

Background information

Year Written: AD 57-58

Author: Paul

Written while Paul was in Corinth.

Influence, Culture and Purpose

**PAUL'S GREETING: Verses 1-7**

Most comprehensive greeting of all Paul's letters.

The greeting reveals Paul's credentials for ministry, providing four characteristics of his faith.

**#1 Choose the Right Master**

*Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ.*" (Romans 1:1a)

Paul hated Jesus and all who followed Him, until one day he encountered Jesus, in all His grace and mercy, on the road to Damascus.

Paul had been a slave to his sin. Now he chose a new master.

"Bond slave" (Exodus 21:5-6)

Galatians 1:10 (ESV)

*"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."* (Galatians 1:10)

**#2 Sent to Share.**

*"Called to be an apostle"* (Romans 1:1b)

Apostle: One who is sent.

Narrow sense of word – 2 qualifications

Broad usage –

### **#3 Set Apart For the Gospel**

*"Set apart for the gospel of God."* (Romans 1:1c-4)

Set apart-

The gospel – Paul provides a concise statement of who Jesus is.

*"which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures"* (Romans 1:2; Hebrews 11:26)

Hope in Christ was preached long before the incarnation.

*"concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh"* (Romans 1:3)

God took on humanity to rescue us from our sin.

*"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"* (Romans 1:4)

The divinity of Christ was "declared" (determined with certainty) because of the resurrection.

### **#4 Bring About The Obedience Of Faith For God's Glory**

*"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,"*

1) Saving faith

2) Faith which leads to obedience

#### **Who Am I?**

*"including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,  
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."* (Romans 1:6-7)

- 1) I am called to belong to Jesus Christ
- 2) I am loved by God
- 3) I am called to be holy. (saints)

Soli Deo Gloria!