

Paul's Ministry and Writings

Event	Scripture Reference	Date	Books Written
Ministry in Antioch	Acts 11:25-26	A.D. 45-46	
First Missionary Journey	Acts 13:1—14:27	A.D. 47-48	
In Antioch	Acts 14:28—15:2	A.D. 49	Galatians
Jerusalem Council	Acts 15:3-35	A.D. 49	
Second Missionary Journey	Acts 15:36-18:22	A.D. 49-52	1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians
Third Missionary Journey	Acts 18:23-21:17	A.D. 52-57	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Romans
First Imprisonment (2 years in Caesarea, 2 years in Rome)	Acts 21:18-28:31	A.D. 57-62	Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon
Period of Travel (Fourth Journey)	1 Timothy 1:3; 3:14-15; Titus 1:5; 3:12	A.D. 62-66	1 Timothy Titus
Second Imprisonment and Death	2 Timothy 4:6-21	A.D. 66-68	2 Timothy



Paul's Concerns in Writing to the Church at Rome



The Romans needed to hear **the gospel declared** as the source of unity between Jew and Gentile in the Church.



The Romans needed to hear **the gospel explained** systematically regarding both its fundamental and ongoing function in the life of the believer.



The Romans needed to hear **the gospel defended** against objections raised on account of Israel's unbelief.



The Romans needed to hear **the gospel applied** to the practical issues of the Christian life.

Purposes and Themes in Romans

- Romans is the longest of Paul's epistles.
- It is also the most logical and systematic epistle.
- The PRIMARY THEME: The Gospel of God's Righteousness
- PURPOSE: To announce Paul's intention to visit Rome and prepare the believers in Rome for his arrival (1:10; 15:22-33)



Romans Sets Forth Many of the Cardinal Doctrines of the Christian Faith

The universal sinfulness of man (Jew & Gentile)

The gospel of salvation

God's judgment of sin

Justification by faith ("the righteousness of God")

The reign of Grace (as opposed to Law or legal righteousness)

Sanctification of the believer

Deliverance from the power of sin and the law

Victory over sin and the flesh through life in the Spirit

Romans Sets Forth Many of the Cardinal Doctrines of the Christian Faith

The future glorification of the believer

An explanation for Israel's unbelief and rejection of Messiah

God's future purposes for Israel

The universal missionary enterprise of the church

The practical application of the gospel to daily living

The believer's relation and responsibility to civil government

Mutual love and acceptance between strong and weak believers (Jew & Gentile) in the church

Paul's Presentation of His Theme in Romans

- KEY VERSE: Romans 1:16–17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

Theme Statement of Romans— 1:16-17

1. The Glory of the Gospel
2. The Power of the Gospel
 - KEY WORD: “gospel” 13X
3. The Universality of the Gospel
 - Available to all people—Faith is the great equalizer.
 - KEY WORDS: “faith” (n.) and “believe” (v.)
 - Effectual for “all who believe”
 - The Priority of the Jews



Theme Statement of Romans— 1:16-17

4. The Content of the Gospel

- The gospel reveals the “righteousness of God.”
- It involves the personal righteousness of God’s character.
- It is primarily the righteous status which God credits to the account of a sinner, because of his faith, wholly apart from any works.
- KEY WORD: “righteousness” (n.), “justify” (v.), and related words. 79X



Four Kinds of Righteousness in Romans

Human self-righteousness based on an attempt to keep the law

The righteousness that God credits to sinners because of their faith, apart from any works

The righteousness of God's person, character, and activity demonstrated at the cross, where He publicly demonstrated that He is just when He justifies sinners.

The righteous works performed by believers as they serve God in the power of the Holy Spirit

Theme Statement of Romans— 1:16-17

5. The Principle of the Gospel

- “from faith to faith”
- It begins with faith.
- It operates by faith.
- It is carried to completion through faith.



Theme Statement of Romans— 1:16-17

6. The OT Text of the Gospel

- A quotation of Habakuk 2:4
- KEY WORD: “law” 78X
presents a contrast to the
principle of living by faith





The Major Divisions of the Book of Romans

- Divisions by Content
 1. Doctrinal—
chapters 1-8
 2. Dispensational—
chapters 9-11
 3. Practical—
chapters 12-16



The Major Divisions of the Book of Romans

- Divisions by Subject Matter
 1. God's Plan of Salvation (1-8)
 - Justification (1:1—5:21)
 - Sanctification (6:1—8:17)
 - Glorification (8:18-39)
 2. God's Plan for Israel (9-11)
 3. God's Will for Believers (12:1—15:13)
 - Christian living in the Church (12:1-21)
 - The Christian's relation to government (13:1-14)
 - The relationship between strong and weak believers: Harmony through the gospel (14:1—15:13)
 4. Personal (15:14—16:27)

Outline of the Book of Romans

1. Introduction and Theme (1:1-17)
 - a. Greetings (1:1-7)
 - b. Paul's Purpose in Writing (1:8-15)
 - c. Paul's Theme: the Gospel of God's Righteousness (1:16-17)

Outline of the Book of Romans

- 2. The Heart of the Gospel (1:18—4:25)
 - a. The Universal Reign of Sin (1:18—3:20)
 - 1) The condemnation of Gentile civilization (1:18-32)
 - 2) The condemnation of human morality (2:1-16)
 - 3) The condemnation of Jewish self-righteousness (2:17—3:8)
 - 4) Universal condemnation by the Law (3:9-20)
 - b. Justification by Faith (3:21—4:25)
 - 1) The revelation of God's righteousness (3:21-31)
 - 2) Old Testament examples of justification by faith (4:1-12)
 - 3) Old Testament proofs of justification by faith (4:13-25)

Outline of the Book of Romans

3. The Hope of the Gospel (5:1—8:39)
 - a. The hope of salvation (5:1-21)
 - b. Freedom from bondage to sin (6:1-23)
 - c. Freedom from bondage to the Law (7:1-25)
 - d. Assurance of eternal life in the Spirit (8:1-39)
4. The Defense of the Gospel (9:1—11:36)
 - a. The explanation of Israel's rejection of Christ (9:1-33)
 - b. Israel's present unbelief (10:1-21)
 - c. The future salvation of Israel (11:1-36)

Outline of the Book of Romans

5. The Power of the Gospel (12:1—15:13)
 - a. For life in the Church (12:1-21)
 - b. For life in the world (13:1-14)
 - c. For strong and weak to receive one another (14:1—15:13)
6. The Closing of the Letter (15:14—16:27)
 - a. Paul's past ministry and future plans (15:14-33)
 - b. Paul's personal greetings to believers in Rome (16:1-24)
 - c. Paul's benedictory prayer (16:25-27)