



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Romans 1:1-17
- Acts 9:1-16
- Romans 5:1-2

FROM FAITH TO FAITH

- Obedience to the Faith
- Famous Faith
- The Just live by Faith

SEED:

“Through Him we have received grace and apostleship **for obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name, **among whom you also are the called** of Jesus Christ;” Romans 1:5-6 NKJV

FRUIT:

“For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**, for it is **the power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it **the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith**; as it is written, **“The just shall live by faith.”**” Romans 1:16-17 NKJV

“Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through **whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand...**” Romans 5:1-2

NARRATIVE FOR TODAY'S SCRIPTURES: ROMANS 1:1-17

It's been a long hard journey, an estimated twenty-two years since that fateful day of his conversion on the Road to Damascus. Paul has faced severe challenges, slanderous accusations, constant rejection, and near-death persecution more than once. And yet, as of the writing of Romans in 58 AD, Paul, although a Roman citizen, had never been to Rome. When the letter was recorded, he was still three years from actually arriving in Rome for the first time—and even then it was under oppressive conditions. His final journey took the better part of three years, two of those years he spent in chains and the final year included a shipwreck that nearly claimed the lives of 276 men, including his own. Yet, Paul's desire to go to Rome never wavered, evidenced by his constant requests of God and prayers to do so.

In this letter which he sends ahead of his eventual visit, he introduces himself as a bondservant and apostle. A Hebrew bondservant is a slave who has the right to go free, but volunteers to stay in service of his master forever, and Paul identifies as such for reasons we will soon explore in some detail. An apostle can be thought of as an explorer, one who is sent forward into new territory, equipped with both prophetic and pastoral qualities. Prophetic qualities are those characteristics that inspire exploration and the uncovering of truth. Apostles, although not sitting in the

office of the Prophet, have great appreciation and understanding of the prophetic and deep regard for the roll and authority of the Prophet and his ministry. Pastoral qualities are the character traits necessary to evangelize, guide, shepherd, educate and minister to the communities that were planted during exploratory journeys.

Paul recognizes that it was God who sovereignly set him apart for an assignment beginning on the Road to Damascus, but also that this good news he is spreading, teaching that Y'shua is the Messiah, is that which was prophesied in the Holy Scriptures. He would be from the line of David; He would be the Holy Son of God imbued with resurrection power. The power and anointing to bring this message and to obey God comes from God alone and is meant to spread His Name worldwide. Paul tells his readers that they are loved by God, recognized as saints, not sinners, and that they have access to God's divine power, which should cover them with a supernatural calm.

Let's get right to it and let me say this as if each of you is a personal recipient of this letter, as were those in Rome. *"You are the type of Christians who can handle the intricacies and complexities of this letter because of your excellence in the faith, which has also given you a stellar reputation."* Paul is so intent on getting to Rome that he testifies that he simply cannot stop praying that God would make a way for him to visit. He wants to download spiritual gifts to

them, which he shares in detail later in the letter, gifts which would help them mature even further in their walk with Christ. Plus, he is certain that their growth would be very inspiring, not only for them, but for himself. Paul makes it obvious that his desire to get to Rome has been ongoing, but delayed. He wants to preach in Rome about salvation and the kingdom, and to produce fruit in Rome as he has among other nations on his three missionary journeys. He feels he owes this to people of every background and belief.

Why? Because he is proud and honored to share the message of Christ. Of course the gospel was initially preached to save the Jews, but God's heart is that the Greeks, and every other type of Gentile hears the message of salvation as well. The gospel is both simple and complex. First, God's righteousness is revealed supernaturally into your heart by His grace and you get to participate in the faith; that's the simple part because you did nothing to deserve it, earn it, or acquire it. Then you move on and practice that faith every day—the often complicated and challenging life of becoming a disciple, as you walk out your faith, from faith to faith. And that is both the simplicity and complexity of what the ancient Scriptures meant long ago by, “The just shall live by faith.” You are justified by the free gift of faith and then you live by that faith, which will likely cost you everything.

“Think in Bible.” *DJH*

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

It's a mouthful, but if you can't string these words together and understand what they mean—grace-empowered-faith-based-obedience to God—then it will be impossible for you to understand the Book of Romans, and more importantly, how those words unpack, “The just shall live by faith.” It's a life of famous faith; that's what it will take, faith imparted and faith practiced. You can't practice the faith necessary to save you; that brand comes gift-wrapped from heaven. And you can't bury that gift in the sand and believe your life will be pleasing to God. Your faith must be practiced—demonstrated by obedience.

From faith to faith explains what those ancient words mean; “The just live by faith.” That is how the righteousness of God becomes evident to others. By God's grace, through faith, you received a free invitation into His family. But, you must be aware that the gift also confers upon you a responsibility; you are justified by free faith to then live by faith—you must practice your faith. And you practice your faith by purposely accessing God's grace. That is how your faith-filled-grace-empowered life reveals God's righteousness to the world—from faith to faith. It's the life of grace-empowered-faith-based-obedience to God!

OBEDIENCE TO THE FAITH

1. Grace, Apostleship, and Obedience

A. A Divine Calling

(1) Separated to the Gospel

(a) Unpacking the Bondservant and the Apostle

1. “Paul, a **bondservant** of Jesus Christ, **called** to be an **apostle, separated** to the gospel of God” Romans 1:1 NKJV

2. Paul introduces himself as a bondservant and apostle.

a) A **Hebrew Bondservant** is a slave who has the right to go free, but volunteers to stay in service of his master forever.

b) An **Apostle** can be thought of as an explorer, one who is sent forward into new territory, equipped with both prophetic and pastoral qualities.

c) Prophetic qualities are characteristics that inspire exploration and the uncovering of truth.

d) Apostles have great appreciation for prophetic ideas and a deep regard for the role and authority of the prophet and prophetic ministry.

e) Pastoral qualities are the character traits necessary to evangelize, guide, shepherd, educate and minister to the people.

