

Romans: The Gospel

## The Gospel of God

Romans 1:1-17

<p><b>Written by Paul (Saul)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• His background</li> <li>• His salvation, 20 years teaching</li> <li>• Written from Corinth between 53-58AD <i>Paul thought he might not get there?</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Romans vs. Epistles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romans preaches the gospel - foundation</li> <li>• Epistles tend to deal with issues in each church (gospel applied)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The gospel:</u></b> <b><u>how it works, how it's applied, how we walk in it</u></b></p> <p><b>Outline</b> (Chuck Missler)  <b>1-8</b> Doctrine, sin salvation, sanctification (<b>Faith</b>)  <b>9-11</b> Dispensation (Israel past, present, future) (<b>Hope</b>)  <b>12-16</b> Practical (<b>Love</b>)</p>	<p><b>Romans Covers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All have a conscience of God and creation reveals Him</li> <li>• Applies to Jew &amp; Gentile</li> <li>• God is not done with Israel</li> <li>• The church has not replaced Israel</li> <li>• Faith over flesh</li> </ul> <p><b>Who were the Romans</b>  Church in Rome, Italy  Right time, right place in history - Nero</p> <p><b>All roads lead to Rome</b>  Capital of the Roman empire  Culturally Washington D.C., NY and LA all together  1 million people in 10 square miles  Manhattan 1.6 mil in 22 sqmi  <i>2x as dense as manhattan - wild without skyscrapers</i></p> <p>Priscilla and Aquila there until a few years earlier when Emperor expelled the jews  Spontaneous? No evidence Peter</p> <p><i>Revived Roman empire End Times</i></p>
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Luther “**the absolute epitome of the gospel**”

Samuel Coleridge, English poet and literary critic “**The most profound work in existence.**”

G. Campbell Morgan “**the most pessimistic page of literature upon which your eyes ever rested**” **and at the same time,** “**the most optimistic poem to which your ears ever listened.**”

### What is the Gospel?

“**Good news**” (as we’ll see bad news THEN good news)

**Romans known for** their aqueducts, military, government, alphabet...and **roads**

<p><b>Romans Road</b></p> <p><b>Romans 3:23</b> - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,</p> <p><b>Romans 5:8</b> - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.</p> <p><b>Romans 6:23</b> - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.</p> <p><b>Romans 8:1</b> - There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.</p>	<p><b>Romans 10:9</b> - that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.</p> <p><b>Romans 10:13</b> - For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."</p> <p><b>Romans 12:1-2</b> - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.</p>
<p><b>The gospel is built into creation -</b> <i>Interesting studies on constellations</i></p> <p><b><u>Everyone is aware -</u></b> <b><u>creation and conscience</u></b></p> <p><b>The gospel is good news</b> - the message of God about how to be saved, forgiven, escape judgment coming</p> <p><b>The gospel has life-changing application</b> <i>"It turns the world upside down"</i></p> <p><b>A life impacted by the gospel will be evident.</b> There was no excuse before the gospel and there's no excuse after it</p> <p><b>It's for anyone and everyone</b> But that doesn't cut off the Jews.</p>	<p><b>The doctrine of salvation</b> <b>Not a feeling, It's a fact.</b></p> <p><b>not whatever you want.</b> <i>"Not advice...God's power. It lifts.." (Morris)</i></p> <p>It's only through one way through one person, Jesus Christ.</p> <p><b>A gospel corrupted by the Romans eventually</b></p> <p>Sad that the culture of the Romans, the government and paganism has turned the church of Rome into what it is today - one that preaches <i>another</i> gospel. One of works. One of traditions. One of man's word over God's word.</p>

