

### Introduction to Romans

**Author:** Paul

**Date:** 57 A.D.

**Audience:** Jewish and Gentile Christians in Rome

**Situation:** Paul is going to Jerusalem, but he is planning on later traveling to Spain with a stop in Rome.

**Purposes:**

1. To solidify support from Rome for Spanish mission
2. To further clarify issues stemming from Judaizing heresy
3. To fully explain the relationship of Jews and Gentiles to God's gospel and the continuity of salvation

Romans 1:1-4

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### Paul's Master, Office, and Purpose

Romans 1:1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God..

Criteria for being an Apostle:

1. Eyewitnesses to resurrection (1 Cor. 9:1)
2. Called (1 Cor. 1:1; Rom. 1:1)
3. Did miraculous deeds (Acts 5:12; Heb. 2:4)
4. Personally instructed by Christ (Acts 1:21-22; Gal. 1:12, 17-18)

Romans 1:1-4

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### God's Gospel: The Promised Son Has Come

Romans 1:2-3...which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh...

"It may well be that his gospel of grace had been misunderstood and that he had been accused of putting out teachings which destroyed the Old Testament. It was important to Paul, as to all the early Christians, that the gospel was a fulfilment of the Old Testament" (L. Morris).

Romans 1:1-4

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### The New Era Has Dawned in Christ

Romans 1:4 ...who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord...

- Declared = horizo – better rendered “appointed”
- Antithesis: “according to the flesh...according to the Spirit of holiness”

Three possibilities:

1. flesh...Spirit = Jesus’ human versus divine natures
2. flesh...Spirit = physical qualification for David’s seed versus obedient qualification for Son of God with power
3. flesh...Spirit = old era versus new era

Romans 1:1-4

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### Applications

1. We must remember that the Gospel of Christ was inherent to God’s promise revealed in the Old Testament.
2. We must understand that Christ’s finished work on the cross and resurrection has ushered in a new era.

Romans 1:1-4

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### 1. Christ’s Coming: Fulfillment of God’s Promise

Psalm 89:34-37 My covenant I will not violate, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips. 35 Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David. 36 His descendants shall endure forever and his throne as the sun before Me. 37 It shall be established forever like the moon, and the witness in the sky is faithful. Selah.

2 Samuel 7:19 And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O Lord GOD. You have spoken also of your servant’s house for a great while to come, and this is instruction for mankind, O Lord GOD!

Romans 1:1-4

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1. Christ's Coming: Fulfillment of God's Promise

Acts 13:22-23 After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.' 23 "From the descendants of this man, according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus...

Acts 13:32 And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers...

Acts 26:6 And now I am standing trial for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers;

Romans 1:1-4

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2. An Old Promise, A New Era!

Acts 13:33 ESV ...this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you."

Philippians 2:6-9 ...although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name...

Romans 1:1-4

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2. An Old Promise, A New Era!

Acts 2:32-36 ESV This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, 35 until I make your enemies your footstool." 36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Romans 1:1-4

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