



Romans: A Study of Chapters 1-5



What others have said about the book of Romans...

Augustine gave his life to the Lord when he read Romans 13:13-14

Martin Luther called Romans the “perfect gospel”

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

Samuel Coleridge (English poet): Romans is “the most profound work in existence”

Frederick Godet (19th C. Swiss theologian): Romans is the cathedral of Christian faith

Richard Lenski (theologian): The book of Romans is “beyond question the most dynamic of all New Testament letters even as it was written at the climax of Paul’s apostolic career

Peter: Also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles...in which are some things hard to understand (2 Peter 3:15-16)

Other facts about Romans...

- It is placed first in the canon because it is considered to be a foundational letter that introduces Paul's core theological ideas
- It was written in Corinth on Paul's third missionary journey (Acts 20:2-3)
 - He was writing ahead to the Christians in Rome

1 Thessalonians	50-51 AD	Deals with the return of Jesus and the hope of resurrection
2 Thessalonians	51-52 AD	Present life and the end of times
Galatians	54-55 AD	Argues for freedom in Jesus and justification by faith alone
1 Corinthians	55 AD	Issues of division, immorality, and wisdom in the church
2 Corinthians	56 AD	Issues of division, immorality, and wisdom in the church
Romans	57 AD	The righteousness of God, justification by faith
Philippians	61-62 AD	Emphasizes joy in suffering/humility, and having a Christ-like mindset
Colossians	61-62 AD	The supremacy of Jesus over all creation, the believer's fullness
Ephesians	61-62 AD	The unity of the Church in Jesus, highlighting spiritual blessings
Philemon	61-62 AD	A personal letter pleading for forgiveness and reconciliation for a slave
1 Timothy	62-65 AD	All focus on leadership in the church, sound doctrine, practical guidance for church leaders
Titus	62-65 AD	All focus on leadership in the church, sound doctrine, practical guidance for church leaders
2 Timothy	67 AD	All focus on leadership in the church, sound doctrine, practical guidance for church leaders

Romans 1:1

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—

Romans 1:2-4

² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 1:5-6

⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. ⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:7

⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:8-10

⁸ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. ⁹ God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you ¹⁰ 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.

Romans 1:11-13

¹¹ I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— ¹² that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. ¹³ 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 1:14-15

¹⁴ I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. ¹⁵ That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

Prayer Concerns...

Next week: Romans 1:16 - 32