

Romans 1

gospel for the wise

Romans 1

Overview

I. Background

who, what, when, why, where

II. General Theme

III. God's Wrath & Wisdom

Romans 1

I. Background

Acts 18:1-5 (ESV)

1 After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth.

2 And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because **Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome**. And he went to see them,

3 and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade.

4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.

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I. Background

Acts 19:1, 21-22 (ESV)

1 And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples.

...

21 Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome." 22 And having sent into Macedonia two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while.

Romans 15:23-26 (ESV)

23 But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, 24 I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. 25 At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. 26 For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem.

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I. Background

Romans 1:11-12 (ESV)

11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established— 12 that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

Romans 1:13-14 (ESV)

13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. 14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

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For I am not
ashamed of the
gospel of Christ: for it
is the power of God
unto salvation to
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believeth; to the Jew
first, and also to the
Greek.

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II. General Theme: Unashamed, Righteousness by Faith

Rom 1:16-17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from **faith to faith**: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

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II. General Theme: Unashamed, Righteousness by Faith

“the righteous shall live by faith”

- ▶ establish the righteousness of God
wisdom
- ▶ contrast the feebleness of Man
foolishness

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II. General Theme: Unashamed, Righteousness by Faith

1 Corinthians 1 (ESV)

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. **30** And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, **31** so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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III. God's Wrath & Wisdom

How can we become righteous? How can sin be 'fixed'?

- ▶ eliminate the human race
(but that would imply God's failure of purpose)
- ▶ tolerate sin for eternity
(but that would imply God had given up on man, again a failure)
- ▶ **enforce law** (of death), **allow opportunity for mercy**
(the only true way of grace by faith in Jesus Christ, to the glory of God's purpose!)

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III. God's Wrath & Wisdom

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18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

25 because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

32 Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

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Conclusions

- I. Long to be with the Roman believers
background
- II. Unashamed in our Faith
general theme
- III. Confident in God's Wisdom
God's wrath & wisdom