

**The Good News of God's Righteousness
Through Christ
Romans 1:16-8:39**

Introduction:- (Read Romans 1: 1-15)

Sometime during 56 or 57 A.D. during his third missionary journey, the Apostle Paul wrote the epistle to the church at Rome. He anticipated visiting Rome for the first time, to strengthen the believers there.

This letter contains the fullest and most systematic exposition of the gospel to be found anywhere in Scripture.

John Calvin in his summary of the argument of Romans stated:
“ With regard to this Epistle.....it will hence appear beyond all controversy, that beside other excellencies, and those remarkable, this can with truth be said of it, and it is what can never be sufficiently appreciated- that when any one gains a knowledge of this Epistle, he has an entrance opened to him to all the most hidden treasures of Scripture.”

John Wesley, recalling the experience that transformed his life when he was 35 years old wrote these words:-

“ In the evening I went very unwillingly to a society in Adlersgate Street where one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me, that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.”

(Quoted by William R. Newell,
in Romans [p.290, footnote])

Martin Luther, in the preface to his commentary on the book of Romans, wrote:- “ This epistle is the real chief part of the New Testament and the very purest gospel, which, indeed, deserves that a Christian not only know it word for word by heart but deal with it daily as with daily bread of the soul. For it can never be read or considered too much or too well, and the more it is handled, the more delightful it becomes, and the better it tastes.”