

Interesting Facts About the Book of Romans

1. There are sixteen chapters, 433 verses and 9,447 words in the book of Romans. It is the 45th book of the Bible and the sixth book of the New Testament.
2. Most Bible scholars see the epistle to the Romans as being Paul's greatest work.
3. In Romans 16, Paul greets 26 people by name in a church he did not establish, nor had he ever visited!
4. The epistle to the Romans was probably written by Paul in the winter of 57 A.D. while he was staying in Corinth.
5. The word "righteousness" appears 39 times in Romans.
6. The word "faith" appears 39 times in Romans.
7. The word "sin" appears 45 times in Romans.
8. The word "law" appears 78 times in Romans.
9. Paul was in chains when he finally met the believers in Rome.
10. The letter to the Romans was delivered to them by a woman named Phoebe, from Corinth.
11. Paul's visit to Rome was originally meant only to be a stopover on his way to Spain.
12. Paul spent two years under house arrest in Rome.

The Book of Romans ***The Righteousness of God***

The Book of Romans

The book of Romans, Paul's greatest work, is the first of thirteen epistles written by Paul in the New Testament. While the Gospels present the words of Jesus Christ and His earthly ministry, Romans explores the significance of the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ upon the cross. Paul uses a question-and-answer format throughout the book assuming some of the questions his readers may ask. Romans gives us the most systematic presentation of the Gospel in the Bible, explaining that the Good News is not just a list of facts to be believed, it is a life to be lived – a life of righteousness befitting a person who has been "justified as a gift of His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:24)

The Author of Romans

The author of this book is given to us in the very first verse, "Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called as an apostle, set apart for the Gospel of God." (Romans 1:1)

The Time of Romans

Paul was not the founder of the church in Rome. It is possible that the church began when some of the Jews and proselytes to Judaism who became followers of Jesus Christ on the day of Pentecost returned to Rome. (Acts 2:10)

It is also possible that the church began when converts from other churches that Paul established in Asia, Macedonia, and Greece, settled in Rome and led others to faith in Jesus Christ. According to Paul, Gentiles appear to be the predominant group in the church at Rome.

Paul probably wrote the epistle to the Romans around 57 A.D. near the end of his third missionary journey. It appears to have been written while Paul was staying in Corinth. Paul gave this letter to Phoebe, a member of the church in Cenchrea and she carried it to Rome. (16:1-2)

An Outline of the Book of Romans

I. Introduction

- A. Greetings to the Church in Rome (1:1-7)
- B. Paul's Desire for a Visit (1:8-17)

II. The Guilt of the World in the Eyes of God

- A. The Reason the Gentiles are Guilty (1:18-23)
- B. The Results of the Gentile's Guilt (1:24-32)
- C. The Reason the Jews are Guilty (2:1-16)
- D. The Failure of the Jews to Keep the Law (2:17-29)
- E. The Failure of the Jews to Believe the Promises of God (3:1-8)
- F. Conclusion: Everyone is Guilty Before God (3:9-20)

III. Understanding God's Righteousness

- A. God's Description of Righteousness (3:21-31)
- B. God's Illustration of Righteousness: Abraham Justified by Faith (4:1-8)
- C. God's Illustration of Righteousness: Abraham Justified by Grace (4:9-25)
- D. The Benefits of Righteousness (5:1-11)
- E. Righteousness and Condemnation Contrasted (5:12-21)

IV. Understanding God's Sanctification

- A. The Believer's Death to the Principle of Sin (6:1-14)
- B. The Believer's Death to the Practice of Sin (6:15-23)
- C. Sanctification and the Law: The Believer and the Law (7:1-6)
- D. Sanctification and the Law: Is the Law Good or Bad? (7:7-14)
- E. Sanctification and the Law: Resolving the Struggle Within (7:15-25)
- F. Sanctification and the Spirit: Power (8:1-17)
- G. Sanctification and the Spirit: Expectant Living (8:18-30)
- H. Sanctification and the Spirit: Exultant Living (8:31-39)

An Outline of the Book of Romans (Con't.)

V. Understanding God's Sovereignty

- A. Israel's Past (9:1-29)
- B. Israel's Present (9:30-10:21)
- C. Israel's Future: The Extent of Israel's Rejection (11:1-10)
- D. Israel's Future: The Purpose of Israel's Rejection (11:11-24)
- E. Israel's Future: The Duration of Israel's Rejection (11:25-36)

VI. Understanding Our Responsibility

- A. Our Responsibility Toward God (12:1-2)
- B. Our Responsibility Toward Society (12:3-21)
- C. Our Responsibility Toward Government (13:1-7)
- D. Our Responsibility Toward Our Neighbor (13:8-14)

VII. Understanding Christian Liberties

- A. Christian Liberty: Don't Judge One Another (14:1-12)
- B. Christian Liberty: Don't Hinder One Another (14:13-23)
- C. Christian Liberty: Imitate Jesus Christ (15:1-13)

VIII. Paul's Concluding Comments

- A. Part 1: Paul's Purpose in Writing (15:14-21)
- B. Part 2: Paul's Plans for Traveling (15:22-33)
- C. Part 3: Paul's Praise and Greetings (16:1-27)

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