

Introduction to Romans

Romans 1:1-7

Introduction

I Paul's View of Himself

- A. A **servant** of Christ Jesus - Ps 40:6-8
- B. Called to be an **apostle** - 2 Tim 1:11
- C. **Set apart** for the gospel of God - Gal 1:1,15; Acts 9; 13:2

II Paul's View of The Gospel

- A. The gospel was promised beforehand:
 - 1. Through the **prophets** - Acts 10:43; Jn 5:39-40
- B. The gospel reveals the Son's identity:
 - 1. His **human** nature
 - a. A descendent of David - Lk 1:31-33; Phil 2:6-7
 - 2. His **divine** nature - Matt 1:20; Jn 1:1-2,14
 - a. Declared with power to be the Son of God:
 - 1. By His **resurrection** from the dead - Acts 17:31
 - b. Declared to be "Jesus Christ our Lord."

III Paul's View of His Commission

- A. The **agency** of Paul's commission:
 - 1. Through Christ and for Christ
 - a. He received **grace** - Jn 1:16
 - b. He received **apostleship**
- B. The **goal** of Paul's commission:
 - 1. To call people to the **obedience**: - 1 Pet 1:2
 - a. That comes from faith - Rom 10:17

IV Paul's View of The Believers In Rome

- A. They were **called** to belong to Jesus Christ - 2 Thess 2:13-14
- B. They were **loved** by God - Col 3:12-15; Deut 33:12
- C. They were called to be **saints** - 1 Pet 1:15-16
- D. They were recipients of God's twin gifts:
 - 1. **Grace** - Jn 1:16
 - 2. **Peace** - Rom 5:1-2; Phil 4:6-7

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. How do you generally introduce yourself to new friends? What are the things you share to reveal your identity?
2. Read Philippians 3:4-5. How do you think Paul might have introduced himself before his conversion? What does the term "servant" reveal about Paul's post-conversion view of himself? Do you share Paul's identity as a servant of Christ Jesus? How does your life evidence a servant relationship to Jesus Christ?
3. One of the obvious evidences of genuine faith is obedience to God's commands [See John 14:21]. Describe in your own words the relationship between faith and obedience. Does your life reflect a proper balance between faith and obedience? If not, take a moment now to seek God's forgiveness, repent of your sin, and yield your entire life to God as His bondservant.
4. The believers in Rome were a despised and persecuted minority. What impact do you think it had on them to know that they were *called* and *loved* by God? What impact does it have on you to know that you are *called* and *loved* by God? Do you really believe it? Why or why not?
5. What's the relationship between *grace* and *peace*? Is it possible to have one without the other? Are you experiencing God's peace in your life right now? If not, take a moment right now to read and pray through Philippians 4:6-7.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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