(b) Where does identifying as a bondservant originate?

1. “If you buy a **Hebrew servant**, he shall serve six years; and in the seventh **he shall go out free** and pay nothing. If he comes in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. **If his master has given him a wife, and she has borne him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master’s, and he shall go out by himself.** But **if the servant plainly says, ‘I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,**’ then his master shall **bring him to the judges.** He shall also bring him to the door, or to the doorpost, and his master **shall pierce his ear** with an awl; and **he shall serve him forever.”** Exodus 21:2-6 NKJV

2. Point of Reference

a) Each time you see a writer in the New Testament refer to himself as a bondservant, this is his point of reverence.

1) Paul also does so to the Philippians and to Titus; Peter does in II Peter, and both James and Jude do so in their letters.

- b) A Hebrew servant (slave) was treated like a member of the family and subsequently would be freely released after seven years of service.
 - c) However, if he gained a wife and children during his service, they could not leave with him, so he had to make a decision, and that decision was permanent.
 - d) He could leave forever on his own, or if he loved his master and his family, he could choose to stay forever.
 - e) If he chooses to stay, he is publicly pierced as a sign of his choice, *"I will stay forever because I love my master and my wife!"*
- (c) Is this not precisely what Y'shua did in the Garden of Gethsemane, when He made His final decision to stay?
1. "And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, **"Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."** Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And **being in agony, He prayed more earnestly.** Then His **sweat became like great**

drops of blood falling down to the ground.” Luke
22:41-44 NKJV

2. Y’shua is praying in the Garden on the night He was betrayed...
 - a) He knew what was coming.
 - b) He could leave and abandon the mission; He could go free, return to His previous state of existence in the spirit realm, “***being in the form of God***”.
 - c) However, the rule says that because He received His bride while a **bondservant**, He would not be able to keep her.
 - d) When did He **become a bondservant** and **receive His bride**?
 - 1) [became a bondservant when He came a man]
*“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, **who, being in the form of God**, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, **taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.** And ***being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and****

became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” Philippians 2:5-8 NKJV

2) [received His bride by becoming man]

*“Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her**, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He **might present her to Himself a glorious church**, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”*

(Ephesians 5:25-27) *““For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be **joined to his wife**, and the two shall become one flesh.” This is a great mystery, but **I speak concerning Christ and the church.**”* Ephesians 5:31-32 NKJV (See: [Wedding Day](#))

- e) He had a choice, leave without His bride (that’s you!), or if He loves His Master (His Father) and loved His wife (You, the Church), He could choose to stay forever and get pierced.
- f) What did He choose? And in the midst of His betrayal He affirmed His decision, even though it

was clear He had the ability to leave! He went to the cross and stayed on the cross to his death.

- 1) [He chose to stay] ***“nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”*** Luke 22:42 NKJV
- 2) [He chose to submit and not fight] *“But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?””* Matthew 26:52-54 NKJV
- 3) [He chose to forgive, get pierced, and stay on the cross] *“Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, “**He saved others; Himself He cannot save.** If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ””*
(Matthew 27:41-43) *“Then Jesus said, “**Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.**” And they divided His garments and cast*

*lots. Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, **“If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.”** And Jesus said to him, **“Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”**” Luke 23:34, 39, 43 NKJV*

4) [He chose to die] *“And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, **and yielded up His spirit.**”*
Matthew 27:50 NKJV

(d) The Church Foundation: called to be an Apostle

1. “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Jesus Christ Himself being the **chief cornerstone**,”
Ephesians 2:19-20 NKJV

a) Church governance has been divided into a Separation of Powers—the apostles and prophets (roles fulfilled by mankind), and THE KING (fulfilled by Y’shua)!

(e) The Apostle (and apostolic offices), and the Prophet

1. “And He Himself gave some to be **apostles**, some **prophets**, some **evangelists**, and some **pastors and teachers**, for the **equipping** of the saints for the **work**

of ministry, for the **edifying** of the body of Christ, till we all come to the **unity of the faith** and of the **knowledge of the Son of God**, to a **perfect man**, to the measure of **the stature of the fullness of Christ;**"
Ephesians 4:11-13 NKJV

- a) In most of his letters, Paul identifies as being called as an Apostle (except Philemon, I & II Thessalonians, and Philipppians).
- b) The Apostle: Overseer of other pastoral ministries (the evangelist, the pastors and the teacher), while also capable of integrating and submitting to the prophetic. Apostles explore, plant, and install pastoral leadership. Pastoral ministries attend to the needs of the people.
- c) The Prophet: responsible for truth, guidance, and correction. Prophets see patterns and offer direction to the apostles (pastoral ministries). This creates unity, as we become one people going in one direction.
 - 1) *"There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope** of your calling; **one Lord**, **one faith**, **one baptism**; **one God** and*

Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” Ephesians 4:4-6 NKJV

2) *“For as the body is **one** and has many members, but all the members of that **one body**, being many, are **one body**, so also is Christ. For by **one Spirit** we were all baptized into **one body**—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into **one Spirit**. For in fact the body is not one member but many.” I Corinthians 12:12-14 NKJV*

d) The King: there is one King (Y’shua Messiah). They mocked Him on the cross, but had no idea that what they wrote was true!

