

## CALLED TO BE AN APOSTLE – ROMANS 1

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**INTRODUCTION:** Romans is the first of Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ epistles. The Gospels present the words and works of Jesus, while Romans explores the significance of His \_\_\_\_\_ death. The OPEN BIBLE NEW KING JAMES VERSION of the Bible says, "Paul records the most systematic presentation of doctrine in the Bible. Romans is more than a book of theology; it is also a book of practical exhortation."

**THE TIME OF ROMANS:** Paul did not plant the church at Rome, and the tradition that \_\_\_\_\_ was its founder is contrary to the \_\_\_\_\_. It is most likely that Christians from churches established by Paul in Asia, Macedonia, and Greece settled in Rome and led others to Christ.

**KEY WORD:** The \_\_\_\_\_ of God (1:16-17).

**KEY VERSES:** 1:16-17; and 3:21-25

**KEY CHAPTERS:** Romans 6-8 ... foundational to all teaching on the spiritual life.

### I: SALUTATION (1-7)

Paul identifies himself as ...

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ (1)
2. An \_\_\_\_\_ (1)

His ministry is that of the \_\_\_\_\_ ....

1. Gospel of \_\_\_\_\_ (1)
2. Gospel of His \_\_\_\_\_ (9)
3. Gospel of \_\_\_\_\_ (16)

In this brief salutation, Paul identifies:

1. The writer: \_\_\_\_\_ (1)
2. The recipients: \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
3. The theme: Christ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (3-5)

### II: EXPLANATION (8-17)

He was anxious to visit them for three reasons:

1. To help \_\_\_\_\_ them in the \_\_\_\_\_ (11)

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2. That they might be a \_\_\_\_\_ to him (12)
3. That he might “have some \_\_\_\_\_” among them (13)

Note the motivating forces in Paul’s life:

1. “I am \_\_\_\_\_” (14)
2. “I am \_\_\_\_\_” (15)
3. “I am not \_\_\_\_\_” (16)

### III: CONDEMNATION (18-32)

Paul explains how the \_\_\_\_\_ got into the awful \_\_\_\_\_ that engulfs them:

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ God (18-20)
2. They \_\_\_\_\_ not as God (21-23)
3. They \_\_\_\_\_ the truth of God (24-25)
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ the knowledge of God (26-32)

The results:

1. God gave them up to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (24-25)
2. God gave them over to \_\_\_\_\_ passions (26-27)
3. God gave them over to a \_\_\_\_\_ mind (28)

**See separate sheet for conclusion**

**ROMANS 1:29-31** Explanation of “*God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting...*” (v. 28)

1. Unrighteousness = all injustice
2. Sexual immorality (fornication) = any sexual sin
3. Wickedness = hostile activity
4. Covetousness = “the itch for more”
5. Maliciousness - desire to injure
6. Full of envy = hate toward those above us
7. Murder = envy leads to this
8. Strife (debate) = wrangling and contention
9. Deceit = “baited” ... men are baited and lured
10. Evil-mindedness (malignity) = taking things in an evil sense
11. Whisperers = secret slanderers – “hissing”
12. Backbiters = open slanderers
13. Haters of God = show as well as feel
14. Violent (despiteful) = pleasure in insulting others
15. Proud = arrogant
16. Boasters = opposite of meekness
17. Inventors of evil things = (Jeremiah 19:5) did not come into God’s mind
18. Disobedient to parents = brings curse upon families
19. Undiscerning (without understanding) = of divine things- no moral discernment
20. Untrustworthy (covenant breakers) = bound by no promise or covenant
21. Unloving (without natural affection) = for kindred
22. Unforgiving = cannot be appeased
23. Unmerciful = without mercy

Verse 27 – “Men with men” (a note from the FULL LIFE STUDY BIBLE )

The apostle likely regarded the homosexual/lesbian abomination as the greatest evidence of human degeneracy resulting from immorality and abandonment by God (see Genesis 19:4-5; Leviticus 18:22). Any nation that justifies homosexuality or lesbianism as an acceptable lifestyle is in its final stages of moral corruption.

Verse 24 says that “*God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves.*” This indicates that God abandoned these persons to intensified and aggravated lusts. The term “*lust*” in verse 24 denotes a passionate desire for forbidden sexual pleasure (2 Corinthians 12:21; Galatians 5:19; Ephesians 5:3).

God has two purposes in abandoning the unrighteous to sin:

- a) To allow sin and its consequences to accelerate as part of His judgment upon them (Romans 2:2)
- b) To make them realize their need for salvation (Romans 2:4)