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The Book of Romans Lesson 1 - who He is

Chapter 1:1-4 return pages 5 & 6

Outline of Book of Romans

- Romans chapter 1 through chapter 3 and verse 23 explains why man needs a Savior.
- Romans 3:24 through chapter 5 explains who that Savior is. Jesus Christ.
- Romans 6, 7 and 8 explains what happens to a man once he is saved.
- Romans 9, 10 and 11 answers the obvious question. Then what became of God's promises to Israel.
- Romans 12 thru 16, instructions for Christian living.

Romans 1:1. Speaks of the gospel of God.

Romans 1:9. Speaks of the gospel of His Son.

Romans 1:16. Speaks of the gospel of Christ.

Since there is but one saving gospel, we must conclude that Christ is God the Son. This is not a Baptist gospel, Presbyterian gospel, Catholic gospel, Methodist gospel, Assembly of God gospel, Church of God gospel or any other group or faction gospel. It is the gospel of the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the good news. You see, the good news is not something about Him; the good news is the Man Christ Jesus.

Romans 1:1. Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, I understand the Holy Spirit is guiding and directing the man as he records God's very words — so we'll not give Paul undue credit for what is written here; we will give the Holy Spirit credit for pointing out to us this great truth. There is something that takes priority over being an apostle. Did you notice the order? Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, followed by called to be an apostle... Paul, believe it or not, was a servant before he got saved; God knew He could trust him with the apostleship because of his character. That is the kind of man he was. 1 Timothy 1:12. And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, (Look at the order.) for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

Paul was not a saved man but he was a faithful man. That is, he was completely, totally, one hundred percent dedicated to what he believed... dedicated to the life he was living before he got saved. When he got saved that dedication was transferred from Pharisaical Judaism to New Testament Christianity, but that is the kind of man he was. The Holy Spirit says in



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Romans 1:1, it is more important to be a servant of Jesus Christ than it is to be an apostle. We do not need apostles who are not servants. But we could use plenty of servants who are not apostles. Paul did not consider it beneath his dignity to serve the Lord of Lords.

He is called to be an apostle, *He is separated unto the gospel of God.* Separation in the Bible is very, very different than separation as taught in our legalistic or in our standard emphasizing Baptist churches. When people in the average church think of separation, they always think of separation *from.* We do not go to the movies, so we are separated. Blind people do not go to the movies. We do not drink; so we are separated. Many lost people do not drink. We do not cuss in our family, so we are separated. There are many professional people who do not cuss.

Now should we be separated from the sinful and carnal practices of this world? Absolutely. But if that is all you have, you do not have a biblical separation. Bible separation was primarily *unto* something. Many people are content with not doing the wrong, but they never devote themselves to doing the right. No offense intended I want you to do better, I want you to reach higher. And so I say with all thanksgiving to God that I appreciate my students who are separated *from* the blatant hurtful sins of this world. But there is much more to the Christian life than separated *from*. We want you someday to be separated *unto* the gospel of God. We do not want you to just not do wrong; we want you to enjoy doing right.

There is something more than just being with good people. There is helping us reach the lost world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. And Paul said that his separation was much bigger than what he was separated from..., the Holy Spirit wants to emphasize what he is separated *unto!*

Remember the children of Israel. God separated them *from* Egypt. Then they were in the wilderness wandering. He also separated them *unto* the Promised Land.

Now in the Christian life, you are called to be separated from and separated unto. If you are just separated from, then you are like the children of Israel, wandering in the wilderness, never maturing in the Lord, watching others around you experiencing the joy and excitement of the Christian walk. Here is why Christians fall away, you take away all the bad things in their lives, but you never get excited about the good stuff, that is why young people as soon as they are old enough leave home and go out into the world; Mom and Dad took away all the bad influences in their lives, but they never got them excited about the good stuff. You can't just take it away; you have to replace it with something. You need to get out there and get busy in the service of the Lord Jesus Christ, in proclaiming the gospel; that is exciting.

Romans 1: 2. Parentheses. (Which he had promised afore by his prophets



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in the holy scriptures,) There a dozen places in your New Testament that state beyond any question that the New Testament gospel is found in the Old Testament scriptures. Now what is he preaching in verse 1? *The gospel of God*. He cannot possibly be talking about the New Testament the best we can tell Romans was written, 60 A.D. This is referenced to the fact that you can find the gospel in the Old Testament.

Let me give you one example. In Acts 26:6-8

- 6 And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers:
- *Unto which promise our twelve tribes, instantly serving God day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews.*
- 8 Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?

(KJV)

Paul is saying I am being judged right now for preaching what all of my forefathers hoped for. What is he preaching? He is preaching the gospel that a Savior, a Messiah has come and offered life beyond the grave.

