

Study of Romans – Romans 1:1-32

Bellevue Church of Christ – Winter 2016 / 2017

I. Credentials (v. 1)

Paul's Purpose – Acts 9:15, 22:14-15, 26:16-18; Gal 1:11-12

Paul's Commitment – "Servant" (by choice) not "Slave" (no choice) -Gal 1:10; Phil 2:7

Paul's authority – Rom, I & II Cor, Gal, Eph, Col, I & II Tim, Titus

II. Christ (2-5)

Descended from David

- II Sam 7:12-13
- Psa 89:3-4
- Isa 9:6-7
- Isa 11:1-10
- Jer 23:5-6
- Matt 1:1
- Luke 1:26-33

III. Congregation (6-15)

Saints = Believers (Not Dead Christians) *Rom 1:7, I Cor 1:2, II Cor 1:1, Eph 1:1, Col 1:2

Did Paul ever succeed in making it to Rome? How? -Acts 28:16

The broader community, not just the church at Rome

IV. Confidence (16-17)

The theme of the letter – Paul's thesis statement

1 Paul, a **servant** of Christ Jesus, called to be an **apostle**, **set apart** for the gospel of God,

2 which he **promised** beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,

3 **concerning his Son**, who was **descended from David** according to the flesh

4 and was **declared** to be the Son of God in power according to the **Spirit** of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus **Christ** our Lord,

5 through whom **we** have received grace and **apostleship** to bring about the **obedience of faith** for the sake of his name among all the nations,

6 *including you* who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

7 To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be **saints**: *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* < *Common Greeting (Rom, I & II Cor, Gal, Eph, Philem)*

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world.

9 **For God is my witness**, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you

10 *always in my prayers*, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last *succeed in coming to you*.

11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some **spiritual gift** to strengthen you—

12 *that is*, that we may be **mutually encouraged** by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (*but thus far have been prevented*), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles.

14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish.

15 **So** I am eager to preach the **gospel** to you also who are in Rome. *Rom 10:13*

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

17 **For** in it the righteousness of God is revealed from **faith** for **faith**, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

Three Things About the Gospel (2-4)

1. Promised beforehand -Acts 2:23 -Rom 3:21; 15:8
2. Concerning his Son -Son of David
3. Declared by the resurrection -I Cor 15:1-58 -I Pet 1:3

Spirit - John 16:5-15

Only God could truly vouch for Paul's feelings -Phil 1:8

Mutually Encouraged - Acts 2:42

What does this tell us about the makeup of the congregation in Rome?

Righteous(ness) - Being in a right relationship with God.

Righteousness of God - God's plan to bring man into a right relationship with Him. -Isa 46:12-13 -Isa 61:10

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All Gentiles are under
sin and worthy of death
-Rom 3:9

V. Charge(s) (18-32)

Two Things Revealed..

- (1) Righteousness of God v.17
- (2) Wrath of God v.18

Why suppress the truth?

-Because the truth convicts us of our sin!
-John 3:19-20

God gave them up...

-No suggestion of direct intervention
-God simply took his hands off and let willful rejection of him produce its ugly results in human life
-I Cor 5:1-5
-I Tim 1:18-20

-vv. 19-20
-Rom 2:14-16

¹⁸ **For** the *wrath of God* is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness *suppress the truth*.

¹⁹ **For** what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

²⁰ **For** his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So **they are without excuse**.

²¹ **For** although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

²⁴ **Therefore God gave them up** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity; to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,

²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is **blessed forever! Amen**.

²⁶ **For this reason God gave them up** to dishonorable passions. **For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature;**

²⁷ and the men likewise **gave up natural** relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, **God gave them up** to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

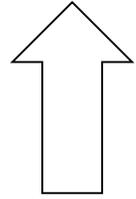
²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips,

³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents,

³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.

³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things **deserve to die**, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Why does God need a revealed gospel?



What is the KEY to accepting the revealed gospel?

Dan 5:23

This type of activity finds no counterpart in the animal kingdom. Perversion is the unique contrivance of the human species.

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Romans Chapter 1 - Questions for Discussion

Memory Verse:

Romans 1:16-17 (ESV)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

1. What three things does Paul say about himself in the opening of the letter? (v. 1)
 - a. _____ (Gal 1:10; Phil 2:7)
 - b. _____ (I Cor 1:1; 9:1; II Cor 1:1)
 - c. _____ (Acts 9:15; Gal 1:11-12)

2. *Why is it important that Paul identify himself as an apostle of Christ? (v. 1)*

3. What three things does Paul specifically say to describe the Gospel? (vv. 2-4)
 - a. _____ (Acts 2:23; Rom 3:21; 15:8)
 - b. _____
(II Sam 7:12-13; Psa 89:3-4; Isa 9:6-7; 11:1-10; Jer 23:5-6; Mat 1:1; Luke 1:26-33)
 - c. _____ (I Peter 1:3)

