

**Lesson 1:  
The Gospel Reveals the Righteousness of God  
Romans 1:1-17**

***Romans 1:1-7: Greeting the saints***

1. Who wrote this epistle? [1:1]
2. What is the first thing that he says by way of describing himself? [1:1]
3. What special role does he say he was “called” to perform as a servant of Jesus? [1:1]
4. What else does he say about himself? [1:1]
5. Carefully consider what Paul says regarding ***the gospel*** in this introduction and answer the following:
  - Is this the first time the gospel has been mentioned? [1:2]
  - What is the central “concern” of the gospel that Paul mentions here? [1:3]
    - What is this person’s fleshly family line? [1:3; cp Matthew 1:1-17; 2 Samuel 7:12-16]
    - But who is this person truly “declared” to be, and how? [1:4]
    - What two titles is He worthy of wearing, seeing who He truly is? [1:3 or 4; cp Acts 2:36]
6. What two things does Paul say we “have received” through Him? [1:5]
  - What is the purpose of our having received these things? [1:5; cp Ephesians 4:7-11; etc]
7. Who, then, does Paul say the Roman Christians are? [1:6; cp his description of himself, 1:1]
8. Who (or what) are they called to be? [1:7; cp his description of his being “called”, 1:1]
9. How does Paul greet them as he begins his letter (*who* is the greeting from)? [1:7]

***Romans 1:8-15: I long to see you***

10. Why does Paul say he is thankful to God for the Roman saints? [1:8; cp Rm 16:19]
11. How often does Paul say he prays for them, and what is his “proof”? [1:9]

12. What is Paul's desire as he prays for the Roman saints? [1:9-10]

- Why does Paul say he wants to see them? [1:11]
- What does Paul say by way of clarifying the "spiritual gift" he has in mind for them? [1:12]

13. Why has Paul hoped to come see them sooner, even though he ended up being unable? [1:13]

- What does Paul consider himself, which explains why he feels so compelled to come to them? [1:14]
- Because of this, what is his attitude and his desire? [1:15]

***Romans 1:16-17: The power of God for salvation***

14. What does Paul say is his attitude toward the gospel? [1:16]

- Why does he express such confidence before a message that has been so maligned among both the Jews and the Romans ("*Greeks*", "*Gentiles*")? [1:16]

15. What does Paul say is truly revealed in the gospel message? [1:17]

- What does Paul mean by the phrase "from faith to faith" (or "*for* faith")? [1:17]
- What support does Paul call on for this bold affirmation? [1:17; cp 1:2, 9; Habakkuk 2:4; etc]

**For further consideration**

Based on the language of Paul's letter up to this point, what might we be able to discern about the ***cultural*** makeup of the church at Rome?

What has Paul done in his letter from the outset to try and bridge the culture gap among these saints?