

Romans

Lesson 1 -- Romans 1:1-15

The centrality of the gospel in the introduction – 1-7

The author – “Paul” – Importance? To establish canonical credibility

He is a servant and apostle of Christ

The focus – “the gospel of God... concerning his Son”

JESUS CHRIST IS THE EMBODIMENT OF THE GOSPEL.

- * He came according to Old Testament prophecy
- * He was born of the line of David
- * He was established as the powerful Son of God
 - By the spiritually holy testimony of the resurrection
- * He sends us out with grace so all people may have faith in Him

The recipients – “all those in Rome”

They are loved, called, and blessed by God

The importance of the gospel in the fellowship of believers – 8-15

Prayer is a natural part of believers’ fellowship:

- * In thankfulness for their strengths
- * In frequency of remembrance
- * In request for resumed personal encounter, so as to bless and be blessed

The preaching of the gospel is central to believers’ fellowship

- * We are obligated to give that gospel to all:
 - Greeks (those of a prominent culture, EG Americans) or barbarians (those outside of our culture)
 - Wise (the educated) or unwise (the ignorant)
- * We continue to give that gospel to all (“... you also who are in Rome.”)
 - To believers who are receiving this letter. (Why do they need the gospel?)
 - To unbelievers who are in Rome. (Why do they need the gospel?)