

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**ROMANS 1****Romans 1**

The Book of Romans is the great volume of the Apostle Paul concerning the doctrine of sin and salvation and the greatest detailed explanation of the relationship between the nation of Israel and the Church. The epistle breaks down into three distinct parts. The first eight chapters explain the didactic or doctrinal aspects of salvation of how the entire world is concluded to be lost, whether Jew or Gentile and the way of salvation is made plain. Chapters nine through eleven explain the dispensational aspects of God's salvation related to both Jews and Gentiles, with warnings to both groups. Chapter twelve, through the book's end, explains our obligations and duties since we are beneficiaries of so great a salvation.

As we travel through these incredible chapters together, I encourage you to listen to the podcasts to gain insight into the various chapters. There is no way that four to six hundred words can capture anything but a summary of a few verses, sometimes just one verse.

This letter seems to be written to teach and establish the Romans in sound doctrine. It was no doubt also to get the Romans ready for his visit that he wanted to make to them. The letter was most likely written around 57 A.D. In the opening verses, the aging apostle

establishes who Jesus of Nazareth is to the readers. Jesus is fully man, born of the lineage of Israel's greatest king, King David. David is also the one to whom God made promises concerning his royal bloodline, that indeed the Messiah, the everlasting King, would come through his line. Paul established that Jesus was truly and fully man in verse 3. In verse 4, the apostle establishes that Jesus was not only fully man but also fully God and was declared by the Father in heaven as such when the Father raised up the Son in the resurrection.

Romans 1:18 through the remainder of the chapter shows the digression and devolution that sin brings to the human race. These verses shout out that the problem of mankind is not that he does not know there is a God, but when he clearly understands internally and intuitively that there is a God, that truth is suppressed or held down. Paul also explains that there is the intuitive knowledge of God that is inside of every person from birth, but also, there are external, objective realities that every man gives witness to in nature that prove there is a God. He is the Creator to whom we all will stand before and give an account.

Prayer and Action Steps

The theme of the Book of Romans is summarized in Romans 1:16-17. Read it. Digest it.

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. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."