

**TROUBLE, TROUBLE,
TROUBLE—**



BUT HELP IS ON THE WAY

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BUT HELP
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THE WAY**

- **Romans as a real letter**
- **Issues Paul addresses in Romans**
- **Romans 1:16–17, in your own words**
- **Paul's beliefs about the end times**

Quick Conversations

- Tell about an eagerly awaited or important letter you have received.
- Tell about an important or meaningful letter you have written.
- What letters have you saved? Who from? Why have you saved them?
- Are you aware of collections of letters— from family, acquaintances, literature?

In Rome—

49 CE Emperor Claudius expelled Christian Jews from Rome; Gentile Christians can remain

54 CE Death of Claudius; Emperor Nero allows Jewish Christians to return to Rome

Tension between returning Jewish Christians and Gentile believers within congregations

Paul in Corinth, winter of 57–58 CE . . .

- had never been to Rome, but hears of quarrels within Roman congregations**
- wants to take his gospel message to Spain**
- concerned that dissension in Roman congregations will jeopardize their participation in the mission to Spain**

ROMANS 1:1–7

**What was Paul's authority
to counsel the Romans?**

**Can Gentiles be Christians
without converting to
Judaism?**

Looking for Clues

1:1–4

1:5–6

1:7–10

1:11–13

1:14–15

1:16–17

**Authority as
an Apostle**

**Gospel is for
everyone**

Romans 1:16–17

- 1. I am not ashamed of the gospel;**
- 2. it is the power of God for salvation**
- 3. to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.**
- 4. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed**
- 5. through faith for faith;**
- 6. as it is written, “the one who is righteous will live by faith.”**

How would the belief that he was living in the end times affect Paul's outlook and message?

What positive attitudes and actions can result from believing that the end is near? What are dangers?

What are we to know and do *now?*

Response:

**May we be mutually encouraged
by one another's faith.**





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