

## **Session #1: “THE SERVANT OF THE LORD” — Romans 1:1 – (Read Chapter 1 – Memorize verses 1-4)**

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area),

Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email - [philtwente@att.net](mailto:philtwente@att.net)

For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column under “Site Map”

Note: Reference has been made in the following notes to commentaries on Romans by Pastor Chuck Smith, David Hocking and William Newell.

### **Questions:**

- Who penned the Book of Romans? Where was it written? To whom was it addressed?

Introduction: Romans was written **from Corinth** (*Rom. 16:21-23*) - cf. *16:1-2* - Phoebe; *16:23* – Gaius (*1 Cor. 1:14*) – Erastus - *16:23* - name in Latin letters on slab by old amphitheater in ruins of ancient Corinth.

Interesting fact - Romans 16 lists 27 people, but not a word about Peter - strange if Peter founded the church in Rome. Luke, the historian, never mentions it either.

It was probably written around 57-59 a.d. - cf. *Acts 20:1-3*; *Rom. 15:22-33*

Aquila and Priscilla back in Rome according to *16:3* (cf. *Acts 18:2* - banished under Claudius and allowed to return under Nero (who ruled from 54-68 a.d.)

**Theme of the book** - “righteousness by faith” - 1:16-17

The Greek words that translate “righteous” or “righteousness” or “just” or “justification” are used 65 times in the book.

The Greek words that translate into the English words “faith” or “belief” or “believe” or “believing” are used 61 times in Romans. At least 57 OT passages are quoted. Sin 45 times; Lord – 44 times; Holy Spirit 29 times (more than any other book in the NT)

### **Outline of the book:**

Introduction - *1:1-17*

#### **1A. THE PRINCIPLES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - 1:18-8:39**

1B. CONDEMNATION - 1:18-3:20

2B. JUSTIFICATION (righteousness) - 3:21-5:21

3B. SANCTIFICATION - 6:1-7:25

4B. SECURITY - 8:1-39

#### **2A. THE PROBLEMS OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - 9:1-11:36**

1B. THE REJECTION OF ISRAEL - 9:1-33

2B. THE RECEPTION OF THE GENTILES - 10:1-21

3B. THE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL - 11:1-36

#### **3A. THE PRACTICES OF THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD - 12:1-15:33**

1B. AS TO LIVING FOR CHRIST - 12:1-8

2B. AS TO THE LOVE OF CHRIST - 12:9-21

3B. AS TO THE LAW - 13:1-14

4B. AS TO LIBERTY IN CHRIST - 14:1-23

5B. AS TO LIKEMINDEDNESS - 15:1-33

Conclusion - *16:1-27*

The “INTRODUCTION” to the book in *verses 1-17* centers on the “*gospel of God*” and introduces us to its powerful theme - “*righteousness by faith*.”

The first seven verses contain 126 words in the Greek text and formulate **just one sentence**. This sentence deals with the MAN who preaches the gospel; the MESSAGE that it contains; and, the MISSION it will accomplish.

**1:1-7** – (one sentence!) speaks of the **CHARACTER of the gospel** (Notice Paul is standing alone)

**1:8-15** - speaks of the **CONCERN for the gospel**

**1:16-17** - speaks of the **CONTENT of the gospel**

**Verse 1** mentions **three things** about the MAN who preaches the gospel:

**#1** - His **ATTITUDE** - **“a servant of Jesus Christ”**

The word “***servant***” is the Greek word **doulos** which is used 130 times in the NT as a noun; two verb forms are used an additional 33 times.

In the **Old Testament** the word is used in the Greek LXX for the following:

1. The “***house of bondage***” - ***Exodus 13:3, 14; 20:2***; 2. When Jacob “***served***” Laban to get Rachel - ***Genesis 29:18***; 3. When David was called Saul’s “***servant***” - ***1 Samuel 19:4*** - (cf. ***18:5***); 4. How Abigail referred to herself as a “***servant***” to wash the feet of David’s servants – ***1 Sam. 25:41***; 5. Israel “***served***” foreign kings - ***Judges 3:8, 14***; 6. Israel “***served***” other gods - ***Judges 10:13***; 7. Israel “***served***” the Lord - ***Judges 10:16***;

In the **New Testament**, the word ***doulos*** is used in reference to the following people:

1. Moses - ***Rev. 15:3***; 2. Prophets - ***Rev. 10:7; 11:18***; 3. John - ***Rev. 1:1***; 4. Jude - ***Jude 1***; 5. Peter - ***II Peter 1:1***; 6. James - ***James 1:1***; 7. Epaphras - ***Col. 4:12***; 8. All believers - ***Rev. 22:3***; 9. Paul - ***Romans 1:1***; 10. JESUS - ***Phil. 2:7*** - “***took upon Him the form of a servant***”
- Jewish Rabbis said of this word ***doulos*** that it was one of the worst insults one man can hurl at another! The Greeks who were proud of their freedom said that the word ***doulos*** was the opposite of being ***free***. Plato and Aristotle said that it was a derogatory term. In Kittell’s Theological Dictionary of the NT we read “***In the NT, the doulos is the classical picture of bondage and limitation.***”

Notice the following **SEVEN CHARACTERISTICS of the SERVANT OF THE LORD**:

1A. **HE OBEYS HIS MASTER WITHOUT QUESTION**

One who is under the authority of his master, who must obey, without question, the master’s commands - cf. ***Matt. 8:9; 10:24; Luke 14:22; John 13:16; 15:20***

2A. **HE BELONGS TO HIS MASTER**

One who was bought with a price (***1 Cor. 6:19-20***), owned by the master ***1 Cor. 7:22-23*** (the ***doulos*** could not own property - even his family did not belong to him, and no genealogies were kept.

3A. **HE HONORS HIS MASTER**

One who is required to honor his master at all times – ***1 Tim. 6:1; Rev. 19:5***

4A. **HE NEVER ARGUES WITH HIS MASTER**

One who never strives or disagrees with his master or questions his instructions  
***2 Tim. 2:24; Titus 2:9***

5A. **HE DOES WHAT HE IS COMMANDED TO DO REGARDLESS OF ANY APPRECIATION HE MIGHT WANT TO RECEIVE** - ***Luke 17:5-10***

6A. **HE ACCEPTS FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT THE MASTER HAS ENTRUSTED TO HIM** - ***Matthew 25:14, 21, 23***

7A. **HE DESIRES TO PLEASE HIS MASTER ALONE** - ***Galatians 1:10; Ephesians 6:5-8; Colossians 3:22-25***

**#2** - His **AUTHORITY** - “***called to be an apostle***” cf. ***Rom. 1:1,6,7; 8:28,30; 1 Cor. 1:2,9,24*** – ***divine sovereign calling!***

**#3** - His **APPOINTMENT** - “***separated unto the gospel (good news) of God***” ***Gal. 1:15***

Conclusion: Paul’s testimony - ***1 Corinthians 9:19-22***