



TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Book of Romans: Overview

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | January 14, 2024

Romans 1:16-17 (NIV)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. ¹⁷ For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed–a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Romans 1:5 (NIV)

Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.

Romans 1:7 (NIV)

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Romans 8:1-4 (NIV)

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Reflection Questions:

Read Romans 1:1-17

(Focus on 16-17 This is Paul's thesis for whole book)

- 1) Was there one thing that the Holy Spirit highlighted to you personally from the message?
- 2) Have you ever felt STUCK in your faith? Share that experience. How did it feel? How did you get there? How did you get out?
- 3) Where would you like to see BREAKTHROUGH in your life right now?
- 4) The meaning of the word Gospel is "good news". What is the difference between "good news" and "good advice"? How can understanding the message of the GOSPEL bring breakthrough in a person's life? How can misunderstanding the GOSPEL keep us STUCK?

"The righteousness of God is God's righteous initiative in putting sinners right with himself, by bestowing on them a righteousness which is not their own, but his." John Stott

- 5) What difference does it make that our righteousness is bestowed/declared by God and not accomplished by us? How does this bring breakthrough and freedom to a follow of Jesus?
- 6) Read Romans 1:5. What is the relationship between faith and obedience? Does genuine faith exist without a heart to obey? Martin Luther said, "We are saved by faith alone, but the faith that saves is never alone." What did he mean by this? Do you agree or disagree? Why?
- 7) Where do you need to see the power of the Gospel message take root in your life?
- 8) What is one next step of obedience you could take to express your faith and trust in the Gospel (Good News) of Jesus?



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