

RO 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,

This letter is from Paul, Jesus Christ's slave, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News. (KJV-NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:1) What 3 ways does Paul identify himself to the church at Rome?
2. (Rom. 1:1) What does the word "servant" imply? Does this apply to all Christians or just Paul? Mt. 6:24 (NCV; NASV – note, *personified as an object of worship.*)
3. (Rom. 1:1) What is an apostle? How many apostles are in the New Testament?

Apo, "from," stello, "to send." "One who is sent" with a message from Divine authority. There were 12 apostles of the Lamb (Rev. 21:14), their qualifications included being taught directly by the Lord and a witness to His resurrection (Acts 1:21-22), they set church policy in the early church (Acts 15:1-2,6-11). Although there were only 12 apostles of the Lamb, there are many apostles mention in the N.T. who are not the 12 (Acts 14:14; Gal. 1:19 etc.). The Greek word for "apostle" is used around 80 times in the NT. Christ continued to give apostles to His church even after His death and resurrection (Eph. 4:8-11 (NirV); 1 Cor. 12:28). Paul was the only apostle after Jesus death and resurrection that was equal to the twelve and met the qualifications of the twelve (1 Cor. 9:1; Acts 26:15-16; Gal. 2:8). The apostle's message was confirmed by signs and wonders (2 Cor. 12:12; Matt. 10:1-10; Peter – Acts 9:36-42; Paul – Acts 28:1-10; Jesus – Heb. 3:1)

4. (Rom. 1:1) What does the phrase "separated unto the gospel of God" mean?

Rom. 1:[2] (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)² This Good News was promised long ago by God through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. (KJV – NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:2) Notice that in the KJV verse 2 is in parenthesis. What is Paul trying to amplify in verse 2?

Rom. 1:[3] Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

³ It is the Good News about his Son, Jesus, who came as a man, born into King David's royal family line. (KJV – NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:3) What is the good news, the gospel about? Also Rom. 1:16 KJV.
2. (Rom. 1:3) Concerning Jesus Christ's human nature, He was a descendant of whom? Why is this significant?

Rom. 1:[4] And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:⁴ And Jesus Christ our Lord was shown to be the Son of God when God powerfully raised him from the dead by means of the Holy Spirit. (KJV – NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:4) Who was Jesus Christ, according to Romans 1:4? Isa. 9:6-7; Isa. 7:14; Matt. 16:13-17; Jn. 5:16-18; Lk.1:31-35 (movie, "Young Messiah" – Joseph is not your father!; Jn. 10:30-33 cp. Lev. 24:16 (NIV); Heb. 2:9 cp. Jn. 5:25, 28-29 (NIV), 1 Cor. 15:54 (NLT). 1 Tim. 3:16 (CWB); Acts 8:5-8,12; Acts 8:26-39; Jn. 20:24-31.

Rom. 1:[5] By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

⁵ Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name. (KJV – NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:5) God granted Paul grace and apostleship for what purpose?

Read **paragraph Romans 1:6-7**

Rom. 1:6-7 [6] Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ: [7] To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. (KJV)

Rom. 1:6-7 ⁶You are among those who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷dear friends in Rome. God loves you dearly, and he has called you to be his very own people. May grace and peace be yours from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:6) We are called to belong to Jesus Christ. What does the word “called” imply?
2. (Rom. 1:7) How did Paul describe the Christians in Rome?
3. (Rom. 1:1-7) Review the previous paragraphs and comment.

Read **paragraph Romans 1:8-9.**

Rom. 1:[8] First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. [9] For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; (KJV)

God's Good News

Rom. 1: 8-9 ⁸Let me say first of all that your faith in God is becoming known throughout the world. How I thank God through Jesus Christ for each one of you. ⁹God knows how often I pray for you. Day and night I bring you and your needs in prayer to God, whom I serve with all my heart by telling others the Good News about his Son. (NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:8) How was the Romans' Christian faith affecting the world?
2. (Rom. 1:9) How did Paul serve God according to Romans 1:9?
3. (Rom. 1:9) What kind of prayer life did Paul have on behalf of others?

Read **paragraph Romans 1:10-12**

Rom. 1:[10] Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. [11] For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; [12] That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me. (KJV)

Rom. 1:10-12 ¹⁰One of the things I always pray for is the opportunity, God willing, to come at last to see you. ¹¹For I long to visit you so I can bring you some spiritual gift that will help you grow strong in the Lord. ¹²I'm eager to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours. In this way, each of us will be a blessing to the other. (NLT)

1. (Rom. 1:10) What happened to Paul's plans to visit the church in Rome?
2. (Rom. 1:11) Paul wanted to come to the Christians in Rome so that he might do what? What spiritual gift did he want to impart?
3. (Rom. 1:11) How are spiritual gifts imparted? 1 Timothy 4:14; 1 Cor. 14:1; Heb. 2:4. For how long? 1 Cor. 1:7.
4. (Rom. 1:11) What was the desired result of the imparted spiritual gift?
5. (Rom. 1:12) What did Paul want to do according to Romans 1:12?