4. Explain the phrase "obedience that comes from faith." (v. 5)

5. Why does Paul want to go to Rome? Did Paul ever make it? If so, How? (vv. 10-15)

6. What does verse 13 tell us about the make up of the congregation in Rome?

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7. What is Paul's mission as an Apostle of Christ? What is the source of God's power for Salvation? What is meant by "Salvation?" What is the qualification for receiving God's power for Salvation? What is the implied contrast? (v. 16)

8. Why does the Gospel bring salvation? What does it reveal? How is it received? What is meant by "from faith for faith," or "from faith to faith," or "by faith from first to last?" (v. 17)

9. Why does God need a revealed Gospel? (vv. 17-18)

10. How does wickedness affect our ability to receive the Gospel? (v. 18; John 3:19-20)

11. In verses 21-32 Paul presents a detailed list of sins the Gentiles have been living in...

a. How could the Gentiles have known that these things were wrong? (vv. 19-20, 32)

b. Explain the phrase: "God gave them over..." (vv. 24, 26, 28)

c. What is Paul's goal in presenting this section to Christians?

d. What is the first step in accepting the revealed Gospel? Why is it important for Christians to be reminded of this?

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Paul's Commitment (Servant)

Galatians 1:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Philippians 2:5-7 (ESV)

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form,

Paul Authority (Apostle)

Romans 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

1 Corinthians 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

2 Corinthians 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God that is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia:

Galatians 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, an apostle— not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—

Ephesians 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Colossians 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

1 Timothy 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 Timothy 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

Titus 1:1 (ESV)

¹ Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness,

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Paul's Purpose (Set Apart)

Acts 9:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.

Acts 22:14–15 (ESV)

¹⁴ And he said, 'The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; ¹⁵ for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard.

Acts 26:16–18 (ESV)

¹⁶ But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, ¹⁷ delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you ¹⁸ to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

Galatians 1:11-12 (ESV)

¹¹ For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. ¹² For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Son of David

II Samuel 7:12-13

¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

Psalm 89:3-4

³ You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: ⁴ I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" "

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 11:1-10

¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with

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equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples--of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Jeremiah 23:5-6

⁵"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Matthew 1:1 (ESV)

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Luke 1:26-33

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Three Things About the Gospel

Acts 2:23 (ESV)

²³this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Romans 3:21 (ESV)

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

Romans 15:8 (ESV)

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,

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1 Corinthians 15:1–58 (ESV)

15 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴ Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸ When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

²⁹ Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf? ³⁰ Why are we in danger every hour?

³¹ I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day!

³² What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” ³³ Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” ³⁴ Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”

³⁶ You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ³⁹ For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰ There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. ⁴¹ There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

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⁴² So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Spirit of Holiness

John 16:4–15 (ESV)

⁴ But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

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Saints

Romans 1:7 (ESV)

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:2 (ESV)

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

2 Corinthians 1:2 (ESV)

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:1 (ESV)

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Colossians 1:2 (ESV)

²To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

Paul's Common Greeting

Romans 1:7 (ESV)

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:3 (ESV)

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 1:2 (ESV)

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:3 (ESV)

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 1:2 (ESV)

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon 1:3 (ESV)

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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Paul's Feelings

Philippians 1:8 (ESV)

⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

Mutually Encouraged

Acts 2:42 (ESV)

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Everyone

Romans 10:13 (ESV)

¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Righteousness of God

Isaiah 46:12–13 (ESV)

¹² "Listen to me, you stubborn of heart,
you who are far from righteousness:

¹³ I bring near my righteousness; it is not far off,
and my salvation will not delay;
I will put salvation in Zion,
for Israel my glory."

Isaiah 61:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Everyone Under Sin

Romans 3:9 (ESV)

⁹ What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin,

Suppress The Truth

John 3:19–20 (ESV)

¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.

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Turning to Idols

Daniel 5:23 (ESV)

²³ but you have lifted up yourself against the Lord of heaven. And the vessels of his house have been brought in before you, and you and your lords, your wives, and your concubines have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood, and stone, which do not see or hear or know, but the God in whose hand is your breath, and whose are all your ways, you have not honored.

God Gave Them Up

1 Corinthians 5:1–5 (ESV)

5 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. ² And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

³ For though absent in body, I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already pronounced judgment on the one who did such a thing. ⁴ When you are assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus and my spirit is present, with the power of our Lord Jesus, ⁵ you are to deliver this man to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.

1 Timothy 1:18–20 (ESV)

¹⁸ This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, ¹⁹ holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith, ²⁰ among whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I have handed over to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

Know God's Righteous Decrees

Romans 2:14–16 (ESV)

¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them ¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.