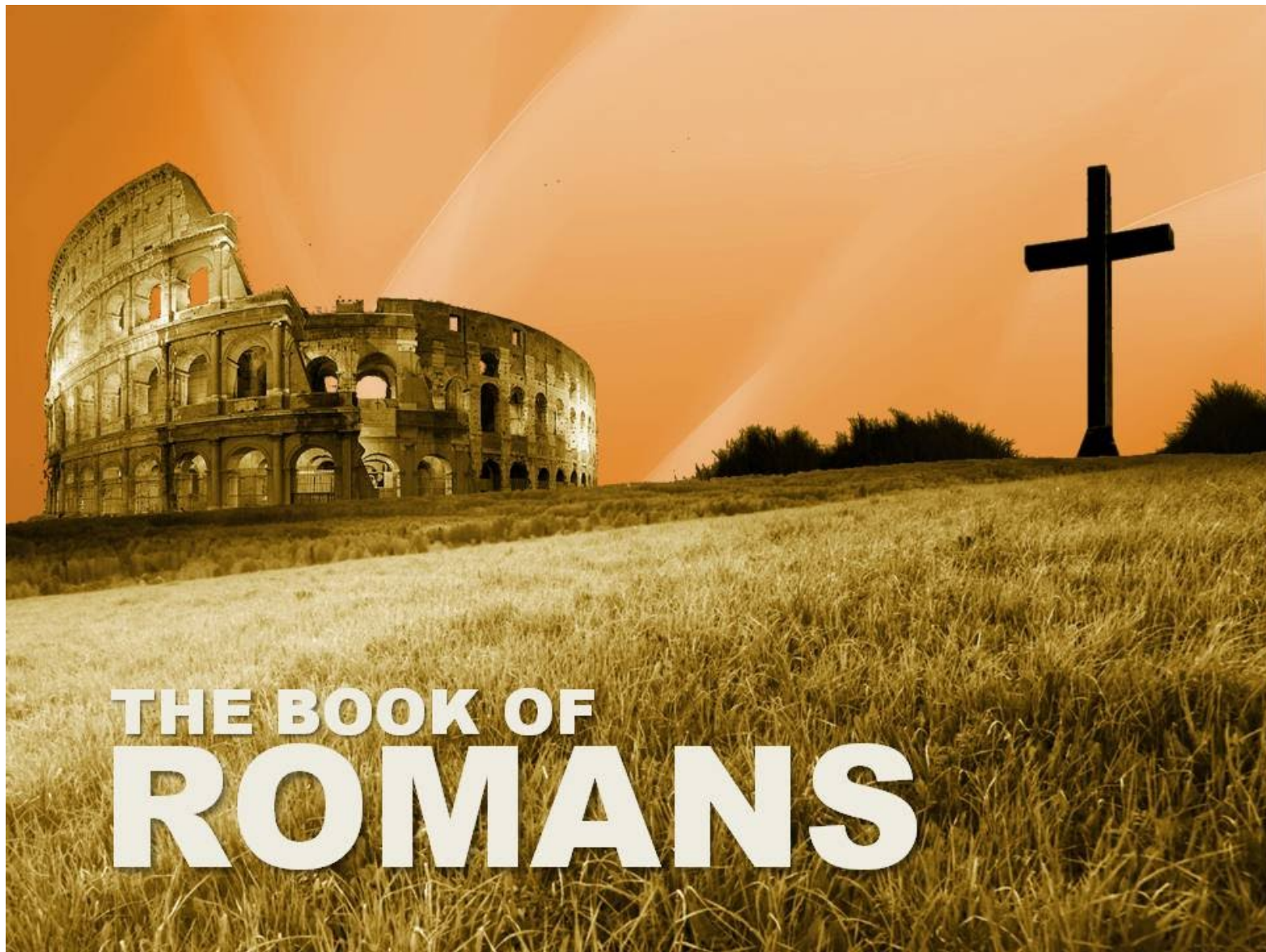


Rom 1:16-17 The Power of the Gospel and God's Righteousness



Outline *



The Righteousness of God Revealed-1:1-17

Blessings to Paul -1:1

Blessings of The Gospel -1:2,3

Blessings of Who Christ Is -1:3,4

Blessings of Who We Are In Christ -1:5 -7

Blessings to The Roman Believers -1:8-15

Blessings of The Gospel and Righteousness -1:16-17

* Hal Molloy

Today's Verses



¹⁵ So, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

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 to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

¹⁵ So, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.



I am eager - *prothymos* – used of willingness, eagerness

- all that depends on me is eager*
 - or for my part, I am ready*
 - The contrast implied is that between willing (which Paul on his part is equal to) and carrying out the will (which depends on God).*
- *Denny via Wuest

to preach the gospel – *euangelizō* - to evangelize,
proclaim the good news, preach the gospel

- Rom 15:20 And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was already named, so that I would not build on another man's foundation.

¹⁵ So, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.



What is the origin and message of the gospel?

- Gal 1:11b the gospel which was preached by me [Paul] is not according to man.
- Gal 1:12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.
- The core of the gospel to be believed is “that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.”
1 Cor 15:3-4
- Next, Paul will give us why he is so eager to preach the gospel by using the word “for” three times in verse 16-17*
- **for** - *gar* – introduces an explanation for what was said*

* McCalley

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.



