



The Gospel: The Foundation for Everything

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Introduction to Romans:

Author: Paul the Apostle

Audience: Christians living in Rome (Romans 1:7)

Date: A.D. 56-57, likely from Corinth, near the end of his third missionary journey (Acts 20:2-3)

Purpose: To explain the **GOSPEL** - How God saves sinners through faith in Jesus Christ and then completely transforms their lives from the inside out as they daily walk in submission to His Lordship.

Key Theme: The righteousness of God revealed in the Gospel and received by faith

Summary Verse: *¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."* Romans 1:16-17 ESV

Letter	Book	Focus	Core Question	Simple Answer	Discipleship Flow
R	Romans	The TRUTH and Doctrine of Jesus	What do disciples believe and why does it matter?	KNOW the truth and LIVE it out daily	GROW in Truth

BIG IDEA:

The Gospel is about the **POWER OF GOD** to save us, and it demands a response

The Gospel...

- Is **FROM GOD** (v.v. 1-2)
 - Begins **WITH GOD** *Genesis 3:15, 12:1-3; Isaiah 52:7, 53:4-6; Luke 24:25-27, 44-47*
 - Isn't "**PLAN B**" *Ephesians 1:3-10; 2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Peter 1:18-20; Acts 2:22-23; Revelation 13:8*
- Is **ABOUT JESUS** (v.v. 3-4)
 - The Gospel is good news about a **person** and what he **has done**. Two key realities: Jesus is...
 - **TRULY HUMAN** *2 Samuel 7:12-16; Matthew 1:1; Galatians 4:4-5*
 - **FULLY GOD** *John 1:1, 14; Acts 2:22-24, 32-36; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4*
 - The good news of what God has done for us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Is for **EVERYONE** who **BELIEVES** (v.v. 5-16)
 - In Christ, the believer has **RICHES** beyond any imagination *John 3:16, 4:14, 6:37, 39; Romans 8:39, 11:29; 2 Timothy 2:19; 1 Peter 1:4-5*

The Gospel crosses every human **DIVIDING LINE**

Acts 10:34-35, 17:30; Revelation 7:9-10
KEEP READING →



Online Notes

- Reveals the **RIGHTEOUSNESS** of God (v.v. 16-17) *Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalm 119:137*
- Righteousness means being completely right: right in **CHARACTER**, right in **JUDGMENT**, and right in **ACTION**
- God doesn't merely meet the standard of righteousness; He **IS** the standard of righteousness

WHY does it matter/**WHAT** does it mean for me?

1. I need to make sure I understand the **REAL GOSPEL**
 - **TRUTH:** The Gospel is about what God has done through Jesus, not what I can accomplish for myself.
 - **HARD TRUTH:** If I misunderstand the Gospel, I will misunderstand the Christian life.
2. I must personally **RESPOND** to the Gospel
 - **TRUTH:** The Gospel must move from something I *know* to someone I *trust*.
 - **HARD TRUTH:** Knowing the Gospel is not the same thing as believing the Gospel.
3. I should never be **ASHAMED** of the Gospel
 - **TRUTH:** The power to save people is in the Gospel, *not in my ability* to present it perfectly.
 - **HARD TRUTH:** If I really believe the Gospel is God's power to save, I cannot treat it like something I'm embarrassed for others to know I believe.

Memory Verse:

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 1:16 ESV

Reflection Questions:

- What stood out to you most from this week's message on Romans 1:1-17?
- If someone asked you, "What is the Gospel?" how would you explain it in your own words?
- Why does it matter that the Gospel is FROM GOD and was "promised beforehand"?
- What is the difference between the Gospel being ABOUT JESUS and Christianity simply being about becoming a better person?
- Romans 1:16 says the Gospel is God's power for salvation to "everyone who believes." What does it actually mean to believe in Jesus?
- Which counterfeit version of the Gospel are you personally most tempted to slip into?
- Paul says, "I'm not ashamed of the gospel." What makes Christians tempted to be ashamed or hesitant about the Gospel today?
- Where are you most tempted to base your standing with God on your performance rather than Jesus's performance for you?
- The message said, "The Gospel must move from something I KNOW to Someone I TRUST." Where is that distinction most important in your life right now?
- If you genuinely believed the Gospel is "the power of God for salvation," what might change about the way you live this week?

My next step today is to...

- Memorize Romans 1:16
- Repent and accept Jesus as my Savior and submit to His Lordship for the first time!
- Go public as a follower of Jesus and get baptized
- Read Romans chapter 1 this week
- Watch or listen to The 3C Podcast to go deeper this week
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