

St. Paul's Letter to the Romans

"How do you stand before God? Sinner, Saint, or Something in between?"

Week 1: Historical Background and Romans 1:1-7

Romans as a Book of the Bible

- After the Gospels and Acts
- Author: Paul
- Recipient: The church in Rome
- Paul's epistles are arranged...
 - Alphabetically?
 - Chronologically?
 - By size?
- Date written: 55-56 AD
- Purpose (from TLSB): "To defend an essential teaching of Christianity and its mission: justification through God's righteousness in Christ"
- What does "Epistle" mean?

Contents

- Theme: Romans 1:16-17
- Outline (see back)
- Key Words:
 - Law
 - Gospel
 - Righteousness
 - Justification
 - Faith

The Text:

Read 1:1-7

How does Paul identify himself?

What does "Gospel" mean? Who is it especially about, as we see in this text?

How does 1:2 affirm the inspiration of Holy Scriptures? (See also 2 Tim 3:15-17; John 10:35; 2 Peter 1:21)

How does Paul declare Jesus to be true man? (1:3)

What event above all declared Jesus to be true God? (1:4)

From where has Paul received his apostleship? (1:5, read Acts 1:22; 26:16-18; Gal 1:11-17)

He addresses his letter to those who are "called to belong to Jesus Christ" and then speaks of them as "saints." How do you know that you are one of the saints? See 5:1-5; 6:4; 8:1; 8:29-30.