

# Introduction to Romans

Sermon 1 in the Romans Series

## Romans 1:1-7

It is generally observed by conservative commentators that Romans is the best and most organized example of Pauline (which means Biblical) doctrine regarding sin and salvation.

### I. Introductory Remarks

A. Paul Wrote this Epistle expressly to be a Presentation of “the Gospel.” 1:15.

#### B. Date and Place of Writing

Paul did not start this church, and he had never visited Rome before this epistle was written, but he probably personally knew many of the saints who were there.

We think that Jews were expelled from Rome in about 49AD.

The church in Rome has a mixture of Gentile and Jew.

So, considering Paul’s travels, it was probably written from Corinth between 54-59 AD

It is likely that Phoebe (16:1) carried this letter to Rome.

#### C. The Author 1:1

That Paul is the author is almost universally accepted.

### II. Exposition – Opening Themes -- 1:1-7

#### A. The Calling and the Promise – v. 1-2

##### 1. He gives his usual greeting in 1:1

He calls himself “a bondservant” – one of his favorite titles.

A bond-servant for obedience.

But “called” to be an apostle by commission.

##### 2. The promise 1:2

Through the prophets God promised Messiah was coming.

Paul proclaims Messiah has come and must be declared to all.

As you read the OT – look for promises of Christ.

The Messiah is the Promised One who will make all things new.

Westminster California Professor J.V.Fesko

“Messiah was the One who would restore God’s rule and authority to a fallen and rebellious creation.

He would bring the raging and plotting nations under subjection to His authority (Ps 2)

The Messiah was the One who would sit at the right hand of God and rule in the midst of his enemies – indeed he was equal to Yaweh (Ps 110).

The Lord’s servant would be anointed to bring the good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted and herald freedom to those imprisoned in captivity (Isa 61:1).”

## B. Jesus Is the Promised Messiah 1:3

Of the royal line of David. 2 Samuel 7:8-16

David wanted to build God a house – God said, “No – but I will build you a house” (speaking of sons and daughters) – a royal dynasty.

This promised kingdom is going to be an eternal kingdom.

Over and over in the Kings and Chronicles the OT assets to the royal line of David, it was not because of the current king’s faithfulness or unfaithfulness – it was because of GOD’S FAITHFULNESS to David and the promise that the dynasty continued.

## C. The Son of God 1:4

According to the flesh – humanly -- the Son of David through the through the virgin birth with the womb of the virgin Mary.

The resurrection is when Jesus was inaugurated to be King.

Ps 2:7 – You are my Son. Today I have begotten you.

## D. Conclusion 1:5-7

Paul **was called** to be an apostle.

But he was also **called to be a Christian** – just as they (and we) were. 1:6-7

Salvation is all of grace and is God’s work accomplishing:

the election of the Father

the redeeming work of the Son

and the Holy Spirit giving us new hearts to believe (regeneration).