1) *“And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: **THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS**.” Matthew 27:37 NKJV*

2) *“And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: **KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**.” Revelation 19:16 NKJV*

2. Note: this is the same structure used in the formation of the Government the United States of America.

a) The King (Executive Branch—the President, executes the law). *[in the Church = Christ]*

- b) The Apostle (Legislative Branch—represents the people, makes the law). *[in the Church = Priest/Pastor]*
 - c) The Prophet (Judicial Branch—judges and correct, interprets the law). *[in the Church = Office of the Prophet, not the gift of prophecy]*
- (f) Separated to the gospel. What does Paul mean?
1. “As he [Paul] journeyed he came near Damascus, and **suddenly a light shone around him from heaven.**” Acts 9:3 NKJV
 2. “But the Lord said to him [Ananias], “Go, for **he is a chosen vessel of Mine** to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For **I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.**”” Acts 9:15-16 NKJV
 3. Paul had a radical encounter with Y’shua on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9).
 - a) Paul uses his salutation in Romans to establish Holy Spirit and doctrinal authority, by telling the reader that he was hand-picked by Yahweh.
 - b) What does it mean to be separated? Paul recognizes that it was God who sovereignly set him apart for an assignment.

- c) That is what it took to open his eyes, considering his previous intense training in the Law (Torah) and his unwavering commitment to Judaism, as it was practiced in the first century, and his insistent persecution of the Church
- d) So, he needed to be “separated.” He had to be called out in a dramatic fashion, ***“suddenly a light shone around him from heaven,”*** and then sent to an isolated place, alone for years, before he could be released as an Apostle.
- (g) Separated to the gospel: What does Paul mean? There is no better place where Paul summarizes that calling than in his letter to the Galatians.
 - 1. “But I make known to you, brethren, that **the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man.** For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, **but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.** For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. **But when it pleased God,**

who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. **Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem** to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother. (Now concerning the things which I write to you, indeed, before God, I do not lie.) Afterward I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. And I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea which were in Christ. **But they were hearing only, "He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy."** And they glorified God in me." Galatians 1:11-24 NKJV

2. **"Then after fourteen years** I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of

reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain.” Galatians 2:1-2 NKJV

- a) Paul was called by God, separated (set-apart for a mission) and then it took fourteen years of preparation!
- b) That’s what he means when he says, “He was separated to the gospel!”

(2) The Promised One

(a) As the prophets said, Y’shua Messiah...

1. “which He **promised before through His prophets** in the **Holy Scriptures**, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was **born of the seed of David** according to the flesh,” Romans 1:2-3 NKJV
2. Prophesied in the Bible—the seed of David
 - a) Doctrinal ideas of striking significance hint about where Paul is taking us.
 - b) He tells us that what he has to say was promised through the prophets and Holy Scriptures.
 - c) The good news Paul is spreading about Y’shua as the Messiah is backed by the Bible; it was prophesied in the Scriptures.

- d) As the prophets promised, the Messiah is exactly who He was supposed to be...from the line of David.
- e) Romans is going to be a festival of Old Testament quotes and references. To fully grasp what Paul is saying, you must follow the trail into each.

(b) The Seed of David!

1. *[Nathan the prophet speaking to David]* ““When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, **I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body,** and **I will establish his kingdom.** He shall build a house for My name, and **I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son...**” II Samuel 7:12-14 NKJV
2. “**And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever** before you. **Your throne shall be established forever.**” ’ ” According to all these words and according to all this vision, **so Nathan spoke to David.**” II Samuel 7:16-17 NKJV
 - a) The Seed will come from David’s body and His kingdom will be established forever—as ***“promised by His prophets in the Holy Scriptures!”***

(3) Declared with Power

(a) The Spirit of holiness

1. “and **declared to be the Son of God** with **power** according to the **Spirit** of **holiness**, by the **resurrection** from the dead.” Romans 1:4 NKJV
2. He would be the Holy Son of God imbued with resurrection power in His DNA.
 - a) The Spirit of holiness—He was set-apart as the Firstfruits of the all those who would be resurrected:
 - 1) “*But now **Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep.*” I Corinthians 15:20 NKJV
 - b) He would be recognized by the power that caused His resurrection:
 - 1) “*and what is the exceeding **greatness of His power** toward us who believe, according to the working of **His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,***” Ephesians 1:19-20 NKJV

B. Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based Obedience

(1) Through Him....

(a) Grace and Apostleship FOR Obedience to the Faith

1. “Through Him we have received **grace** and **apostleship** for **obedience to the faith** among all nations for His name, **among whom you also are the called** of Jesus Christ;” Romans 1:5-6 NKJV
2. Romans will teach you what it means to live a life of Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based-Obedience.
 - a) The power and anointing to bring this message and to obey God comes from God alone and is meant to spread His Name worldwide.
 - b) It is by the power (grace) of Yahweh that Paul is called as an apostle, not by his own doing.
 - c) And secondly, Paul tells us why we receive grace (the supernatural empowerment from God) and apostleship (to lead the leaders). It is to be obedient to the faith!
 - d) Romans will teach you what it means to live a life of **Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based-Obedience** to God.

(2) Free Faith vs. Practicing Faith

(a) First you receive free faith...

1. “Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith

with us **by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:**" II Peter 1:1 NKJV

a) This faith comes ONLY by God! It is His doing by His righteousness alone.

(b) It's the only way to be saved!

1. "For by **grace you have been saved through faith**, and that **not of yourselves; it is the gift** of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 NKJV

a) Salvation comes by God's grace alone, His **power** to touch your heart and change you. If He did not do that first...

1) "*the **message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power [grace] of God.**" I*

Corinthians 1:18 NKJV

(c) Then you must live by faith...

1. "But **without faith it is impossible to please Him**, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that **He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**" Hebrews 11:6 NKJV

a) You cannot please the Lord if you do not practice your faith.

