

Searching the Scriptures

“Search the Scriptures...for they are they which testify of Me. “John 5:39”

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Commentary on the Book of Romans

Introduction to the Gospel of Romans

An Epistle of Paul the Apostle

There seems to be no doubt that this Epistle was written by Paul, his sixth in chronological order of Paul’s Epistles, and was written around 60 A.D. from Corinth. The occasion was that Paul had ventured to go to Rome on previous occasions, but external circumstances thwarted his mission. The fact that Phebe, a deaconess of the church at Cenchraea, was going to Rome presented an opportunity to send the epistle to the Christians in that City (Rom. 16: 1-2). This Epistle is considered by many as the greatest book in the New Testament, and has been called the “Constitution of Christianity”. Its subject material, its logical reasoning and its relevance to human need give it a foremost place in Biblical revelation. It is a book, in one sense, simple and clear, but in another, so grand in its sweep, as to baffle complete understanding. Only the Holy Spirit can unravel the mysteries of its depth. We shall carry on, as we are lead, to unravel only a few threads of what shall come before us in this marvelous Book.

First, let us understand that the Christians at Rome were a mixed bunch, to say the least. They were comprised of converts scattered through the empire who came to visit or live in the imperial city. They were a smattering of Jews and Gentiles, some of which witnessed the crucifixion of Jesus, some sojourners at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost (Acts: 2:10) many may also have been instrumental in the founding of the Roman church. The point being that this church had no apostolic guidance whatsoever, which made it even more important to Paul, to visit this church. The fact that he could not get there, presented the perfect opportunity for him to send this message by Phoebe, to pave the way for his upcoming visit, and to present to this church the revealing of Jesus as the Christ, and the doctrine of “Grace”, whether it be to the Jew or the Gentile. The premise of this Book of Romans, is the “Righteousness of God”.

It is necessary to establish a few points to begin this “Study”. When studying the Scriptures, it is important to observe who is writing, or doing the talking. Who are they speaking or writing to, and what is the subject matter. While this may seem elementary, the truth is, most do not consider these factors when reading the Bible. Modern day

Christians somehow think the truth is supposed to jump off the page and provide them with spiritual knowledge. Not so! “*Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman who needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth*”. 2nd Timothy: 2:15. And as we all know, *study*, is not a lazy man’s strong suit. Therefore while we embark upon the commentary of this Book of Romans, we must keep before us that Paul is the writer, he wrote it to the Church of Rome, which was made up of both Jew and Gentile. And thirdly, the theme of this Gospel is “*the righteousness of God, and the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone who believeth, by faith*”. (*vs. 16—17 of Chapter One.*) It is my prayer that you may glean many lessons and spiritual insights as we proceed through this Gospel, Chapter by Chapter.

This commentary represents the prayerful thoughts, guidance, impressions, assumptions and conclusions of this author as I felt were directed by the Holy Spirit. I further take full responsibility for any errors, mistakes, misinterpretations imperfections, and inaccuracies. All material was taken from the King James Version of the Holy Bible as Copyrighted 1972 by Thomas Nelson Inc. Camden, New Jersey 08103 Respectfully; Bob Moses; Author.