For I am not ashamed of the gospel [the one that I preach]

- Paul says that he was not ashamed
- Rome was the center of “the cultured world”*
- It was full of pride, intellect, pomp and idolatry*
- Also many verses tell us what the world thinks of “the cross”
- 1 Cor 1:18a For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing.
- 1 Cor 1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness.
- 2 Tim 1:12a For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed.



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.

for – now the 1st important attribute of gospel

it [gospel] is the power of God unto salvation Interlinear

it is - *eimi* – state in which something continually exists; it is called an essence verb of status quo (present, indicative, active)

- present tense tells us it [gospel] keeps on being the power of God*
- So, you can say “the essence of the gospel” is the power of God and it always will be*
- active voice means it [gospel] contains the power within itself*
- indicative mood – it’s a reality - that within the gospel resides the power of God unto salvation* * Merryman

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it [gospel] is the power of God unto salvation Interlinear

- **power** [*dunimas*] - is the natural ability, inherent power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature Wuest
- power is a noun that identifies “the gospel”
- **of God** is *theos* a subjective genitive that comes after a noun of action (i.e. power) and shows who produces the action*
- The gospel is the dynamic of God that transforms lives*
* Merryman

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it [gospel] is the power of God unto salvation Interlinear

- unto - *eis* – this is the direction of God’s power
- The direction of God’s power is in the salvation of men which includes their justification, sanctification and glorification [i.e. past, present and future] * Merryman
- The gospel is God’s words given to Paul “through a revelation of Jesus Christ” Gal 1:12
- Power is contained in God’s Word [the gospel]
- Acts 11:13b Send to Joppa and have Simon, who is also called Peter, brought here; ¹⁴ and he will speak “words” to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household.



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.

to everyone who believes

- This tells us who can receive this power of God for salvation
- This is a prepositional phrase that modifies it is [*eimi*] – gives us more information about God’s power for salvation
- It is to everyone believing
- You must believe God’s Word about His Son
- Anyone who believes “the gospel” is going to be included in salvation*
* Merryman

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.



to the Jew first and also to the Greek

- Many verses in Scripture tell us that God's dealing with man started with the Jewish people
- Ex 19:5 'Now then, if you [Israel] will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine.
- Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.
- John 4:22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, but the righteous man shall live by faith.



for – introduces the 2nd attribute of the gospel message
in it [the gospel]

***the* righteousness of God**

- This is the subject of verse 17
- What does the word righteousness mean?
- Righteousness [*dikaïosynē*] in the biblical sense is a condition of rightness the standard of which is God ^{Wuest}

of God – is a genitive of description*

- It's God's quality type of righteousness*
- Two aspects of the righteousness of God in this verse*
 - The righteousness that God provides is revealed in the gospel
 - This is the only kind of righteousness that God approves

* Merryman

17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, but the righteous man shall live by faith.



Man's view vs. God's view of righteousness is totally different:*

- Man thinks that his righteousness is a lesser form of God's righteousness
- Man thinks righteousness is relative [to other men]
- But God's righteousness is absolute

God's concept of righteousness:*

- All are guilty - none are righteous Rom 3:10
- No degree of righteousness
- When it comes to salvation it is all of God and nothing of man – look at 1 Cor 15:3-4
- You cannot mix human works with God's salvation
- We are all under sin Rom 3:9 * Merryman

17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, but the righteous man shall live by faith.



is revealed from faith to faith

is revealed - *apokalyptō* - signifies “to uncover, unveil”

- This is the main verb of verse 17
- The remainder of the verse expands on the uncovering and unveiling of the righteousness of God

from faith to faith

from [ek] faith – the source of man’s righteousness is out from faith

- This is God’s design or plan*
- You can enjoy the righteousness of God on the principle of faith*
- By simple faith in the gospel*
- Not by keeping a set of rules or doing works for God*



17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, but the righteous man shall live by faith.

to [*eis*] **faith** – lit: unto faith – this is the direction of our faith

- This is the faith response of man*
- This means it [righteousness] is received by faith*
- Faith is simply acting on the Word of God* *Merryman

Mc Calley's observations:

- As we grow in grace the Christian life is from faith to faith, to faith, to faith ---
- **from faith** is speaking of our salvation or justification
- This is our initiation into salvation
- **to faith** is speaking of our growth or sanctification
- This is our growth in that salvation

17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, but the righteous man shall live by faith.



as it is written – lit: as it has been written

- perfect tense: past completed action with abiding results
- Now we are told how to live before a holy God
- Hab 2:4 Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith.

but the righteous man

- **righteous** – *dikaios* – comes from the verb to justify
i.e. to be declared righteous by God

Who is the righteous man?

- Col 2:6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.

17 For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, but the righteous man shall live by faith.



but the righteous *man* shall live by faith

shall live – lit: will live – future, indicative, middle

by [*ek*] faith - out from faith as a source

- This the 2nd time we have had the prepositional phrase “*ek* faith”
- This tells us how the righteous man is to conduct his
life
- *ek* also shows us that we are talking about “the principle of faith”*
* Merryman

Final Thoughts*



- Here we have the *text* of the *whole* Epistle of Romans:
- First, the words “the gospel” - so dear to Paul, as will appear [in the remainder of Romans].
- Next, the universal saving power of this gospel is asserted.
- Then, the secret of the gospel's power - the revelation of God's righteousness on the principle of faith.
- Finally, the accord of all this with the Old Testament Scriptures: “The righteous shall live by faith.”

* D.J. Moo via Constable