

The Life and Letters of Paul

Romans 1

Set the Scene:

Ruler at this time was Nero Claudias Cesar Augusta, he was around 21 years of age (citizens would call leaders LORD) Rome had a strong military presence, wealth, politics and philosophy. Many religions, many temples of gods such as Jupiter, Mars and Venus.

Sexual immorality ran rampant: • Temple prostitution • Open adultery • Homosexual behavior • Divorce for convenience • Sexual exploitation • Infanticide (abandoning unwanted infants)

Paul was teaching believers how to live faithfully under imperfect governments.

1. To set the scene and take away the “he said she said” Paul right off the back lets the Roman church know this is directly from him.

Romans 1:1-Bondservant / 2 Corinthians 10:10- Paul's boldness came from the message of Christ not what people saw him to be.

2. Paul goes on to explain that this news is not some exciting news from man, but a promise come to fruition through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Romans 1:2-4/ John 1:1-5- in the beginning/ John 3:16- The world was going to perish but God made a promise.

3. Many times, we see men through around a title to gain authority and position solely for them, in this account Paul sees it as a privilege to speak to an unlikely audience not previously promised.

Romans 1:5-6/ Acts 13:44-49- Paul first spoke to Jews they rejected and this opened a door for the Gentiles (you and me)

4. Paul was excited to come and fellowship with the Church in Rome because of the tenacity and zeal of their newfound faith that was being heard all around. Is there an excitement to your faith that draws attention in your spaces.

Romans 1:8-12-faith in him is being talked about all over the world/ Acts 1:8-ends of the earth work/ Matthew 28:19 – Great Work

5. Paul now turns to his mandate of approaching the sin and how God views it, Paul was willing to risk it all no matter how others viewed him, he was unashamed.

Roman 1;16-17/

6. In order for God to draw man near to him and have fellowship with creation and obstacle must first be removed "sin" the fact that is in the way angers God.

Romans 1:18/ Genesis 6:7- God was angry at the sin of man/ Numbers 11:1-angry

7. We can not excuse our sinful lives to a notion that we did not know of God, he was made know to all of the earth.

Romans 1: 19-20/ Colossians 1:16-created all things

8. When we try to bring God and who he is to our level of understanding we then lose sight of his Holiness, and a false worship takes place. See the decline ensues.

Romans 1:21-23/ Psalm 100:3-Acknowledge that the Lord is God!

9. When human beings exchanged the living God for idols, God **abandoned them**, a point Paul makes twice more in this paragraph (1:26, 28). The word *abandon* includes a sense of "handing over," suggesting that God actively consigns people to the consequences of their sin.

Romans 1;24,26,28- Their Hearts, Bodies and minds.

10. Paul paints a picture of what the day-to-day life of a person far from God looks like, are there some things on your list as well?

Romans 1:29-31/Galatians 5:19- works of the Flesh

11. Paul would finish that all though this was indication of a lost soul caught in sin, it was even worse to cause others to fall into the same fate.

Romans 1:32/Mark 9:42-But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin