



ROMANS

Blessings to the Roman Believers - 1:8-10

Review

- The *Righteousness of God Revealed* – (Blessings) - 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
 - They are blessed by God's Grace working in and through them – 1:8
 - They are blessed by a deep personal faith in Jesus Christ
 - They are blessed by Paul's care, concern and constant prayer for them – 1:9
 - They are blessed because of God's desire to edify them (through Paul) – 1:10-11
 - **Blessings** of The Gospel & God's Righteousness – 1:16-17
- The *Righteousness of God Required* – (Condemnation) - 1:18-3:20



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- Paul let's them know three things:
 - He is thankful for them (vs 8)
 - He is praying for them (vs 9)
 - He is desiring to visit them (vs 10)
- He is thankful for them . . .
 - Who are his thanks directed to?
 - Who are his thanks through?
 - Who is he thankful for?
 - Why is he thankful?
- He is praying for them . . .
 - How often is he praying for them?
 - What is he praying for?
- He is desiring to visit them . . .
 - Whose will is he dependent upon in desiring to see them?
- What does it mean to “serve in my spirit”?



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- They are **blessed** by God's grace working in and through them -1:8
 - Paul is thanking God for His work in and through them.
 - Thank – **eucaristo** – eucharisto – present, active, indicative
 - This same thought appears in the opening of other letters: 1 Cor. 1:4, Eph. 1:15-16, Phil. 1:3-5, Col. 1:3-5, 1 Thess. 1:2-3, 2 Thess. 1:3, Philemon 4-5
 - God's grace working in the lives of believers
 - Ephesians 2:8-10, 3:20-21, 2 Cor. 4:7-10, Phil. 2:13
 - Paul's thanks are through Jesus Christ – through – **dia** – dia
 - Christ is the source
 - Thankful for all the believers in Rome



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- They are **blessed** by a deep personal faith in Jesus Christ – 1:8
 - Paul is thanking the Lord because their ***faith*** is being proclaimed
 - Faith - **pistos** - Noun –244 times in NT
 - (**Pisteuo** - I believe – Verb – 247 times in NT – Rom. 4:3, 4:5, 6:8)
 - Their faith came by hearing – Romans 10:17
 - Their faiths object was Jesus Christ. – Gal. 2:20
 - Their faith was being strengthened by God – Hebrews 12:2
 - Their faith was being proclaimed – Rom. 1:8
 - (God was performing His good work – Phil 1:6)
 - Romans 4:3-9, 5:1-11 (from 3:22-5:2 faith is mentioned 31 times)
 - proclaimed or spoken of - **katangelletai** – katangelletai - present, passive, indicative
 - God was the one who was seeing to it that their faith was being spoken of.
 - 1 Thess. 1:8 – Thessalonians' faith was also heard of.
 - Throughout the whole world – referring to the Roman Empire.
 - What is heard of us? Is it our faith or something else?

Process of their faith being heard throughout the world



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- They are **blessed** by Paul's care, concern and constant prayer for them - 1:9 (1 Cor. 1:4, Eph. 1:15-16, Phil. 1:3-4, Col. 1:3, 1 Thess. 1:2-3, 2 Thess. 1:3, Philemon 4)
 - 2 Cor. 11:28 - Paul's concern for all the churches
 - NAS – Verse 9 – For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you.
 - KJV – Verse 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.
(Relative clause underlined & the NAS and KJV separate these verses differently)
- Why would Paul say, “For God is my witness”? (witness or record)
 - 2 Cor. 1:23, Phil 1:8, 1 Thess. 2:5 & 10
- Unceasingly I make mention of you always – in my prayers
 - Unceasingly, without ceasing – **adialeiptos** - adialeiptos - not much time elapsed between his prayers for them.
- I make – **poioumai** – poioumai – present, middle, indicative
- Mention – remembrance in his prayers.



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- Whom I serve in/with my spirit in the preaching of His Son
- God is the one who he is serving
- What does Paul mean by ‘God, whom I serve in my spirit’?
 - **serve - *latreuw* - *latreuoo* – present, active, indicative**
 - Worship – worship to God, worshipper
 - John 4:24 – God is a spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth
 - 1:1 - Paul refers to himself as a bond-servant
 - **In – *en* – en – preposition – KJV translated it “with”**
 - **my – *mou* – mou - pronoun**
 - **spirit – *pneumativ*– *pneumati***
 - **Spirit - same word is used of the Holy Spirit, unclean spirits and Stephen’s spirit (Acts 7:59) when he is stoned and looks up to God and says Lord Jesus receive my spirit.**
 - **Acts 17:16, 18:25, 1 Cor. 5:4, 14:14, 16:18, 2 Cor. 2:13**
- **Explanation:**
 - Paul’s human spirit being referred to here.
 - His human spirit is in fellowship with God.
 - He is inwardly rightly related as he is serving God
 - Because his human spirit is in fellowship with God then he is walking in the Spirit.
- **Serving in gospel of His Son – Gospel of His Son is mentioned in verses 1-3**
 - ‘Preaching of the’ in the NAS – not in the Greek (KJV leaves it out, NAS puts it in)
 - Eph. 3:20 – proclaiming is not in the Greek
 - Question – For the believer, what does right service look like and what does wrong service look like?



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- What was the content of his prayer and request? -1:10
 - To make it to Rome but he was open to whatever God's will was.
 - Acts 16:6-8 – Paul knew what it meant to be led by the Spirit – the will of God
 - Luke 22:42 – Jesus says to Father, “Not my will but yours be done”.
 - Proverbs 3:5-6, 2 Cor. 5:7 “For we walk by faith not by sight”
 - Why did he want to go to Rome? That they may be established and he would be encouraged. (Review from background of the book)
 - One phase of his missionary career was coming to and end. (15:19-20)
 - His plans were to engage in church planting work in Spain. (15:24&28)
 - He needed to go back to Jerusalem to give the money. (15:25)
 - He would stop by Rome on his way to Spain. (15:28)
- Personalize it:
 - We are blessed by God's Grace working in and through us.
 - We are blessed by a deep personal faith in Jesus Christ.
 - We are blessed by peoples care, concern, and constant prayer for us.