

# *The Epistle of Paul to the* **ROMANS**

*"The Constitution of the Christian Faith"*

**\*\* A study in Doctrine\*\***

**\*\* A study in Practice\*\***

**Background :** This letter , inspired by the Holy Spirit, was written by the Apostle Paul to the "saints" at Rome around 56-58 A.D. , while Paul was in Corinth on his 3rd missionary journey.

**Purpose:** This letter is written to instruct believers in 3 general area's:

1. The fundamental doctrines of salvation to strengthen against false doctrine.
2. God's faithfulness in His relationship and dealings with Israel.
3. Practical Christian living in relation to society and government.

**About Paul :** Background : Philippians 3:4-6 (a Pharisee)

Salvation experience - Acts 9:1-22 (Saul=Paul)

Ministry training - Acts 22:1-4 ; 2 Corinthians 12:1-8 ; Galatians 1:15-19

Qualification for apostleship - called by Christ - Acts 9:3-6

## **Chapter 16: "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."**

### **I. Personal introduction and greetings to fellow believers:**

vv1-3 A. Paul introduces Phoebe to the Roman believers.

1. She is from the church at Cenchrea (near Corinth).
2. She will be traveling approx. 500 miles to Rome (probably with this epistle).
3. She may need their help.

vv4-16 B. Paul lovingly greets Christians he remembers who are at Rome.

1. Priscilla & Aquilla - Acts 18:1-4 ; 18; 24-28.
2. Epaphroditus - One of the first saved in Achaia.
3. Andronicus & Junia - Jewish believers.
4. Amplias - beloved.
5. Urbane & Stachys.
6. Apelles.
7. Christians in the household of Aristobulus.
8. Herodian - Jewish believer.
9. Christians in the household of Narcissus.
10. Tryphaena & Tryphosa - faithful women workers.
11. Persis - a faithful laborer in the Lord.
12. Rufus & his mother (who was like a mother to Paul).
13. Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes and the Christians with them.
14. Philologus & Julia, Nereus & his sister, and Olympas and the Christians with them.

C. All these believers are encouraged to greet each other with holy affection.

## **II. Warnings against those who would corrupt their fellowship and unity in Christ.**

- v17     A. Notice who they are by what they are teaching. (See 2 Peter chapter 2 & Jude).
1. Their teaching is contrary to the teaching of Holy Scripture.
  2. They seem to cause division and set up stumbling blocks to freedom in Christ.
  3. They seek to serve their own interests instead of Christ. Phil 3:17-19
  4. They are smooth talkers, flatterers, eloquent speakers.
  5. They deceive (beguile) the hearts of the simple (innocent) Gen 3, 2 Tim 3:13.
- B. Avoid them ( turn away).
- v19     C. Stay on track.
1. Your reputation of obedience to the faith is well known.
  2. Be wise (knowledgeable and well versed) in that which is good.
  3. Be simple (innocent, naive) in that which is evil.
- v20     D. The God of peace shall bruise (crush) Satan under your feet shortly. Genesis 3:15

## **III. Final remarks.**

- vv21-23 A. Greetings from those who are in Corinth with Paul.
1. Timothy
  2. Lucius - A prophet and teacher from Antioch. Acts 13:1
  3. Jason - Paul's host in Thessalonica. Acts 17:5
  4. Sosipater - From Berea. Acts 20:4
  2. Tertius - Wrote this letter as Paul dictated it.
  3. Gaius - Paul's host.
  4. Erastus - A city official (treasurer)
  5. Quartus
- vv25-27 B. "Now to Him that is able (has the power) to":
1. Establish you (set you on a firm foundation).
    - a. According to the good news, which is: Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father but by Him. John 14:6.
    - b. According to the unveiling of the mystery that was kept secret since the beginning of the ages, but is now revealed . Col 1:26 ; 2:2 ; 4:3.
    - c. By the Holy Scriptures spoken through the prophets by the commandment of God, to be proclaimed to all peoples to give them the opportunity to submit to faith in Christ. Rom 10:17; 2 Peter 1:16-21.
  2. All the glory belongs to God through the Lord Jesus Christ.