

September 6, 2026

Series: “Romans: The Gospel according to Paul”

Sermon: “The Gospel of God” Part 1

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Scripture: Romans 1:1-7



Introduction

A. Paul was a man of humility, devotion, calling, and purpose (1:1).

B. He had been set apart for “the gospel of God.”

C. The word “gospel” means good news. In one sense, every page of the Bible contains the gospel.

D. But in another sense, the gospel refers to a very specific message. It refers to the salvation accomplished for a sinful people through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

E. As Paul wrote this letter to the church in Rome, he presented his credentials and presented an overview of the gospel of God.

F. In this letter Paul described the very core of the gospel—the justice of God, the total depravity of man, the blood atonement, the nature of true conversion, and the biblical basis of assurance.

G. Big Idea: The gospel of God is the greatest good news you will ever hear.

I. The Gospel is Given to Us by God (1:1e)

A. “Having been set apart for the gospel of God.”

B. The gospel is the message of the good news of salvation in Jesus.

C. It is the message “of” God, meaning God is both the source and theme of the gospel.

D. The gospel is the message of what God has done through His Son to save sinners.

E. As is common in Paul’s writings, we see the Trinity in these verses. He mentioned “the gospel of God” (1:1e), “concerning His Son” (1:3a), and “the Spirit of holiness” (1:4b).

F. “I am not going to write to you, says the Apostle, about some human philosophy; I am not going to give you my own ideas as to how life should be lived; I am not going to tell you what man has got to do; I am going to tell you what God has done” (Martyn Lloyd-Jones).

II. The Gospel Is Promised in the Old Testament (1:2)

A. “Which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures.”

B. The old, old story of Jesus and His love didn’t begin in the New Testament. It is first mentioned in Genesis 3:15.

C. From Genesis 3:15 to Malachi 4:5, God has been announcing His gospel.

D. If we look at the preaching of Paul, Philip, and Peter in the New Testament, we will see that each of them pointed to and preached from Scripture in the Old Testament.

E. Where did the apostles learn this Old Testament approach to the gospel? Since their contemporaries did not read the Old Testament in this fashion, the only possible answer is they learned this approach from Jesus Himself. (John 5:39-40; Luke 24:27, 44-49)

F. Jesus saw His life as a fulfillment of Scripture and taught His disciples to view it in that way.

G. “The gospel has always been a part of the true religion of God and has always been known and believed by the true people of God (see Gal. 3:8). The gospel is not a break with the past, rather it is the continuation and consummation of it” (Rob Ventura).

Conclusion

A. Christian, we should love the gospel, live in the gospel, live out the gospel, and let loose the gospel.

B. Do you know the gospel? Do you believe the gospel? Have you responded to the gospel with repentance and faith?

C. The Gospel Definition