- b) Conversely, He blesses those who do!
- (d) How can we live a life of faith?
 - 1. “Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” Romans 5:1-2 NKJV
 - a) The free faith we received by grace (His power) justified us.
 - b) Then this faith gives us ongoing access to His grace (His power) so we can live by faith!
 - c) James reminds us that this is not optional...
 - 1) “*For as the body without the spirit is dead, **so faith without works is dead** also.*” James 2:26 NKJV
 - d) At the end of this section will then see the depth of what the prophet meant by, “**The just shall live by faith.**”
- (3) Greeting to all believers in Rome!
 - (a) Grace and Peace
 - 1. “**To all who are in Rome**, beloved of God, called to be saints: **Grace to you and peace** from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 1:7 NKJV

- a) Paul tells his readers that they are loved by God, **recognized as saints, not sinners**, and that they have access to God's divine power, which should cover them with a supernatural calm.
- (b) Don't overlook this calling—to be saints. You received a NEW identity once you became a member of the family of faith: you once were a sinner; now you are a saint!
 - 1. "Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." II Corinthians 5:17 NKJV
 - 2. "Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But **where sin abounded, grace abounded much more**, so that as sin reigned in death, **even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 5:20-21 NKJV) "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! **How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?**" Romans 6:1-2 NKJV
 - 3. "Whoever has been born of God **does not sin**, for **His seed remains in him**; and he **cannot sin**, because he has been born of God." I John 3:9 NKJV

FAMOUS FAITH

2. Rome is on My Heart

A. The Whole World is Watching

(1) What is the faith that gets noticed?

(a) Thank God for Your Faith

1. “First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that **your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.**” Romans 1:8 NKJV
2. The believers in Rome have famous faith. Think about your own faith as you explore this area of Scripture.
 - a) You are the type of Christian who can handle the intricacies and complexities of this letter because of your excellence in the faith, which has also given you a stellar reputation.
 - b) What is famous faith? If the Apostle Paul is bragging about your faith as a topic of conversation all over the known world, then you are clearly known for your faith.
 - c) And following his introduction which emphasized obedience, this should give you a clue to where we are going in this letter and to what he identifies as the a chief attribute of famous faith!

(b) Their faith is famous, and so is their obedience.

1. “For **your obedience has become known to all.**

Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to **be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.**

And the God of peace will **crush Satan under your feet shortly.** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.” Romans 16:19-20 NKJV

- a) The letter begins with faith: *“Their faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.”* (1:8)
- b) And ends with obedience: *“Their obedience has become known to all.”* (16:19)

B. Getting to Rome

- (1) Paul’s longstanding desire to go to Rome.

- (a) By any means possible...

1. “For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, **that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers,** making request **if, by some means, now at last I may find a way in the will of God to come to you.**” Romans 1:9-10 NKJV

- a) Paul is so intent on getting to Rome that he testifies that he simply cannot stop praying that God would make a way for him to visit.

b) And he is open to any means possible to somehow get there!

(b) He was certain that he would get there, just not when and how.

1. *[on trial in Jerusalem Summer 58 AD around Pentecost]* "But the following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul; **for as you have testified for Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome.**" Acts 23:11 NKJV
2. *[on trial in Caesarea 58 AD]* "For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, **I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar.**" Then Festus, when he had conferred with the council, answered, **"You have appealed to Caesar? To Caesar you shall go!"** Acts 25:11-12 NKJV
3. *[caught in a storm sailing to Rome 60 AD]* **"Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.'** Therefore take heart, men, for **I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.**" Acts 27:24-25 NKJV

4. Be careful for what you pray for!

- a) Paul's eventual passage to Rome was as a prisoner who had appealed to Caesar while on trial.

(c) Why did he want to go to Rome?

- 1. "For I long to see you, that I may **impart to you some spiritual gift**, so that you may be **established**— that is, that I may be **encouraged** together with you by the **mutual faith** both of you and me." Romans 1:11-12 NKJV

- a) He wants to download spiritual gifts to them, which he shares in detail later in the letter, gifts which would help them mature even further in their walk with Christ.
- b) Plus, he is certain that their growth would be very inspiring not only for them, but for himself. He knows that he would be encouraged by them, as the fruit of his labor
- c) He is intentional about his prayers for his audience and authentic about his desires to visit them.
- d) Paul wants to see them thrive as a center for Christian expansion (Rome is the perfect place for that to happen).

(d) Spiritual Gifts Preview

1. “For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as **God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.** For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us,** let us use them: if **prophecy**, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or **ministry**, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in **teaching**; he who exhorts, in **exhortation**; he who **gives**, with liberality; he who **leads**, with diligence; he who shows **mercy**, with cheerfulness.” Romans 12:3-8 NKJV
2. Gifts Paul Mentions later in Romans (see also I Corinthians 12)
 - a) Prophecy, ministry, teaching; exhortation; giving, leading, and mercy.
- (e) Why had he not yet been there?
 1. “Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that **I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now),** that I might have some **fruit**

among you also, just as among the **other Gentiles.**"

Romans 1:13 NKJV

2. Paul has been hindered in visiting Rome until now, but he is on his way.

a) Paul makes it obvious that his desire to get to Rome has been ongoing, but delayed.

b) He mentions here how he has been hindered until now to visit Rome and later on, in chapter 15, he tells us exactly why. The timing would have been off had he gone earlier.

1) *"And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, **not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation**, but as it is written: "To whom He was not announced, they shall see; And those who have not heard shall understand." **For this reason I also have been much hindered from coming to you.**"* Romans 15:20-22 NKJV

c) Remember, Paul was a citizen of Roman Empire but had yet not visited Rome.

1) *"But Paul said, "I am a Jew from Tarsus [part of Rome], in Cilicia, **a citizen** of no mean city; and*

I implore you, permit me to speak to the people.”” Acts 21:39 NKJV

2) *“And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who stood by, “**Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman, and uncondemned?**”” Acts 22:25 NKJV*

d) He’s been everywhere else; now it’s time to go to Rome to bear, **“fruit just as among the other Gentiles.”**

e) What does he mean by other Gentiles?

(f) Greeks and barbarians?

