

PAUL: THE MAN AND HIS MESSAGE

Romans 1:1-1

Do you believe the gospel is “*the power of God for the salvation of everyone*” (v. 16)?

ROMANS 1:1-7—PAUL’S GREETING

1. a. What three things does the author tell us about himself?
 - b. Which of these things might describe believers today? Explain.
 - c. What evidence does Paul offer to prove that Jesus is the Son of God?
2. What do these verses tell us about the purpose of Paul’s ministry?
3. Paul describes the recipients of his letter as saints. How do you feel about the fact that God sees all believers as saints? (See also 1 Corinthians 1:2 and Ephesians 1:1.)

ROMANS 1:8-15—PAUL’S ENCOURAGEMENT AND HIS DUTY

4. Why is Paul anxious to visit the church at Rome?
5. a. What does verse 12 suggest about the needs of those who minister?
 - b. In what practical ways can we encourage ministers and fellow believers?
6. What obligation does Paul have in mind in verses 14-15? (See also verse 9.)
7. We sometimes react negatively to obligations and duties. What is Paul’s attitude as he responds to this obligation?

ROMANS 1:16-17—THE GOSPEL’S POWER

8. a. Why is Paul not ashamed of the gospel?
 - b. In today’s world, what may intimidate us, cause us to be “*ashamed of the gospel*” (v. 16), and hesitant to express our faith?
9. According to the following passages, how does the power of God show itself in ways that are unexpected and different from worldly power?
 - a. 1 Corinthians 1:20-29
 - b. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
10. What must one do to receive the gift of salvation (John 1:12; 3:16-18)?

APPLY what you have learned. Have you put your confidence in Jesus Christ and His righteousness, or are you trusting yourself and your own efforts to make you acceptable to God?