**[Pray]**

**:1**

<p><b><u>Bondservant</u></b>  <b>Doulos</b>  Slave life, freedom, Piercing of the ear</p> <p><b>1 Peter 5:2-3</b> - Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, <b>not by compulsion but willingly</b>, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;</p>	<p><b>Paul was a servant to God by choice</b>  With all Jesus has done - all that He is - how could we be anything but servants by choice</p> <p><b>God doesn't desire slaves</b>, robots, perfect little law obeyers (we'll see that's impossible even if we wanted to be)</p> <p><b>He desires relationship</b> - through His work to reach us. Not ours to reach him.</p>
<p><b><u>Called</u></b>  (invited as to a banquet, selected and appointed to an office)</p> <p><b>To be an <u>apostle</u> - messenger, sent forth with orders</b></p> <p>Some sense, missionaries, church planters - but not the original 11+1 office</p> <p>Someone goes around claiming the title, maybe they've sent themselves</p> <p><b>The life and message will be evident of the calling and of the mission</b> - it doesn't need titles - <u>The title comes after</u> (ratification)</p>	<p><b><u>Separated</u></b> -  set apart for some purpose (you've got the jar with the pennies for vacation) (<u>Pharisees</u>)</p> <p><b>The <u>gospel</u></b>  Word where we get evangelism  Good tidings, a reward for it - <b>good news also comes with a winning ticket</b>  <i>(don't make me talk about Willy wonka)</i></p> <p><b>A message of <u>joy</u></b>  GOOD NEWS</p> <p>The letter you got from the tax man wasn't a bill, it's a refund!</p>
<p><b><u>of God</u></b>  (not man's idea) (<u>Romans focuses on God</u>)</p> <p><b>Religion is man's effort to reach God</b></p> <p>God's plan is completely different - coming down to us because we have no way of reaching him</p>	<p><b>Religion thinks we can undo the garden</b> if we just clean up enough</p> <p>Even if we put the apple back, the relationship is already broken, the heart already hurt, <b>the corruption can't be undone from our end</b></p>

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<p><b>God makes the promise,</b></p>	<p>Abraham cutting covenant (literally "cut") Gen</p>
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<p><b>God keeps the promise</b>  <b>How? Through His <u>prophets</u></b>  <b>Prophecy</b> - speaking forth</p> <p>Office in Israel, Elijah, Elisha, etc.  Spiritual role alongside priesthood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kings ruled the land</li> <li>• Priesthood dealt with sin</li> <li>• Prophets spoke God's word</li> </ul> <p><b>Hebrews 1:1-2</b> God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days <b>spoken to us by His Son</b>, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;'</p> <p>The ultimate king, high priest prophet: Jesus  The ultimate message through the ultimate messenger</p>	<p>15. God signed both ends of the deal.  <b>God's media of choice? People</b></p> <p>The good news is preached by people by the Holy Spirit</p> <p><i>Tribulation, angel will go around preaching the gospel - why? Church is gone</i></p> <p><b>That's the role of the church:</b>  the great commission -  <b>those who believe the gospel spread it</b></p> <p><b>The gospel centers on Jesus. It's all about Him</b></p> <p><u>Without Him, there is no good news</u></p>
<p><b>The Holy Spirit</b>  is different than the spirit in the world</p> <p>He's <u>the</u> spirit of holiness  <b>When He separates us it's for a purpose</b></p>	<p><b>Acts 13:2</b> - As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, <b>the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."</b></p>
<p><b>The <u>resurrection</u> from the dead is <u>the promise fulfilled</u></b></p>	<p>Sin entered through Adam, but life came through Jesus (Rom 5)</p>

:5

<p><b><u>Through whom? Jesus!</u></b></p> <p><b>1 Timothy 2:5-6</b> - For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,</p>	<p><b>Grace - God's Riches At Christ's Expense</b></p> <p><b>Grace</b> - getting what you don't deserve (in a good way)  <b>Mercy</b> - not getting what you deserve (punishment)</p>
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**Exodus 34:6-7** - And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD

**God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, "keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation." (of those that hate him Ex. 20)**

**1 Corinthians 2:9** - But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man **The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.**"

<p><b>Do you want God's grace and mercy? Just let him love you!</b></p> <p><b>That's the good news!</b> <b>You can have it! <u>IF</u> you want it!</b></p> <p>Do you want a free paid vacation? Or would you rather work and never get a day off?</p>	<p><b>Exodus 33:19b "...I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."</b></p> <p><b>Apostleship</b> <b>RECEIVED not earned</b> <b>Like the gifts</b> - it has nothing to do with us</p>
<p><b>The messenger and the message</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One who thinks they've earned it</li> <li>• Other who knows they don't deserve it</li> </ul> <p>One will look down their nose and put judgment on you</p> <p>The other will with tears try to free you from the judgment that you keep clinging to</p>	<p><i>(mute the TV and see if you can tell)</i></p> <p><b>God's Grace</b> <b>received through faith He has given it Alone</b></p> <p><b>It's knowing God and His nature Revealed in Jesus</b></p>
<p><b>Yet there's a message of <u>obedience</u> - forgiven and free to obey</b></p> <p>We obey not to earn our salvation but because we've been saved <b>Because Jesus died for us we WANT to obey him</b></p>	<p><b>Relationship with my children</b> Time with, relationship with, natural obedience. Rebellion less.</p> <p>There's so much in the parent child relationship that is naturally designed as a reflection of God the Father and us</p>
<p><b>John 14:15 - "If you love Me, keep My commandments."</b></p>	<p><b>Not, do what I say, and I'll love you.</b> But love wants to obey</p>