1. “I am a **debtor** both to **Greeks** and to **barbarians**, both to wise and to unwise.” Romans 1:14 NKJV

2. Greeks vs. other Nations (Gentiles)

a) He has certainly engaged in some intense spiritual warfare regarding his desire to be with them.

b) And knowing what he came from and what he endured to become what Yahweh called him to be, he feels a legitimate indebtedness to everyone!

c) He feels an obligation to both Jew and Gentile and to **barbarians**.

d) Rome is a mixed bag of all sorts of converted Gentiles, and then of course there are Jews...

- 1) *“Or do you not know, brethren (**for I speak to those who know the law**), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?”*

Romans 7:1 NKJV

(g) Ready to Preach

1. “So, as much as is in me, **I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome** also.” Romans 1:15 NKJV
 - a) Rome is also the model for world government in the first century. Put aside, for the moment, what we know of Rome’s horrific history of human rights atrocities, brutal “dictatorships”, and debauchery.
 - b) That was not because of their governmental system; it was because of evil Caesars.
 - c) Understanding government is critical in order to understand the kingdom; Paul was a Torah scholar AND a citizen of Rome. He understood the Government of Heaven and government of man.
 - d) He wants to preach in Rome about salvation and the kingdom, and to produce fruit as he has among other nations on his three missionary journeys. He feels he owes this to people of every background and belief as we will further expand shortly.

THE JUST LIVE BY FAITH

3. Faith²

A. The power of God to salvation!

(1) Don't be ashamed...

(a) It's not about your heritage; it about your faith!

1. "For I am **not ashamed of the gospel of Christ**, for it is the **power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the **Jew first and also for the Greek.**"

Romans 1:16 NKJV

- a) Paul is proud and honored to share the message of Christ.
- b) What is the Gospel of Christ? It is the power of salvation by faith. For who? For anyone who believes.
- c) Of course the gospel was initially preached to save the Jews, but God's heart is that the Greeks, and every other type of Gentile hears the message of salvation as well.

(2) Note of Distinction: Greek vs. Other Gentiles

- (a) Sometimes you see the separation of Jew from Greek, and sometimes Jew from Gentile. We see the specific distinction of Greeks from other Gentiles here a few times in Romans 1:

1. "I am a **debtor** both to **Greeks** and to **barbarians**, both to wise and to unwise." Romans 1:14
 2. "for the **Jew first and also for the Greek.**" Romans 1:16
- (b) And we also saw it earlier in I Corinthians:
1. "whether **Jews or Greeks**, whether slaves or free." I Corinthians 12:13
- (c) And we will see it again later in Romans 10:
1. "For there is no distinction between **Jew and Greek**, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him." Romans 10:12
- (d) And Paul also wrote about it in other areas as well...
1. "**There is neither Jew nor Greek**, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28 NKJV
 2. "**where there is neither Greek nor Jew**, circumcised nor uncircumcised, **barbarian**, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all." Colossians 3:11 NKJV
- a) The reason for this is that Greek thought, in particular (as opposed to other pagan nations), had attributes **that complimented Hebrew thought.**

- b) It takes both faith empowered by grace to get saved (a Greek mindset), and then specific actions taken because of that faith, in other words obedience (a Hebrew mindset) to mature into an adult in the faith.
- (e) Let's take a moment out to elaborate on this distinction:
Greek, other Gentiles, and Jews. Included here are notes I outlined from a request I made of my good Stephen Duame, to comment on this subject.
 - 1. God often uses division to give understanding and reveal truth.
 - a) We see this pattern from the beginning of the Bible. God Divides:
 - 1) Heaven and Earth
 - 2) Light and Darkness
 - 3) Land and Sea
 - 4) Male and Female
 - 2. Imagine our loss and the destruction of the most basics institution of humanity (marriage), when such a separation as male and female gets confused!
 - a) Paul reveals what that looks like in Romans 1:18-32 (*next week's lesson*), and that is clearly happening at this very time in history.

3. In a very general sense, the Bible sees mankind contrasted or divided against Israel.
 - a) Paul refers to such as he quotes from Deuteronomy 32:43 in Romans 15:10, *And again he says: "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!"*
4. Here in Romans 1:16 we have this interesting distinction or division Paul uses, instead of referring to those not Israel as Gentiles.
 - a) He says, *"...for the **Jew** first and also for the **Greek**."*
 - b) It seems Paul is emphasizing another distinction as he separates Greeks as a special type of Gentile. *"I am a **debtor** both to **Greeks** and to **barbarians**, both to **wise** and to **unwise**."* (Romans 1:14)
 - c) Mostly throughout the Scriptures, the general division of Jew and Gentile is used, but here we see Jew and Greek and Greek and barbarian.
 - d) Paul seems to make the Jew/Gentile division with a more nuanced 'mindset' here, a different way of perceiving reality. The inference here is that the Greek is a "wise" Gentile and the barbarian "unwise."
5. Even Judaism makes note of this distinction.

- a) The Hebrew mindset is 'Eastern', emphasizing **action and behavior**, while the Greek mindset is 'Western', emphasizing **thought and ideas (truth)**.
 - b) Let me repeat what I wrote earlier as emphasis to show this very idea: *"It takes both faith empowered by grace to get saved (**a Greek mindset**), and then specific actions taken because of that faith, in other words obedience (**a Hebrew mindset**) to mature into an adult in the faith."*
6. God's revelation has needed the development of both mindsets.
- a) First, the Hebrew mindset developed as 'islands of revelation' and 'commandments', which has impacted the 'Jewish' culture (Israel) even today.
 - b) But as we know, even as Paul is suggesting, the Jewish mindset was incomplete and needed to be sent to the 'Greeks' (Western Civilization) to 'connect all the dots', in between those 'islands of revelation', so to speak.
 - c) Today's Christianity emphasizes 'belief', even to a fault, removing much of Biblical righteousness (which is demonstrated with obedience) in its efforts to 'spread the gospel' to the whole

world. This righteousness is one of the main topics in Paul's letter to the Romans.

