NEW TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY

ROMANS – PART ONE

AN OVERVIEW

Lesson 48

Biblical-Literacy.com

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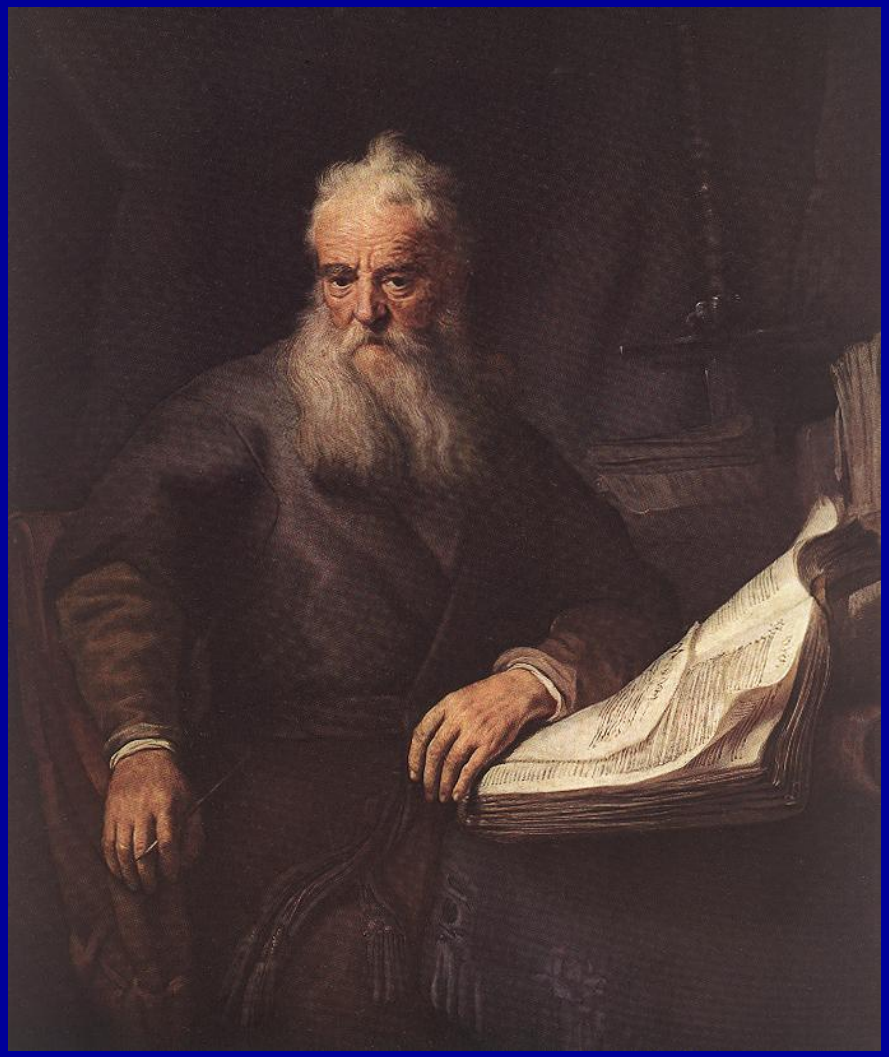
Who Wrote Romans?