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<p><b><u>You</u> also are the called!</b></p>	<p><b>You are just as called</b>, maybe even more, than the pastor. And in the world! He's</p>
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<b>Jesus himself has called <u>you</u>!</b>	confined to the four walls, you aren't!
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<p><b>Even in <u>Rome</u> there was a church.</b></p> <p><b>The power of a capitol city</b></p> <p><b>Beloved of <u>God</u></b> - the good news is a love letter to the world He loves</p>	<p><b>John 3:16-17</b> - "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <b>"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.</b>"</p>
<p><b>Called to what? Be saints!</b> Called to be a most holy thing!</p> <p><b>Not just a few people</b>, not a title for worship, a calling for and to life!</p> <p><b>1 Peter 1:16</b> - because it is written, "<b>Be holy, for I am holy.</b>" (Leviticus)</p>	<p><b>God's holy. His Spirit separates us into holiness.</b></p> <p><b>Therefore, we will start to naturally be holy as we obey in love.</b></p> <p>Sinner or saint - which life do you want? Bound or free? Under judgment or full of grace?</p>

:8

<p><b>How does Paul thank God? Through Jesus.</b> There's no other way!</p> <p><b>We can't show God thanks unless we thank Him through Jesus.</b> If we're not thankful for Jesus, there's an elephant in the room and the thanks isn't real and isn't heard</p>	<p><b>Faith spoken of through the whole world</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faith has legs</li> <li>• Faith makes waves</li> <li>• Faith travels</li> <li>• Faith speaks and leads others to speak of it</li> </ul> <p>It travels even without the person</p>
<p><b>Ecclesiastes 7:1a</b> - A good name is better than precious ointment...</p> <p>Faith &amp; reputation</p>	<p><b>A saint lives by faith and a saint's faith is the sweet smell of the gospel cooking</b></p>

:9 - 10

<p><b>“God is my witness”</b> People swear this way</p>	<p>Pauls’ not swearing. The one whose face Paul goes before is God’s.</p>
<p><b>When we pray, do we realize who we’re going before?</b></p> <p>When we <b>listen</b> to or <b>read</b> His word? Do we realize who’s the one speaking? When we <b>worship</b>? Do we know who it is we’re worshipping? (the unknown God in Acts)</p>	<p><b>When we share the good news, do we share a word that leads back to the one who sent the message?</b></p> <p><b>Serve in the spirit</b> - our flesh cannot please God on its own - the Spirit has to be in charge of our spirit and the flesh under control</p>
<p><b>Always praying</b> - prayer is good in set times, but also pray any time you want. In your heart. In your mind. When God puts it on your plate to step out and ask if you can pray for someone, do it. <b>Doesn’t have to be long.</b></p>	<p><b>Make mention</b> Good to pray long and about every aspect also good just to throw up a quick request</p> <p>Neh 2:4</p>
<p><b>Paul’s prayer? To be able to go see them!</b> You can tell if someone cares about you if they want to see you If they never want to hang out...Does your pastor run away? Is he involved?</p>	

## :11 - 12

<p><b>Some spiritual gift</b> <i>Travelling and bring home a gift</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A word</li> <li>• A blessing</li> <li>• A prayer</li> <li>• A teaching</li> <li>• A sending out</li> <li>• laying on of hands</li> </ul> <p><b>Gifts that <u>establish</u></b> (gift charisma)</p> <p><b>Ephesians 4:29</b> - Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it <b>may impart grace to the hearers.</b></p>	<p><b>The message of the gospel: grace grace grace! And grace to <u>you</u></b></p> <p><b>Made stable, strengthened, constant</b></p> <p>Ephesians 4:14 - that we should no longer be children, <b>tossed to and fro and carried about</b> with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,</p> <p><b>Gifts encourage</b> a special gift from someone (maybe not the socks at christmas)</p> <p>Expensive, above and beyond, personal and touching, meaningful</p>
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<p><b>Charis grace, charisma gifts!</b> Grace gives gifts, grace wraps the gifts, grace is the gift <b>The word is actual comfort and the strength it brings</b></p> <p><b>Proverbs 27:17</b> - As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the <b>countenance</b> of his friend.</p> <p><b>The best friends - even far away - are the ones with mutual faith</b></p> <p>The same faith in Paul is in them The same grace given to them was given to Paul <b>And to you - and to me.</b></p>	<p><b>humbling they'd do such a thing for you.</b> That love touches deep. <b>This is where real fellowship is</b> grace &amp; faith - it transcends miles, borders, families, cultures, income, pedigree, time</p> <p><b>This fellowship is where church is the sweetest</b> Knowing we're all equal at the cross. All loved by the same God. All called to the same calling.</p> <p><b>Philippians 3:14</b> - I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.</p>
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## :13 - 15

