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Acts 20:1-3 (NIV) - "When the uproar had ended, Paul sent for the disciples and, after encouraging them, said goodbye and set out for Macedonia. He traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece, where he stayed three months. Because some Jews had plotted against him just as he was about to sail for Syria, he decided to go back through Macedonia".

Romans 1:11-13 (NIV) — "I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong — that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles".

Romans 1:8-10 (NIV) – "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of His Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you".

Acts 2:6-11 (NIV) - When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs – we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

2 Timothy 1:6-7 (NIV) – "For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the

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Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline".

"It is the chief part of the New Testament and the perfect gospel, the absolute epitome of the gospel" – **Martin Luther**

"When anyone understands this Epistle, he has a passage opened to him to the understanding of the whole Scripture" – **John Calvin**

Romans 1:16-17 (NIV) – "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed – a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith'".

"gospel" = Greek euangelion – "good news"

Luke 2:10-11 (NKJV) – Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord".

Romans 3:23 (NIV) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

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Romans 6:23 23 (NIV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8 (NIV) But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9 (NIV) If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

"It's the most pessimistic page of literature upon which your eyes ever rested, and at the same time, it's the most optimistic poem to which your ears ever listened" – *G. Campbell Morgan*

Acts 2:36-39 (NIV) — "Therefore, let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah". When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call".

Ephesians 1:17-21 (NIV) – "I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength He exerted when He raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all

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rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come".

Jeremiah 20:7b-9 (NIV) – "I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me. Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the Lord has brought me insult and reproach all day long. But if I say, 'I will not mention His word or speak anymore in His name', His word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot".