

Romans 1:1-17

Introduction.

- A. Paul spent the winter of 56/57 in Corinth (Acts 20).
 - 1. Collected \$ for the church in Jerusalem.
 - 2. Wrote Romans
 - a. Last epistle written during Acts.
 - b. 1 & 2 Th., Ga., 1 & 2 Co., Ro.
 - 3. He wanted to stop by on the way to Spain (ch.15).
- B. The church at Rome.
 - 1. Not founded by either Paul or Peter.
 - a. Paul had not yet been there.
 - b. The church already in Rome before Peter arrived.
 - 2. More formal style than to the churches Paul had founded.
 - 3. Paul had many friends in Rome (ch.16).
- C. Has been called the most important book of the Bible.
 - 1. Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones spent 12 years teaching it.
 - a. At Westminster Chapel (he followed G. Campbell Morgan).
 - b. Once a week for an hour, with 1200 in attendance.
 - 2. The theology of Christianity.

I. The Gospel summarized (1-7).

A. Paul.

1. Servant.
2. Apostle.

B. The Gospel (2-4).

1. Promised beforehand.
 - a. Through the prophets.
 - b. Through the holy Scripture.
2. Regarding God's Son.
 - a. Deity of Christ.
 - b. Good news is about the Son.
3. Incarnation.
 - a. Took on flesh.
 - b. According to the promise.
4. Exaltation.
 - a. With power.
 - b. Through the Holy Spirit.
 - c. By the resurrection.
5. Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C. The results (5-7).

1. Paul called.
2. Romans called.
3. Saints.

II. Introduction to his writing (8-15).

- A. Begins with thanksgiving (8).
- B. Reminder of his prayers and desire to visit (9-10).
 - 1. Calls God as his witness.
 - a. Whom he serves whole-heartedly.
 - b. Expressing strong emotion.
 - 2. Submitted to God's will.
- C. Reasons for going to Rome.
 - 1. Impart some spiritual gift.
 - 2. Encourage and be encouraged.
 - 3. Had been prevented from going before.
- D. Paul's obligation (14-15).
 - 1. To all.
 - 2. To preach the Gospel.

III. Theme of Romans (16-17).

- A. Not ashamed of the Gospel.
 - 1. Though the world thinks it foolish.
 - 2. It is God's power for salvation.
- B. God reveals his righteousness.
 - 1. Totally by faith.
 - 2. The means by which we live (Ha. 2:4).