

Digging Deep - into Romans



Week 1 -
Why did Paul write it
- and what's it all about?

Letter

of Paul

**to the Church in
Rome**



GROWTH OF ROMAN DOMINIUMS UNDER THE EMPIRE

- At the death of Caesar, 44 BC
- To death of Augustus, 14 AD
- To death of Marcus Aurelius, 180 AD



Church in Rome

Peter??

Claudius' expulsion of Jews (AD 54)
"Chrestus"

Composition of
Church

Reason for Writing

Introduce himself

Explain his message

**Justification
by faith alone**

Images of Atonement

Law Court (substitution) - Romans

Temple (Sacrifice) - Hebrews

Slave Market (Ransom) - Mark 10

Family (Returning Son) - Luke 15

Structure

Chs 1 – 8: What it means to be righteous
before God

Chs 9 – 11: How the Jews fit into the picture

Chs 12 – 15: Practical issues of living
righteously before God

Postscript: Ch 16: Personal greetings

- 1, 1 – 17: Introduction
- 1, 18 – 32: Analysis of Human Condition
- 2,1 – 3,8: God's Judgement
- 3, 9 – 31: Righteousness and Faith
- Ch 4: Example of Abraham
- Ch 5: The Difference Jesus Makes
- Ch 6: Getting sin sorted
- Ch 7: Struggling with sin
- Ch 8: Life in the Spirit.

“The wrath of God is being revealed ...
against the godlessness ... of men who
suppress the truth by their wickedness ”
(1v18)

“Nothing in all creation will be able to
separate us from the love of God in
Christ Jesus our Lord” (8v39)

Introducing himself (vv 1 – 7)

“Apostle” = “sent” (not one of 12)

“Servant of Jesus the Messiah”

J’s authority over against Emperor

“Grace and peace to you from Jesus the Messiah, our King (lord)” (v7)

Key Questions:

How do I demonstrate my total obedience to Jesus, my King?

What areas of my life do I try to keep him out of?

Paul's Plans – vv 8 – 15

Important to encourage people!

Paul regularly begins letters with prayer and recognition of strengths.

Paul wants to visit – makes matter of prayer.

Share – give and receive. Mutual encouragement (v12)

Key Questions:

How do we make plans – does it involve deep prayer?

How do we approach people – as givers or as possible recipients? Do we offer encouragement?

Kernel of the Gospel – vv 16 – 17

“Power of God”

“Salvation”

“Righteousness”

“Faith”

Key Questions

Do our family, friends, work colleagues know we are Christians?

How do our words and activities demonstrate this?

Are we ready to enter into conversation ?

**Have you discovered
God's saving power?**

