

Romans 1:1-7

*“We must strive to know the book of Romans. The book of Romans cannot be read too much. Romans is the key to the doorway of understanding the rest of the epistles. The book of Romans deals with the most important question in all the universe, “What is the gospel?” The only way to be right with God is to get the gospel right.”*

*Steve Lawson*

*We as people are naturally self-centered and naturally inclined to have our own way. We are always in danger of using people and loving things instead of loving people and using things. The Gospel is the solution to this problem, the problem of eternally damning selfishness and sinfulness. The Good News of the gospel is that sins can be forgiven, selfishness can be overcome, anxiety can be alleviated, and life can indeed have hope and eternal glory.”*

*John MacArthur*

Romans 1:1:

- This letter starts with the gospel and ends with the gospel (Romans 16:25-26). The gospel is the most important message anyone can give or hear!
- Paul is a slave/servant of the gospel. Paul is not his own. Paul owns nothing; he was bought by His master Jesus (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). Paul counts everything as a loss for the privilege of knowing and proclaiming Christ Jesus his Lord (Philippians 3:7-8).
- Paul is an apostle of Jesus Christ (Galatians 1:15-16). Paul was sovereignly set apart to be an apostle to the Gentiles. He was called by God to proclaim the Gospel in all authority and power because it was God’s gospel he was proclaiming.

Facts about the Gospel:

- It is the Good News for man’s condition (Romans 3:10-18; 5:8-10).
- It is the Good News about who God is (God is love, God is graceful, God is merciful, God is wrathful, God is holy, God is righteous).
- God has a zero tolerance rule for messing with His gospel and it is the only gospel (Galatians 1:6-9).

Romans 1:2-7:

- The gospel was promised through the prophets in the Old Testament.
- The gospel proclaims that Jesus was 100% man, He was David’s son.
- The gospel proclaims that Jesus was 100% God.
- The gospel proclaims that Jesus died for our sins and was resurrected by the Holy Spirit, confirming His victory.
- The gospel proclaims that Jesus is our Savior, Jesus is our Lord, and Jesus is our mediator.
- The gospel tells us that faith in the work of Christ is the root of our salvation and that obedience to the Words of Christ is the fruit of our salvation. The gospel demands our everything (Luke 14:33).

- The gospel should be proclaimed to everyone. You will never meet anyone who doesn't need the gospel. No one is exempt from needing to hear the gospel (Romans 10:14-17).
- The gospel is to be shared for the sake of Christ's Name and glory. We preach and serve Christ for His fame, not ours and not a church's. The gospel is all about Christ.
- The gospel does not fail in its mission. The primary purpose of the gospel is to glorify God not save men.
- The gospel has made us God's beloved, God's Elect/called, God's Holy Saints, and the recipients of the blessings of God's grace and peace.