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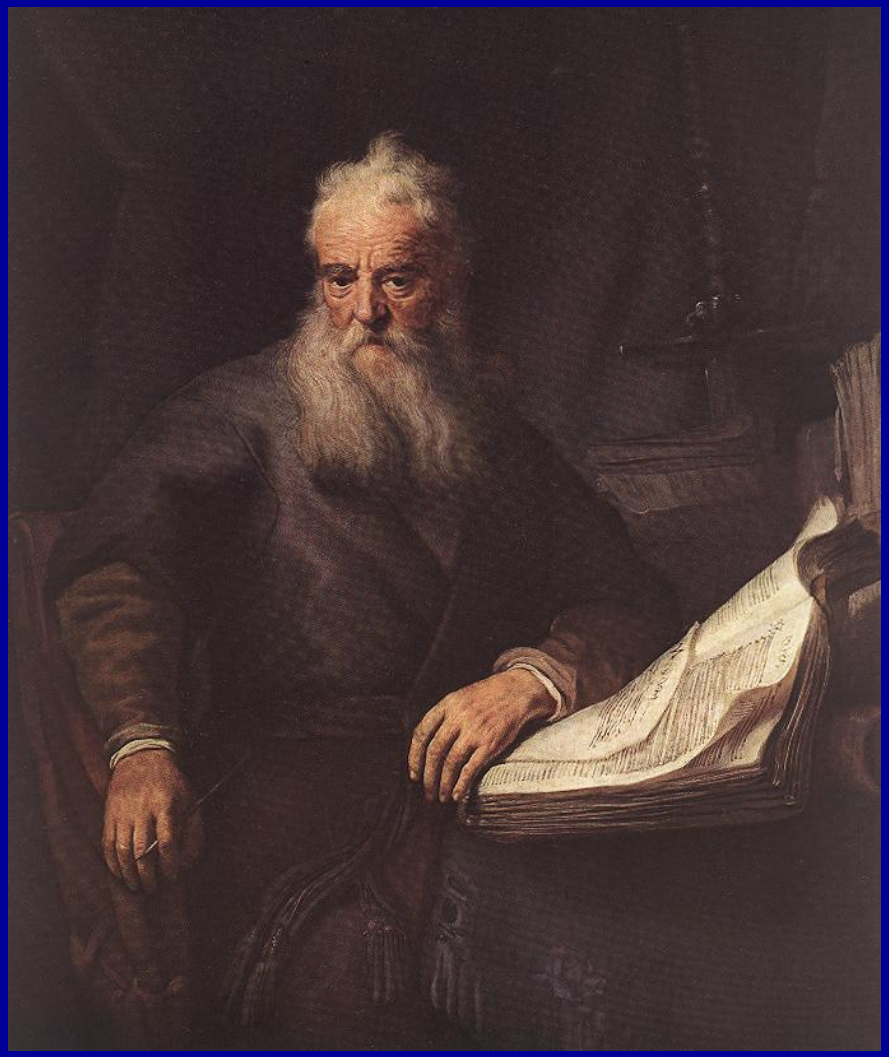

Paul!

Tertius (16:22)

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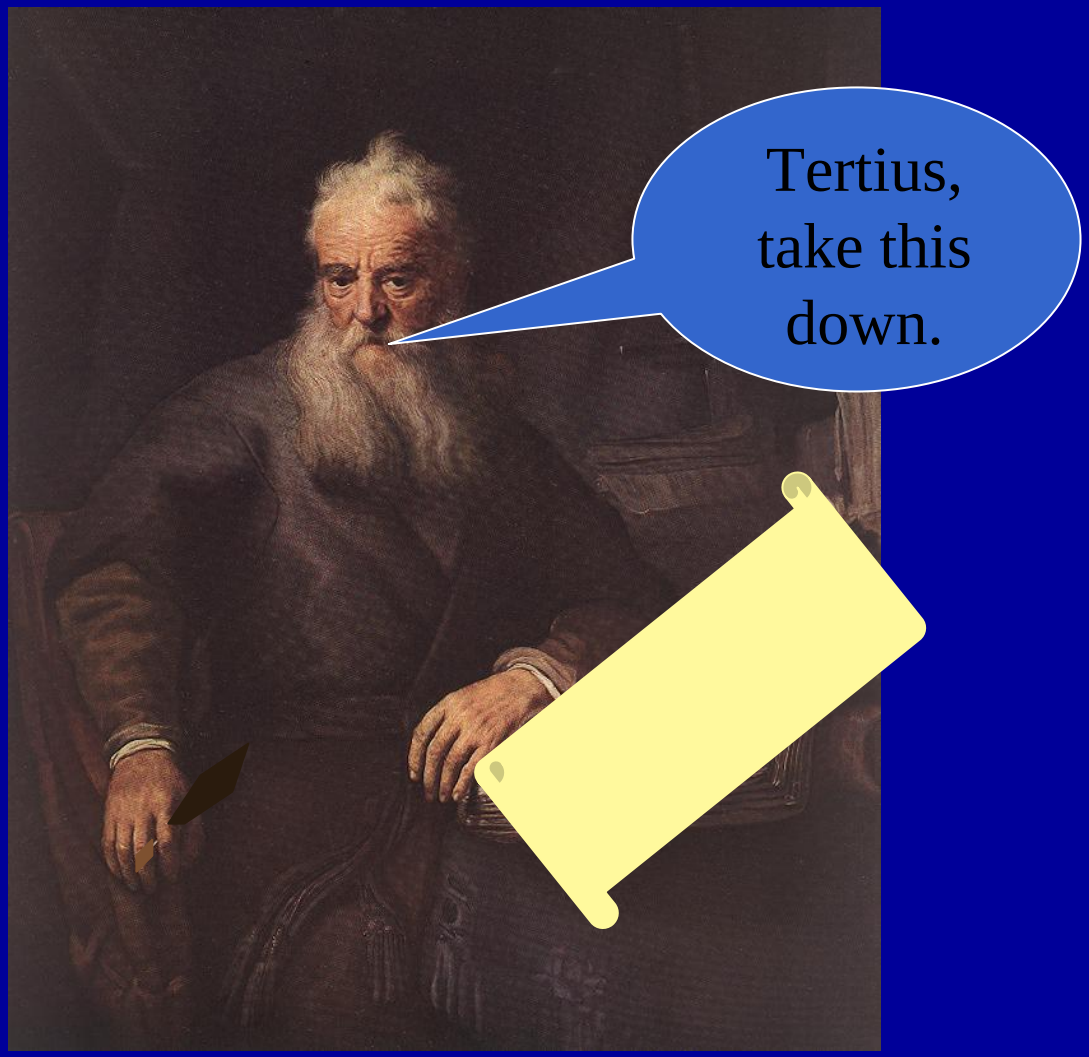

