



## Introduction to Romans

### Key Facts

- **Author:** The Apostle Paul – See 1:1
- **Date Written:** Approximately AD 56–58 (during Paul’s third missionary journey, most likely while in Corinth)
- **Place Written:** Probably Corinth (sent via Phoebe from Cenchreae, Rom 16:1)
- **Audience:** A mixed church in Rome – both Jewish and Gentile believers (with tensions between the two groups)
- **Genre:** Letter (epistle); Paul’s most systematic and theological letter
- **Purpose:** To introduce himself and his gospel to the Roman church before his planned visit. Other goals include:
  - To explain the righteousness of God that comes through faith in Jesus Christ
  - To unify Jewish and Gentile believers under the same gospel
  - To prepare for his upcoming visit and mission to Spain (15:24–28)
- **Chapters:** 16

### Interesting Points

- Romans is widely regarded as the most complete and profound statement of the Christian gospel in the New Testament.
- Martin Luther called Romans “the chief part of the New Testament and the very purest gospel.”
- Paul had never visited the Roman church when he wrote this letter – he is writing ahead of his planned trip.
- The letter addresses the Jew-Gentile issue head-on, showing that both are guilty before God and both are saved the same way: by grace through faith.
- Chapter 7 gives Paul’s raw description of the inner struggle with sin that every believer experiences.
- Romans 8 is often called the greatest chapter in the Bible – no condemnation, life in the Spirit, future glory, and the unbreakable love of God.



## Description

The Book of Romans is Paul's masterpiece. It is the fullest, clearest explanation of the gospel he preached. Written to a church he had never visited, it lays out the bad news (all humanity is guilty and under God's wrath) and the astonishing good news (God declares sinners righteous through faith in Jesus Christ, apart from works of the law). Romans moves from deep theology (justification, sanctification, election, Israel's future) to practical Christian living (love, submission, unity, spiritual gifts).

For newcomers, Romans is like a seminary course in one letter: it answers the biggest questions – Why do we need salvation? How are we saved? What difference does it make? It shows that the gospel is the power of God for everyone who believes. More than any other book, Romans has shaped Christian theology and even sparked revivals. Augustine, Luther and Wesley all point to Romans as the place God opened their eyes to grace.

## Key Verses:

1. The Theme of the Letter: **1:16-17**
2. All Humanity is Guilty before God: **3:10-12**
3. The Heart of Justification: **3:23-24**
4. The Example of Abraham: **4:3-5**
5. Peace with God: **5:1-2**
6. The Gospel in One Verse: **6:23**
7. No Condemnation: **8:1-2**
8. No Separation: **8:38-39**
9. Salvation by Faith: **10:9-10**
10. There Is a Future for Israel: **11:25**
11. Our Reasonable Worship: **12:1-2**
12. Closing Doxology: **16:25-27**