

Bible Study Guide for Romans 1:1-17

Day 1 – Overview of Romans 1:1-17

There is no scriptural record of the founding of the church in Rome. However, we are told in **Acts 2:10** that there were “*visitors from Rome*” present in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. Some believe that these visitors must have returned home having become vibrant believers, witnessing to the salvation available through Jesus Christ. Others feel that the church in Rome was started by a person who, in the course of his travels, visited in the home of Cornelius (a Roman army officer) and heard the Gospel there. Paul often spoke of his desire to visit Rome and was establishing a relationship with this church through this letter. The letter addresses no church problems. Instead, it is a clear discussion of the theology of salvation.

1. Read **Romans 1:1-17**. These verses contain Paul’s greetings and a general introduction to the theme of his letter.

a. What do you learn about Paul from these verses? What are your impressions of him as a person?

b. What do you learn about the recipients of the letter?

2. If these verses contained the theme verse(s) for the whole book of **Romans**, what do you think they might be? Write them down and give your reason for choosing them.

Day 2 – Romans 1:1, 2

1. Paul’s opening sentence is seven verses long! Let’s look at it bit by bit. As a bond servant and an apostle, Paul said that he was “*set apart for the gospel of God...*” Consider the implications of this statement by studying the following passages.

a. When was Paul “*set apart*” and for what purpose according to **Galatians 1:15, 16**?