Paul!

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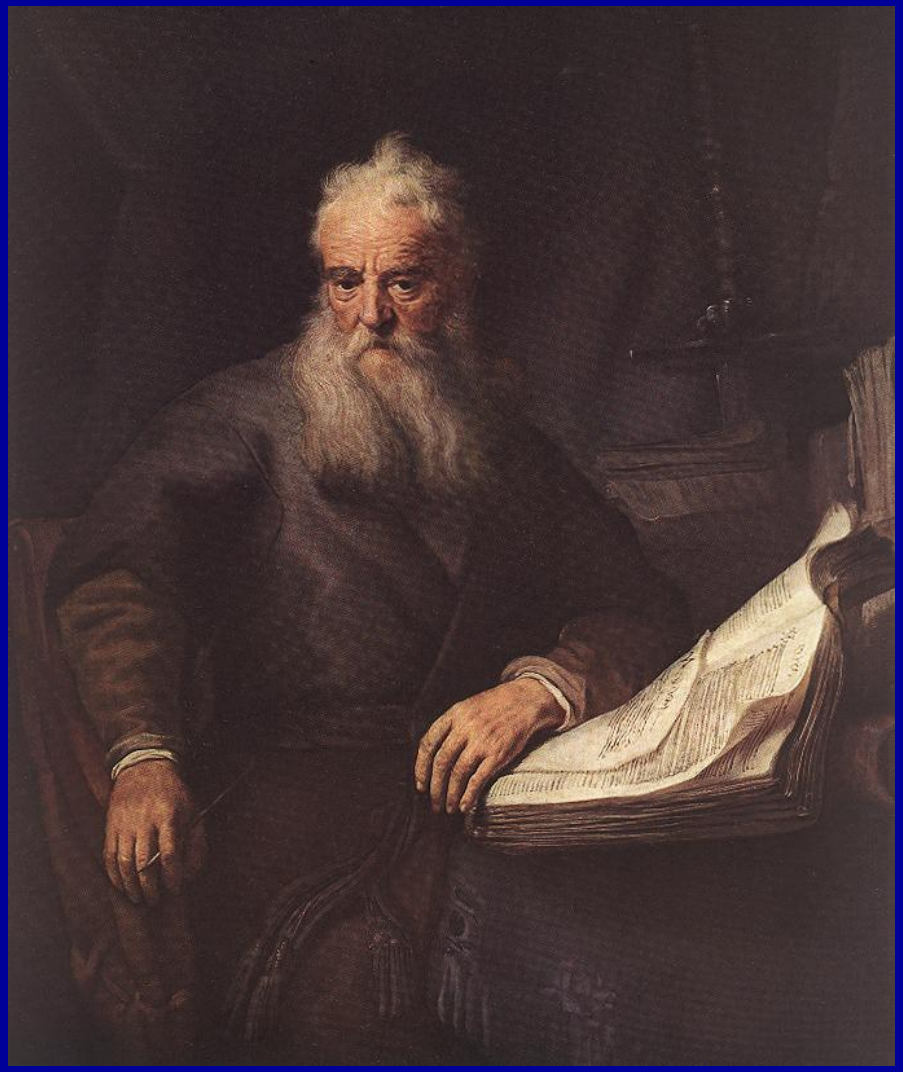
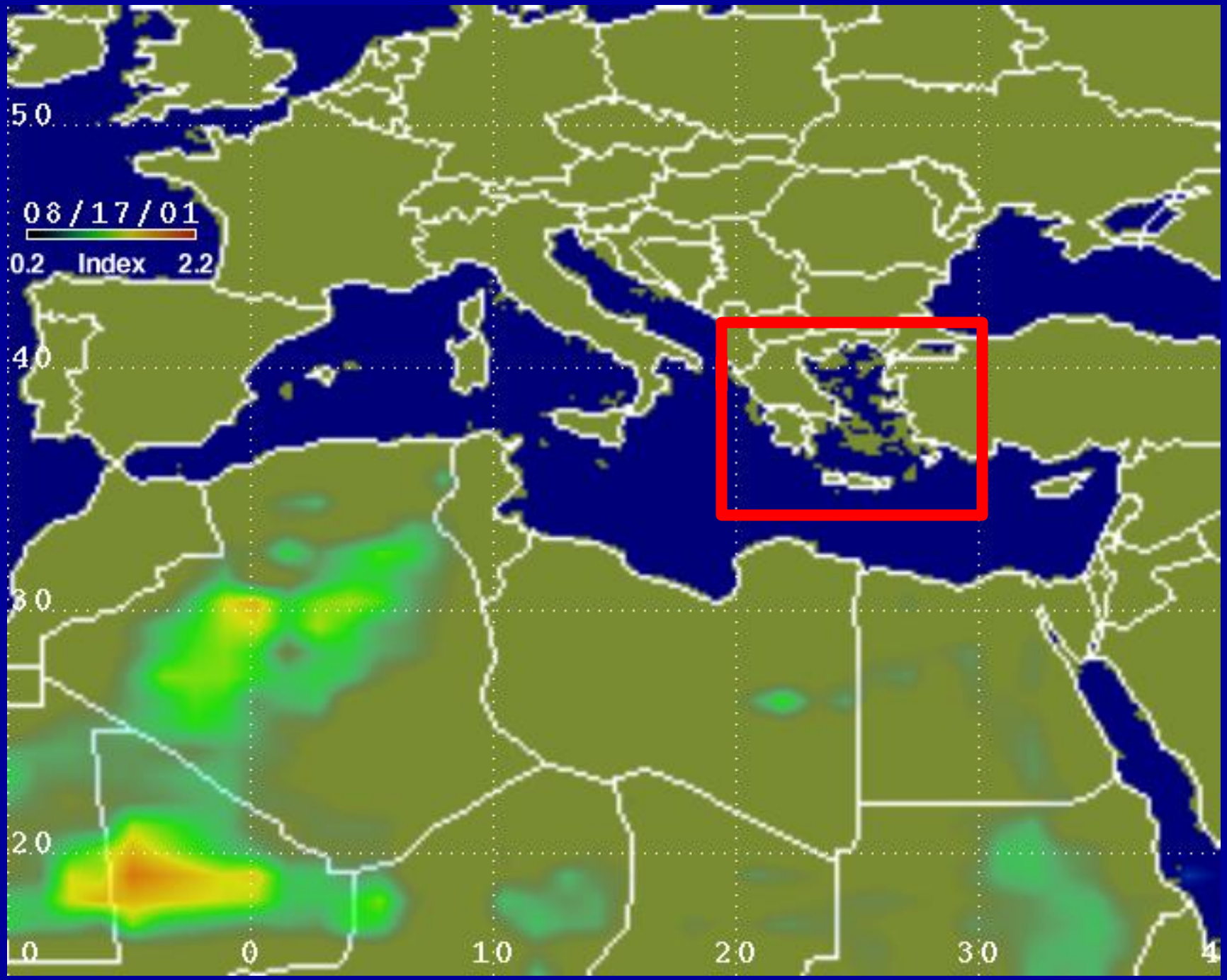
When Did Paul Write Romans?

- 57 A.D.
- 3d Missionary Journey
- In Corinth!



How Do We Know?

- Acts 20:1-3 Paul 3 Months in Corinth
- Rom. 16:23 Paul Writes from Gaius’s Home
- Gaius in Corinth (I Cor. 1:14)
- Letter Carried (?) by Phoebe of Chenchrea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Macedonia
Chenchrea
Corinth
Ephesus

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- Erastus!

“Erastus, who is the City’s director of public works, and our brother Quartus send you their greetings.” (16:23)

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ae·dile *n.* An elected official of ancient Rome who was responsible for public works and games

How Did Church at Rome Start?