- d) We see evidence of these conflicting mindsets even in the New Testament. For instance, John admonishes us: *"Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as He is righteous."* (1 John 3:7)
- 7. Over human history we have seen the development of both mindsets, Eastern and Western.
 - a) Ultimately, both mindsets, both ministries, will manifest in the 'sons of God' (Christlikeness), as Jesus said in his last sermon, *"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth... and He will tell you what is yet to come."* (John 16:13)
 - b) To a very large extent we can credit the Greek mindset for this, and hence *"...for the Jew first and also for the **Greek**,"* not just another Gentile.

B. The righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith!

- (1) The exclamation point of Paul's message...
 - (a) "The just shall live by faith."

1. “For in **it the righteousness of God** is revealed from **faith to faith**; as it is written, “**The just shall live by faith.**”” Romans 1:17 NKJV
2. The first of many of Paul’s direct references to Old Testament Scriptures: “The Just shall live by faith.”
 - a) “*Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; but the just shall live by his faith.*” (Habakkuk 2:4)
 - b) Understanding how faith is applied to the law using grace, resulting in faith-based-obedience, is a key revelation in the book of Romans.
 - c) He reveals this before he tells us how the whole thing went sideways...
 - 1) “*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all **ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,***” Romans 1:18 NKJV
- (2) The gospel of Christ and it’s power of God for salvation (Romans 1:16) is both simple and complex.
 - (a) **Simple:** Grace for Faith; **Complex:** Faith for Grace
 1. “Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also we have access by faith into this**

grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” Romans 5:1-2 NKJV

- a) First, God’s righteousness is revealed supernaturally into your heart by His grace and you get to participate in the faith; that’s the simple part because you did not deserve it, earn it, or acquire it.
 - b) Then you move on and practice that faith every day—the often complicated and challenging life of becoming a disciple, as you walk out your faith, from faith to faith.
 - c) And that is both the simplicity and complexity of what the ancient Scriptures meant long ago by, *“The just shall live by faith.”*
 - d) You are justified by the free gift of faith, and then you live by that faith by accessing God’s grace.
 - e) That is far from free. As a matter of fact, it will likely cost you everything.
- (3) Throughout Romans we will see the full Gospel explained, the Gospel of Salvation (the born-again childhood Gospel) and the Gospel of the Kingdom (the mature adult Gospel). And we will witness the revelation of beautiful prophetic patterns unfolding. It takes faith empowered by grace to

get saved, and then the application of that grace unto obedience to mature into an adult in the faith, one who demonstrates **grace-empowered-faith-based-obedience to God!**

Summary: OBEDIENCE TO THE FAITH

1. Grace, Apostleship, and Obedience

A. A Divine Calling

(1) Separated to the Gospel

(a) Unpacking the Bondservant and the Apostle

1. Paul introduces himself as a bondservant and apostle.

- a) A **Hebrew Bondservant** is a slave who has the right to go free, but volunteers to stay in service of his master forever.
- b) An **Apostle** can be thought of as an explorer, one who is sent forward into new territory, equipped with both prophetic and pastoral qualities.
- c) Prophetic qualities are characteristics that inspire exploration and the uncovering of truth.
- d) Apostles have great appreciation for prophetic ideas and a deep regard for the role and authority of the prophet and prophetic ministry.

- e) Pastoral qualities are the character traits necessary to evangelize, guide, shepherd, educate and minister to the people.
- (b) Where does identifying as a bondservant originate?
- 1. Point of Reference
 - a) Each time you see a writer in the New Testament refer to himself as a bondservant, this is his point of reverence.
 - 1) Paul also does so to the Philippians and to Titus; Peter does in II Peter, and both James and Jude do so in their letters.
 - b) A Hebrew servant (slave) was treated like a member of the family and subsequently would be freely released after seven years of service.
 - c) However, if he gained a wife and children during his service, they could not leave with him, so he had to make a decision, and that decision was permanent.
 - d) He could leave forever on his own, or if he loved his master and his family, he could choose to stay forever.

- e) If he chooses to stay, he is publicly pierced as a sign of his choice, *“I will stay forever because I love my master and my wife!”*
- (c) Is this not precisely what Y’shua did in the Garden of Gethsemane, when He made His final decision to stay?
 - 1. Y’shua is praying in the Garden on the night He was betrayed...
 - a) He knew what was coming.
 - b) He could leave and abandon the mission; He could go free, return to His previous state of existence in the spirit realm, *“being in the form of God”*.
 - c) However, the rule says that because He received His bride while a **bondservant**, He would not be able to keep her.
 - d) When did He **become a bondservant** and **receive His bride**?
 - 1) [became a bondservant when He came a man]
 - 2) [received His bride by becoming man]
 - e) He had a choice, leave without His bride (that’s you!), or if He loves His Master (His Father) and loved His wife (You, the Church), He could choose to stay forever and get pierced.

f) What did He choose? And in the midst of His betrayal He affirmed His decision, even though it was clear He had the ability to leave! He went to the cross and stayed on the cross to his death.

1) [He chose to stay]

2) [He chose to submit and not fight]

3) [He chose to forgive, get pierced, and stay on the cross]

4) [He chose to die]

(d) The Church Foundation: called to be an Apostle

1. Church governance has been divided into a Separation of Powers—the apostles and prophets (roles fulfilled by mankind), and THE KING (fulfilled by Y'shua)!

(e) The Apostle (and apostolic offices), and the Prophet

1. In most of his letters, Paul identifies as being called as an Apostle (except Philemon, I & II Thessalonians, and Philippians).

a) The Apostle: Overseer of other pastoral ministries (the evangelist, the pastors and the teacher), while also capable of integrating and submitting to the prophetic. Apostles explore, plant, and install

pastoral leadership. Pastoral ministries attend to the needs of the people.

