

Romans Chapter 1

I. Introduction / Thesis Statement (1:1-17)

Salutation 1:1-7

Introduction 1:8-15

Theme: *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."* 1:16-17

II. Paul's Case for Justification by Faith Alone

A. The Universal Need 1:18 – 3:20

The Pagan 1:18-32

The Moralists 2:1-16

The Jew 2:17-3:8

All Found Guilty 3:9-20

B. The Only Hope is God's Righteousness Provided in Christ (3:21-5)

(III. Answering Objections 6-11 IV. Exhortation and Application 12-15 V. Personal Matters, Greetings 16)

Salutation 1:1-7

Longest of any of Paul's; a standard form expanded. It shows Paul's understanding of his call.

Introduction 1:8-15

Paul begins digging down to his theme with a series of "for" statements:

For....Paul prays for them

For...he longs to see them

For...he is not ashamed of the gospel

For...it is the power of God

For...in it the righteousness of God is revealed

For...."the righteous shall live by faith" Hab 2:4

The Righteousness of God

Wrong Understandings

Imputed Righteousness – Gen 15:6

Luther's Awakening from Rom 1:17

Showing the Universal Need for this Righteousness 1:18-32

Beginning with pagans, both Greeks and barbarians

The Universal Need of God's Righteousness

The bad news of the gospel: 3:20 "All have sinned"

The wrath of God against all ungodliness and unrighteousness – 1:18

Main point in 1:20 – "So they are without excuse."

What follows from this?

1:24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts

1:26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions

1:28 Since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind

Reaching the bottom: 1:30 - They not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

What follows in Paul's argument?

The moralist found guilty; the Jew found guilty; all found guilty. 2:1 – 3:20

To what end is Paul driving this argument?

"But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." Rom 3:21-24