

(Romans 1:1-6)
“Transformation Begins”

~ INTRO ~

ROMANS... HAS BEEN CALLED...

- “The Gospel According to Grace”
 - Because it’s a book of inspiration & renewal.

BASIC TRUTHS ABOUT THIS BOOK:

- 1st – **Written** between (56AD – 58AD)
- 2nd – **Authored** by the Apostle Paul
- 3rd – **Sent to** the Christians in Rome

NOW... ON PAUL’S 3rd MISSIONARY JOURNEY... IN (Acts 18)...

- He stayed in Corinth with his friends...
 - While he wrote the book of Romans.

~ THE BIGGER PICTURE ~

LET’S PULL BACK & ADJUST OUR FOCUS FOR A MOMENT.

- Four Major Divisions:
 - 1) The Gospels...
 - Life & work of Jesus Christ.
 - 2) Book of Acts...
 - Birth & history of the early Church.
 - 3) Romans...
 - Christian doctrine.
 - 4) Revelation...
 - What’s to come at the return of Jesus Christ.

(1 Cor. 3:11) NLT

“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have –
Jesus Christ.”

WHAT SHOULD WE UNDERSTAND?

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~ STUDY ~

IN THIS OPENING CHAPTER...

- (vv.1-15) Is the intro to the Gospel of God
- (vv.16-17) He defines the Gospel
- (1:18 thru 3:20) Paul gives the universal need for the Gospel
 - The **whole world is guilty** before God... (Rom. 3:23) NKJV
 - And... in need of His saving grace.

BUT ULTIMATELY...

- We come away with saving truth (Rom. 10:9-13) NKJV

NOW... MANY OF YOU KNOW... THESE VERSES.

- But the **part in your heart**... that has **NOT** been **unlocked** yet...
 - **Is peace!**
- Not peace **with** God... you have salvation.
 - BUT the peace **OF** God...
 - Because you don't know **how** to live out your salvation.

IDEA #1 – SEPARATED TO GOD:

(v.1) PAUL WAS *called*...

- He was divinely selected & appointed...
 - (Eph. 1:4) *Chosen by the Father*
 - This *call*... lead to his *separation*.

BEFORE JESUS...

- **Paul**... was angry / violent / & a religious zealot.
- But once Jesus *called* him...
 - The man who use to destroy others...
 - Quickly became a builder of others!

HERE'S WHAT THIS MEANS:

1st – WE LEARN TO STAY AWAY FROM...

- What Jesus died for – (2-Cor. 6:17) NKJV

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2nd – WE LEARN TO PARTICIPATE IN...

- The purpose God has for you on earth – (Rom 1:1)

IDEA #2 – POWER AT WORK:

THE DECLARATION OF JESUS...

- As the Son of God... is proved by His resurrection from the dead!

HOWEVER... Just like Pontius Pilate...

- Who had to decide what to do with Jesus at His trial – (Matt. 27:22)
 - So too... we must decide what to do with Jesus!

THERE’S PROOF IN THE RESURRECTION...

- That the words of Jesus are true.
 - **But what will I do with them!?!**

(Matt. 17:5)

“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to Him!”

BECAUSE THERE’S POWER IN THE NAME OF JESUS...

- We can rest in His transforming grace!

IDEA #3 – GRACE FOR OBEDIENCE:

(2 Tim 3:16) NKJV

Doctrine = Tells us what’s right

Reproof = Tells us what’s NOT right (behavior & beliefs)

Correction = Tells us how to get right

Instruction = Tells us how to stay right