- b) The Prophet: responsible for truth, guidance, and correction. Prophets see patterns and offer direction to the apostles (pastoral ministries). This creates unity, as we become one people going in one direction.
- c) The King: there is one King (Y'shua Messiah). They mocked Him on the cross, but had no idea that what they wrote was true!

2. Note: this is the same structure used in the formation of the Government the United States of America.

- a) The King (Executive Branch—the President, executes the law). *[in the Church = Christ]*
- b) The Apostle (Legislative Branch—represents the people, makes the law). *[in the Church = Priest/Pastor]*
- c) The Prophet (Judicial Branch—judges and correct, interprets the law). *[in the Church = Office of the Prophet, not the gift of prophecy]*

(f) Separated to the gospel. What does Paul mean?

- 1. Paul had a radical encounter with Y'shua on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9).

- a) Paul uses his salutation in Romans to establish Holy Spirit and doctrinal authority, by telling the reader that he was hand-picked by Yahweh.
- b) What does it mean to be separated? Paul recognizes that it was God who sovereignly set him apart for an assignment.
- c) That is what it took to open his eyes, considering his previous intense training in the Law (Torah) and his unwavering commitment to Judaism, as it was practiced in the first century, and his insistent persecution of the Church
- d) So, he needed to be “separated.” He had to be called out in a dramatic fashion, **“suddenly a light shone around him from heaven,”** and then sent to an isolated place, alone for years, before he could be released as an Apostle.
- (g) Separated to the gospel: What does Paul mean? There is no better place where Paul summarizes that calling than in his letter to the Galatians.
 - 1. Paul was called by God, separated (set-apart for a mission) and then it took fourteen years of preparation!

2. That's what he means when he says, "He was separated to the gospel!"

(2) The Promised One

(a) As the prophets said, Y'shua Messiah...

1. Prophesied in the Bible—the seed of David

- a) Doctrinal ideas of striking significance hint about where Paul is taking us
- b) He tells us that what he has to say was promised through the prophets and Holy Scriptures.
- c) The good news Paul is spreading about Y'shua as the Messiah is backed by the Bible; it was prophesied in the Scriptures.
- d) As the prophets promised, the Messiah is exactly who He was supposed to be...from the line of David.
- e) Romans is going to be a festival of Old Testament quotes and references. To fully grasp what Paul is saying, you must follow the trail into each.

(b) The Seed of David!

1. The Seed will come from David's body and His kingdom will be established forever—as ***“promised by His prophets in the Holy Scriptures!”***

(3) Declared with Power

(a) The Spirit of holiness

1. He would be the Holy Son of God imbued with resurrection power in His DNA.

a) The Spirit of holiness—He was set-apart as the Firstfruits of the all those who would be resurrected:

b) He would be recognized by the power that caused His resurrection:

B. Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based Obedience

(1) Through Him....

(a) Grace and Apostleship FOR Obedience to the Faith

1. Romans will teach you what it means to live a life of Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based-Obedience.

a) The power and anointing to bring this message and to obey God comes from God alone and is meant to spread His Name worldwide.

b) It is by the power (grace) of Yahweh that Paul is called as an apostle, not by his own doing.

c) And secondly, Paul tells us why we receive grace (the supernatural empowerment from God) and apostleship (to lead the leaders). It is to be obedient to the faith!

d) Romans will teach you what it means to live a life of **Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based-Obedience** to God.

(2) Free Faith vs. Practicing Faith

(a) First you receive free faith...

1. This faith comes ONLY by God! It is His doing by His righteousness alone.

(b) It's the only way to be saved!

1. Salvation comes by God's grace alone, His **power** to touch your heart and change you. If He did not do that first... "*the **message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing.***"

(c) Then you must live by faith...

1. You cannot please the Lord if you do not practice your faith.

2. Conversely, He blesses those who do!

(d) How can we live a life of faith?

1. The free faith we received by grace (His power) justified us.

2. Then this faith gives us ongoing access to His grace (His power) so we can live by faith!

3. James reminds us that this is not optional... ***faith without works is dead also.***

4. At the end of this section will then see the depth of what the prophet meant by, **“The just shall live by faith.”**

(3) Greeting to all believers in Rome!

(a) Grace and Peace

1. Paul tells his readers that they are loved by God, **recognized as saints, not sinners**, and that they have access to God’s divine power, which should cover them with a supernatural calm.

(b) Don’t overlook this calling—to be saints. You received a NEW identity once you became a member of the family of faith: you once were a sinner; now you are a saint!

Summary: FAMOUS FAITH

2. Rome is on My Heart

A. The Whole World is Watching

(1) What is the faith that gets noticed?

(a) Thank God for Your Faith

1. The believers in Rome have famous faith. Think about your own faith as you explore this area of Scripture.
 - a) You are the type of Christian who can handle the intricacies and complexities of this letter because

of your excellence in the faith, which has also given you a stellar reputation.

- b) What is famous faith? If the Apostle Paul is bragging about your faith as a topic of conversation all over the known world, then you are clearly known for your faith.
- c) And following his introduction which emphasized obedience, this should give you a clue to where we are going in this letter and to what he identifies as the a chief attribute of famous faith!

(b) Their faith is famous, and so is their obedience.

- 1. The letter begins with faith: *“Their faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.”* (1:8)
- 2. And ends with obedience: *“Their obedience has become known to all.”* (16:19)

B. Getting to Rome

(1) Paul’s longstanding desire to go to Rome.

(a) By any means possible...

- 1. Paul is so intent on getting to Rome that he testifies that he simply cannot stop praying that God would make a way for him to visit.
- 2. And he is open to any means possible to somehow get there!

(b) He was certain that he would get there, just not when and how.

1. Be careful for what you pray for!

a) Paul's eventual passage to Rome was as a prisoner who had appealed to Caesar while on trial.

(c) Why did he want to go to Rome?