<p><b>Paul called to the Gentiles</b> Big deal, Jewish culture Acts, Peter Clean, unclean</p> <p><b>Fruit among them -</b> that's the desire of the messenger of the gospel (you &amp; your message!)</p> <p><b>The desire of the messenger is that the message bear fruit in the listener</b> That they'd be blessed by it - a gift</p>	<p><b>False teachers</b> - looking for the blessing from the hearer (money, praise, fame, attention, etc.)</p> <p><i>Shearing, slaughtering instead of feeding</i></p> <p><b>The gospel messenger wants nothing more than the hearer to be drawn to Jesus</b></p> <p>Blessed by Him and come to share the same joy and faith that the messenger has</p>
<p><b>Faith in the gospel is a faith that shares</b> If it's private, maybe the message hasn't been fully received</p> <p><b>Paul was ready to preach wherever he went</b> The Roman world and the world beyond Rome</p>	<p><b>2 Timothy 4:2-4</b> - Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not <b>endure sound doctrine</b>, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be</p>

<p><b>Nations need borders</b> - even heaven has one - but the gospel doesn't</p> <p><b>Faith spreads with or without the internet</b></p>	<p>turned aside to fables.</p> <p><b>The gospel is the foundation of sound belief</b></p>
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<p><b>The message doesn't change - even if life does.</b></p> <p>Even if your mood does. Even if your situation does. Be ready to give it.</p> <p><b>The message gets more real.</b></p>	<p><b>1 Peter 3:15</b> - But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the <u>hope that is in you</u>, with meekness and fear;</p>
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**You don't have to know everything but share what you know -**

Heart knowledge. Faith knowledge. Hope knowledge.

**:16**

<p><b>The messenger should not ashamed of the message</b></p> <p>Although we may naturally be timid like Timothy - <b>the gospel makes us bold</b></p> <p><i>Apostles all dying for their faith</i></p> <p><b>The cross is a symbol of shame</b></p> <p><b>Talking about our sin brings up buried guilt, shame, filth</b></p> <p><b>And that's the good news</b> - that as it's brought up, <b>it can be washed away</b>. Unless you'd rather bury it again.</p>	<p><b>Test your own message - is it the gospel?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it seek to wash away someone's guilt with the blood of Jesus? Draw them back to Jesus by His shame?</li> <li>• Or does it try to bury it, excuse it, say judgment isn't cast on it</li> </ul> <p><b><u>That's the litmus test for the message if it's the gospel or "some other gospel"</u></b></p> <p><b>Galatians 1:6-7</b> - I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, <b>to a different gospel, which is not another</b>; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.</p>
<p><b>There's only <u>one</u> good news.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rest are all lies.</li> <li>• Some more clever than others.</li> <li>• It's why satan loves religion.</li> <li>• Especially with Jesus' name on it.</li> </ul>	<p><b>People know the name of Jesus</b>, beware of another Jesus.</p> <p><b>What's the only qualifier for receiving God's forgiveness? Believing</b> (not any heritage or ability) "Greek"</p>

:17

**The righteousness of who? God!**

<p><b>This is the gospel. The good news of God's righteousness revealed.</b></p> <p><b>Religion is you trying to reveal your righteousness to God.</b></p> <p><b>Lit "God Justifies"</b> Barclay: <i>"It does not even mean, at this point, that he makes the sinner a good man. It means that God treats the sinner as if he had not been a sinner at all."</i></p>	<p><b>You don't have any righteousness!</b></p> <p><b>Isaiah 64:6</b> - But we are all like an unclean thing, <b>And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags</b>; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.</p>
<p><b>That is the gospel! God's righteousness FOR YOU. EVEN YOU. NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE. WHAT YOU'VE DONE. YES, EVEN THAT.</b></p> <p><b>How is it revealed? From faith to faith.</b> Believing you'll see. <u>Want to see it work? Believe it.</u></p>	<p><b>And Faith to faith</b> first faith to last faith, continuing faith - not a transition to works</p> <p><b>Because we go from trial to trial</b></p> <p>Death to life - simply by believing God is righteous and able to do it and did do it through His Son Jesus. And there's nothing you need to do other than trust that.</p>

**This is Romans. This is the Gospel.**  
**The good news of God. From God - to us.**

That it's God who promises. God who fulfills. God who forgives.  
And Us who gets all the grace He gives. If we'd believe Him and let Him love us.