

St. Paul's Letter to the Romans

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

Week 2: Romans 1:8-32, "The Wrath of God against Sin: the World and Its Unrighteousness"

I. Romans 1:8-15, "Thanksgiving and Togetherness"

1. What hint does v 8 show as to the strategic position which the church at Rome held?
2. What would be the purpose for Paul's visit to Rome? (see Acts 19:21 and 1 Thess 2:17-20)
3. How does this show Paul's pastoral side?

II. Romans 1:16-17, "Paul's Theme: 'The righteous shall live by faith.'"

4. What might have led Paul to be ashamed of the Gospel? Read 1 Cor 1:18, 23

Define the Gospel:

5. When do we act as though we were ashamed of the Gospel?
6. And why do we act in this way?
7. What is the consequence of being ashamed? Read Mark 8:38
8. But the Gospel itself is the power to bring people to salvation and faith. How is this comparison made in 2 Cor 4:6?
9. Why does Paul say "to the Jew first"? (see also 3:1-2)
10. What now is revealed in the Gospel?
11. How do we receive this?

III. Romans 1:18-32, “A Return to Genesis”

12. What is the wrath of God? See John 3:36, Eph 2:3, Col 3:5-6

13. What/who is it against?

14. What are they guilty of doing? How do we see this in our society and in our lives?

15. What evidence is there in the world that there is a Creator? (v 20)

16. How has man become “futile in his speculations” concerning God and creation?

Additional questions:

Read Psalm 19.

a) What about God is revealed in nature?
(v 1-6)

b) What is not revealed? (v 7-14)

17. When people renounce the Creator (1:22-25), what perversion of creation follows (1:26-27)?

18. Read the hand-out. What then do we have to say about homosexuality? Is it “worse” in a way than other sins?

19. What is the worst punishment of God? (v 28) How bad is our situation, then? (v 29-31)

20. What is worse? Homosexuality, or its approval? (v 32) How does this verse apply to our situation for today?

Memory Verse for Today:

Romans 1:16, “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.”