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Peter? Paul?

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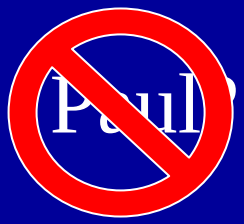

<u>We Do Know:</u>

Roman Jews at Pentecost

1,000’s Jews

Pricilla / Aquila
Acts 18:2

What Kind of Church Was it?

Gentile?

"Other Gentiles" (1:13)

Jewish?

Constant O. T. Appeals

A Look at History

Claudius (10 BC - 54 AD)

- Emperor 41 - 54 (barely)

Acts 18:2 “There he met a Jew named Aquila … who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome.”

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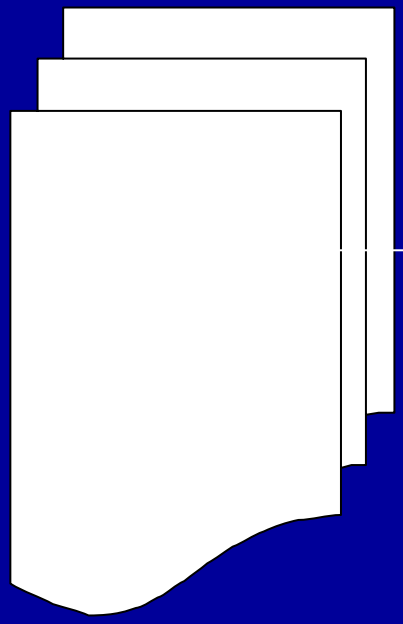

Suetonius, The Lives of the 12 Caesars (110 AD)

“Since the Jews constantly made disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, he expelled them from Rome.”

So What of the Church?

- Gentiles Left to “Run” it!
- Then … The Jews Return!
- Now a Church in Need of Paul’s Letter!

Paul Writes

- To Explain How Gentiles Stand Before God
- How Jews Stand Before God
- How the World Stands Before God
- The Difference in Jew and Gentile (Past and Future)

NORTH SEA
CASPIAN SEA
SARMATIA
ARMENIA
GERMANIA
BLACK SEA
MESOPOTAMIA
BRITANNIA
Deva
Eboracum
Vetera Castra
Bonna
Mogontiacum
Vindobona
Carnuntum
Brigetio
Aquincum
Tomis
Tropaeum
Sebaia
Melitene
Samosata
BELGICA
LUGDUNENSIS
UPPER GERMANY
LOWER GERMANY
Argentoratum
RHAETIA
NORICUM
PANNONIA
Sirmium
DALMATIA
MOESIA
THRACIA
Nicopolis
MACEDONIA
EPIRUS
ACHAIA
GALATIA
BITHYNIA
PONTUS
ASIA
PISIDIA
LYCAONIA
CILICIA
PAMPHYLIA
LYCIA
AQUITANIA
NARBONENSIS
Rhone
Legio
TARRACONENSIS
LUSITANIA
BAETICA
SARDINIA
SICILY
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
MAURETANIA
AFRICA
Lambaesis
NUMIDIA
CYRENAICA
Alexandria
ARABIA PETRAEA
EGYPT
JUDEA
Jerusalem
Bostra

Rome

- > 1 Million
- Center
- Loaded With Jews
- Loaded With Christians

Roman Christians

1.75 to 4
Million Over
10 Generations

Roman Christians

Claudius 41-54

Nero 54-68

Rome Burns 64 (7 Years After Paul Writes)

Nero Blames Christians

Tacitus (107ish) “To get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had

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Nero Blames Christians

populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilate… an immense multitude was convicted….”

The Letter

- Intro (1:1-17)
- God’s Principles of Judgment (1:18-3:20)
- Righteousness in the Gospel (3:21-5:21)
- Holy Living for the Saved (6:1-8:39)
- Israel, Past and Future (9:1-11:36)
- Practical Christian Living (12:1-15:13)
- Closing notes (15:14-16:27)

Introduction and Personal Notes

Romans 1:1-17

Lengthy Intro

- Not “Paul an Apostle”
- “Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God – the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him and for his name’s sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.” (1:1-6).

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- Paul Desires to Visit
- Paul's Theme in 1:16-17

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

Points For Home

- Get Ready to Focus:

  How We Stand Before God
- We Are Called to Relationship
- We Are Called to Obedience
- Saved by the Death and Resurrection of Jesus