World Functions so as to bring all at last in subjection to Him" (Halley, 589)
- Ch. 10: Jewish rejection of the word of faith
- Ch. 11: Jewish rejection: Not absolute or final

Outline by Chapter

- Ch. 12: Transformed to serve and love
- Ch. 13: Transformed to submit, to love, to put on the armor/weapons of light and put on Christ
- Ch. 14: Transformed to care about another's conscience (vv. 14-15)
- Ch. 15: Transformed to glorify God together (vv. 5-7)
- Ch. 16: Farewell greetings and warnings

Memory Verse for Romans

11:33

"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!" (NKJV)