Verse 3. Let us read this without the parenthesis. ...separated unto the gospel of God... Concerning his Son... what is the gospel concerning? Not baptism, not election, not denominational membership. What is the gospel concerning? God's Son, Jesus Christ – that is the gospel! The gospel is not a prayer, not a formula, not a plan of salvation. The gospel is Jesus Christ. Many people take nearly new converts to 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 and say, see here is the Gospel, the death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, but in fact they have missed the point, the Gospel is not what He did, but rather who He is. If they believe what the Bible says about Jesus Christ, they will get saved!

Verse 3. Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord... Is it personal with you? I hope it is. Look — He is Jesus. He is been Jesus since that night in Bethlehem's manger. He is Christ. He is the anointed Messiah. He is the chosen one of Israel. He is the Lord... no doubt about it. But can you say He is our Lord? Is it personal for you. I hope it is.) which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; — you notice that Jesus Christ our Lord pre-dates His moving into the body that was formed in Mary's womb? He was made of the seed of David according to the flesh, verse 3 - that phrase according to the flesh is absolutely vital.

He is the Ancient of days. Daniel 7:9, 13, 22. He is the Word that was in the beginning (John 1:1) who made all things. He is the voice of the LORD God that walked in the garden, made coats of skins and clothed Adam according to Genesis chapter 3. He is the everlasting one whose goings forth have been of old according to Micah 5:2. He is Almighty God – but never had



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He come to earth to dwell in a body of human flesh. *according to the flesh*, in the legal lineage of King David with the throne rights with that throne at Jerusalem so He could rule and reign on earth as King of the Jews.

Verse 4. And declared to be the Son of God with power according to the spirit... There is David and then there is the Spirit. Physically..., Jesus Christ is in a body, a descendant, an heir of that Davidic kingdom – that is according to the flesh. But according to the spirit – who is He? He is the everlasting God. He is the one who is life; He did not get life; He is life.

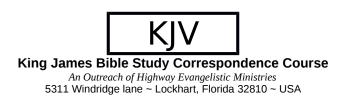
Look at the phrase. Verse 4. And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead: God, in Old Testament times, brought some men back from death. Jesus Christ, God Almighty, as He walked this earth, He brought some men, women, boys, and girls back from death.

Do you understand? That door is a one way door. It does not open from the inside for just anyone, God from time to time opened it from the inside and let some people back out for a little while. But then they had to go back in. That fellow that touched the bones of Elisha and revived came back to life. The widow of Nain's son, Jesus raised him from the dead. Tabitha, she was raised from the dead. Lazarus, come forth. Do you want to go see any of them? You can't — they are all dead now. Do you understand what I am saying? But Jesus Christ went to that cross, looked death right in the face and said, "I am coming to see you and when I get through I am leaving, and you cannot hold me I am going to break your power once and for all." And He laid down His life. Nobody had the power to do that according to John 10:18; Isaiah 38:18 (I believe it is). But Jesus did! He said, I have the power to lay down my life and I have the power to take it up again.

I have talked to many people who have tried to kill themselves but were unable, why? Because you do not have the power over death, only Jesus has that power.

Other religions are no comparison to what we have in Jesus Christ, we have a Savior that walked out of the grave. He lived in a human body the fact that He by His own power, walked out of that grave, three days and three nights, after they nailed Him to a cross, **proves** that He is the Son of God, **proves** that He is the gospel.

Notes



The Book of Romans

Lesson 1 - who He is

Chapter 1:1-4 Name			return pages 5 & 6
1.	How is	s Christianity different from other religions?	
2.	How o	loes the wilderness wandering of the Jews relate	to the born again believer?
3.	Explai a.	n the following terms: gospel of God	
	b.	gospel of His son	
	C.	gospel of Christ	
	d.	(extra credit) the everlasting gospel	
4.	What is biblical separation?		
5.	How does Jesus Christ prove that He is the gospel?		
6.	Explain Isaiah 38:18		
7.	How can Jesus Christ be of the legal linage of King David?		

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- 9. Explain John 17:3
- 10. Explain 1 Corinthians 15:1-4
- 11. What is the Gospel?
- 12. Why did God pick Paul to be an Apostle?
- 13. What does Paul's life testimony tell us about how our own character should be?
- 14. Explain "from" separation
- 15. Explain "unto" separation

True/false

- We are in the will of God if we do not drink, smoke, cuss, go to movies, and shy about telling others about Jesus Christ.
- The gospel is the good news about Jesus Christ.
- A Bishop is a higher rank in the church than a servant.

Scripture memorization, write out these verses on the back on this page: Romans1:1; 1 Timothy 1:12; Romans1:4

Any questions?