

Romans 1:1 - 7 The Heart of the Matter

v1 the author

¹ Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which He promised

v2 the source:
Old Testament

beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

v3 The focus:
• man
• God
• the Christ

³ concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, ⁴ who was declared the Son of

v4 the Proof

God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,

v5 the Purpose

⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for

v5 the scope: All

v5 the Result
God's Glory

His name's sake, ⁶ among whom you also are called of Jesus Christ;

v6-7
The recipients
the called
the beloved
the saints

⁷ to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints:

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

The Significance of Rome

There were:

- 50,000 in the church at Rome.
- Their faith was proclaimed worldwide. (Rom. 1:8)
- The bishop of Rome rose to prominence.
- Peter and Paul were martyred in Rome.
- The martyrs of Rome were venerated.
- The Roman Emperor, Constantine, protected Christianity.
- When the empire fell to the tribes, the Roman bishop, Gregory I, preserved civilization in the face of the barbarians. Rome became “the City of God.”
- Then the “pope,” Gregory I, evangelized their conquerors by monasteries and monks sent out to the tribes.
- Western Europe became Christian under Rome’s initiative.
- As the western emperor declined, the Pope replaced him in power. Popes Leo and Gregory I spared Rome from the Huns and Vandals.
- In church councils, Rome proved the tiebreaker.
- Rome missed the Muslim conquests in the East.
- The Roman bishop crowned Charlemagne as Holy Roman Emperor, and in a sense Rome lived again.
- Someday, a 10-nation confederation will resurrect Rome.

And as the papacy became corrupted, all of Christendom fell.

Rome...significant indeed.