1. He wants to download spiritual gifts to them, which he shares in detail later in the letter, gifts which would help them mature even further in their walk with Christ.

a) Plus, he is certain that their growth would be very inspiring not only for them, but for himself. He knows that he would be encouraged by them, as the fruit of his labor

b) He is intentional about his prayers for his audience and authentic about his desires to visit them.

c) Paul wants to see them thrive as a center for Christian expansion (Rome is the perfect place for that to happen).

(d) Spiritual Gifts Preview

1. Gifts Paul Mentions later in Romans (see also I Corinthians 12)

- a) Prophecy, ministry, teaching; exhortation; giving, leading, and mercy.
- (e) Why had he not yet been there?
 - 1. Paul has been hindered in visiting Rome until now, but he is on his way.
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 - c) Remember, Paul was a citizen of Roman Empire but had yet not visited Rome.
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- (d) And Paul also wrote about it in other areas as well in Galatians and Colossians.
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- 1. First, God’s righteousness is revealed supernaturally into your heart by His grace and you get to participate in the faith; that’s the simple part because you did not deserve it, earn it, or acquire it.
- 2. Then you move on and practice that faith every day—the often complicated and challenging life of

becoming a disciple, as you walk out your faith, from faith to faith.

3. And that is both the simplicity and complexity of what the ancient Scriptures meant long ago by, *“The just shall live by faith.”*
4. You are justified by the free gift of faith, and then you live by that faith by accessing God’s grace.
5. That is far from free. As a matter of fact, it will likely cost you everything.

(3) Throughout Romans we will see the full Gospel explained, the Gospel of Salvation (the born-again childhood Gospel) and the Gospel of the Kingdom (the mature adult Gospel). And we will witness the revelation of beautiful prophetic patterns unfolding. It takes faith empowered by grace to get saved, and then the application of that grace unto obedience to mature into an adult in the faith, one who demonstrates **grace-empowered-faith-based-obedience to God!**

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

1. Paul introduces himself as a Bondservant and Apostle in his letter to the Romans.

- A. Explain in detail what he meant by Bondservant in light of Exodus 21:2-6.
- B. How did Y'shua take on the role of a Bondservant and how does Exodus 21:2-6 apply to Him? (See also Philippians 2:5-8 and Ephesians 5:31-32 to aid in your answer).
- C. When and how did Y'shua exercise his permanent decision to remain a Bondservant? (See: Luke 22:41-44; Matthew 26:52-54; 27:41-43; Luke 23:34, 39, 43)

2. The idea of an Apostle is also something important on which to elaborate.

- A. Explain using Ephesians 2:19-20 and 4:11-13 the three branches of church governance and the five offices.
 - 1) Hint: An apostle is an overseer of other pastoral ministries (the evangelist, the pastors and the teacher), while also capable of integrating and submitting to the prophetic. Apostles explore, plant, and install pastoral leadership. Pastoral ministries attend to the needs of the people.

B. How might the three branches of church governance be reflected in the Government the United States of America, and which church branch corresponds to each?

1) Hint: Executive, Legislative, Judicial)

3. Paul says he was separated to the gospel:

A. Please write a short narrative using Acts 9:1-16 and Galatians 1:11-24; 2:1-2 to explain what he might have meant by that.

4. In Romans 1:2-3, Paul claims that the prophets in the Holy Scriptures affirm Y'shua is the Messiah.

A. What do they say about Him to make such a claim?

B. How is that claim corroborated in II Samuel 7:12-17?

5. Romans 1:4 states Y'shua was declared the Son of God.

A. How? And how do I Corinthians 15:20 and Ephesians 1:19-20 support your answer?

6. Romans will teach you what it means to live a life of Grace-Empowered-Faith-Based-Obedience.

A. What does that look like when you integrate Romans 1:5-6 and 5:1-2?

B. Distinguish the gift of faith from the faith you practice using II Peter 1:1; Ephesians 2:8-9; I Corinthians 1:18; Hebrews 11:6; and James 2:26.

7. What is most significant about Paul calling those in Rome saints in Romans 1:7?

- A. Explain how the following passages affirm your new identity in Christ as a saint, and no longer a sinner. (See: II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:1-2; I John 3:9)

8. The believers in Rome have famous faith. Think about your own faith as you explore this area of Scripture in Romans 1:8.

- A. What is the faith that gets noticed?
- B. What is famous faith?
- C. Explain how both the faith and obedience of those in Rome is famous. (See: Romans 1:8 and 16:19)

9. Paul is desperate to get to Rome in Romans 1:9-10 and ready to preach in verse 15.

- A. How could Paul be so sure he would eventually preach in Rome? (See: Acts 23:11; 25:11-12; 27:24-25)
- B. Why did he want to get there according to Romans 1:11-12?
- C. What spiritual gifts did he impart according to Romans 12:3-8?
- D. He was hindered from getting to Rome according to Romans 1:13, but why according to Romans 15:20-22?

10. In Romans 1:14-16, Paul specifically mentions Greeks apart from other types of Gentiles. He also does so in I Corinthians 12:13; Romans 10:12; Galatians 3:28; and Colossians 3:11.

- A. Why does he make such a distinction? Write a short narrative in your own words. (Help: refer to notes pages 33-38.)

11. The righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith as stated in Romans 1:17.

- A. From where does the first of Paul's Old Testament quotes in his letter to the Romans originate?
- B. How does Ephesians 2:8-9 and 5:1-2 display the idea of "from faith to faith?"

12. Understanding how faith is applied to the law using grace, resulting in faith-based-obedience, is a key revelation in the book of Romans.

- A. Use Romans 1:17 and 5:1-2 to prove that the following statement is true: *"It takes faith empowered by grace to get saved, and then the application of that grace unto obedience to mature into an adult in the faith, one who demonstrates grace-empowered-faith-based-obedience to God!"*