

The Greatest Letter Ever
The Messenger of the Gospel
Romans 1:1-17

Introduction: The Gospel of Paul

*Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God...
(Romans 1:1)*

Paul Was A Prepared Man (v. 1)

- I am a servant of Jesus Christ
- I am called to be an apostle
- I am set apart for the gospel

Paul Had A Pointed Message (vv. 2-6)

*...the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.
(Romans 1:2-4)*

The Gospel...

- It's promised in the Bible
- It's about a person
- It's grounded in grace

Through him we received grace... (Romans 1:5)

- It's for the whole world

Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:5-6)

Paul Has A Purposeful Ministry (vv. 7-13)

- He includes all of them in his greeting

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:7)

- He tells them he is grateful for them

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. (Romans 1:8)

- He tells them he prays for them

God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you. (Romans 1:9-10)

- He tells them he wants to visit them

I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles. (Romans 1:11-13)

Paul Has A Powerful Motivation (vv. 14-17)

- I am obligated

I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. (Romans 1:14)

- I am eager

That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome. (Romans 1:15)

- I am not ashamed

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. (Romans 1:16)

For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." (Romans 1:17)

Conclusion: Now That You Have Met Paul