



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Introduction – Book of Romans (Romans 1:18)

JANUARY 10, 2018

Dave DePue / PO Box 1775, Topeka, KS 66603 / dave.depue@capitolcom.org

The Holy Bible has had the greatest impact on lives, culture, and civilizations of all books. It has been on the top of the “best seller list” even before the invention of the printing press! The Bible has been called “God’s letter to His children.” Augustine (A.D. 354-430) and Martin Luther (A.D. 1483-1546) called the Book of Romans “the chief part of the New Testament.” **What part of your life or condition of your greater community do you pray would be transformed?**

INTRODUCTION

The Apostle Paul wrote his A.D.57 letter to the churches in Rome, coaching new friends who were struggling in the collisions of cultures. There was corruption in government, celebrities were idolized, justice ignored, a few were rich, many were poor, and all religions and viewpoints were tolerated, even shown approval, except for Christianity. God knew His people in every generation would need to hang onto His truths to survive, event thrive in such chaos. **What good news gives you hope amidst the cultural free-fall in the middle east, Europe, even America?**

SINFUL HUMANITY – GOD’S WRATH

Romans 1:18-20 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them because God has made it evident. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

People worship the creation rather than the creator! Willful ignorance results in sin. This enslaves as an addiction or controls like a bad habit. **Which are you?**
1). Religious: Outward conformity that doesn’t change hearts. **2). Non-religious: Missing priceless moral teaching, slave to sin’s power.** **3). Moral people: Their higher standard increases their feelings of guilt.**
Does a merciful God have any good news?

GOD’S GOOD NEWS

Romans 3:23-25 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished.

We can’t live good enough to meet God’s perfect standard. God is a just judge and must punish sin. Therefore, God sent His perfect Son to pay our penalty. We can be pardoned, justified, just as if we had not sinned simply by trusting Jesus. This is faith!

Do you have enough faith to turn the details of your life, even your eternity over to Jesus?

ISRAEL – GOD’S CHOSEN

Romans 10:1-4 Brothers and sisters, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

God chose Abraham and his descendants to carry His Word and witness to the world (Exodus 19:6). Only those accepting Christ’s substitutionary sin payment see eternal life (Isaiah 53). **Have you seen people be blessed and then lose all from bad choices?**

A PRAYER

Father God: Thank You for the grace provided through Your Son Jesus in payment for my sin! I am not a slave to sin and am free from the guilt of past years and previous generations. Please grant me supernatural strength to thrive each day in Your grace and my new freedom. Lord, bless me with glimpses of your provision in my life. I pray in Your Son’s Name. Amen!