

BOOK TO THE ROMANS
THE GOSPEL [GOOD NEWS] OF GOD
INTRODUCTION

1. ABOUT THE AUTHOR, HIS CALLING, HIS OFFICE.
 - A. ROMANS 1:1 PAUL, A SERVANT OF **CHRIST JESUS**, CALLED TO BE AN APOSTLE AND SET APART FOR THE **GOSPEL OF GOD**—
 - I. SERVANT - A BOND SLAVE
 - (1) MATTHEW 20:27 AND WHOEVER WANTS TO BE FIRST MUST BE YOUR SLAVE—
 - (2) 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20 DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IS IN YOU, WHOM YOU HAVE RECEIVED FROM GOD? YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN; [20] YOU WERE BOUGHT AT A PRICE. THEREFORE HONOR GOD WITH YOUR BODY.
 - (3) 2 CORINTHIANS 4:5 FOR WE DO NOT PREACH OURSELVES, BUT **JESUS CHRIST** AS LORD, AND OURSELVES AS YOUR SERVANTS FOR **JESUS'** SAKE.
 - II. CHRIST JESUS
 - (1) MY COMMENT - IN THE BIBLE YOU WILL READ CHRIST JESUS, AND JESUS CHRIST. I KNEW THAT THIS HAD MEANING SO I RESEARCHED IT.
 - (A) WHEN THE BIBLE SAYS CHRIST JESUS IT IS SPEAKING OF THE OFFICE OF JESUS - CHRIST, = P CHRISTOS, GREEK 5547, STRONG'S CHRISTOS, CHRIS-TOS'; FROM GREEK 5548 (CHRIO); ANOINTED, I.E. THE MESSIAH, AN EPITHET OF JESUS :- CHRIST.
 - (I) SO HERE PAUL IS SAYING I HAVE BEEN CALLED BY THE MESSIAH AND MY OFFICE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AN APOSTLE.
 - 1) 1 CORINTHIANS 1:1 PAUL, CALLED TO BE AN APOSTLE OF **CHRIST JESUS** BY THE WILL OF GOD,
 - 2) GALATIANS 1:15 BUT WHEN GOD, WHO SET ME APART FROM BIRTH AND CALLED ME BY HIS GRACE, WAS PLEASED
 - 3) COLOSSIANS 1:1 PAUL, AN APOSTLE OF CHRIST JESUS BY THE WILL OF GOD, AND TIMOTHY OUR BROTHER,
 - III. SET APART OR SEPARATED
 - (1) AT BIRTH - SEE GALATIANS 1:15 ABOVE
 - (2) AT CONVERSION FROM JUDAISM TO THE GOSPEL
 - (A) ACTS 9:15-16 BUT THE LORD SAID TO ANANIAS, "GO! THIS MAN IS MY CHOSEN INSTRUMENT TO CARRY MY NAME BEFORE THE GENTILES AND THEIR KINGS AND BEFORE THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL. [16] I WILL SHOW HIM HOW MUCH HE MUST SUFFER FOR MY NAME."
 - (B) 1 TIMOTHY 1:15-16 HERE IS A TRUSTWORTHY SAYING THAT DESERVES FULL ACCEPTANCE: **CHRIST JESUS** CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS--OF WHOM I AM THE WORST. [16] BUT FOR THAT VERY REASON I WAS SHOWN MERCY SO THAT IN ME, THE WORST OF SINNERS, **CHRIST JESUS** MIGHT DISPLAY HIS UNLIMITED PATIENCE AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THOSE WHO WOULD BELIEVE ON HIM AND RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE.
 - (i) 1 TIMOTHY 1:15-16 THIS IS A FAITHFUL SAYING, AND WORTHY OF ALL ACCEPTATION, THAT **CHRIST JESUS** CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS; OF WHOM I AM CHIEF. [16] HOWBEIT FOR THIS CAUSE I OBTAINED MERCY, THAT IN ME FIRST **JESUS CHRIST** MIGHT SHEW FORTH ALL LONGSUFFERING, FOR A PATTERN TO THEM WHICH SHOULD HEREAFTER BELIEVE ON HIM TO LIFE EVERLASTING.
 - (3) AT HIS COMMISSION, FROM SECULAR WORK, TO THE WORK OF GOD.
 - (A) ACTS 13:2 WHILE THEY WERE WORSHIPPING THE LORD AND FASTING, THE HOLY SPIRIT SAID, "SET APART FOR ME BARNABAS AND SAUL FOR THE WORK TO WHICH I HAVE CALLED THEM."
 - (B) ACTS 26:16-18 **NOW GET UP AND STAND ON YOUR FEET. I HAVE APPEARED TO YOU**

TO APPOINT YOU AS A SERVANT AND AS A WITNESS OF WHAT YOU HAVE SEEN OF ME AND WHAT I WILL SHOW YOU. [17] I WILL RESCUE YOU FROM YOUR OWN PEOPLE AND FROM THE GENTILES. I AM SENDING YOU TO THEM [18] TO OPEN THEIR EYES AND TURN THEM FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT, AND FROM THE POWER OF SATAN TO GOD, SO THAT THEY MAY RECEIVE FORGIVENESS OF SINS AND A PLACE AMONG THOSE WHO ARE SANCTIFIED BY FAITH IN ME.'

- (c) 1 TIMOTHY 1:11-12 THAT CONFORMS TO THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF THE BLESSED GOD, WHICH HE ENTRUSTED TO ME. [12] I THANK CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD, WHO HAS GIVEN ME STRENGTH, THAT HE CONSIDERED ME FAITHFUL, APPOINTING ME TO HIS SERVICE.
- (4) THE GOSPEL OF GOD. - ROMANS 1:1-5
 - (A) THE GOSPEL DEFINED
 - (i) ROMANS 10:15 AND HOW CAN THEY PREACH UNLESS THEY ARE SENT? AS IT IS WRITTEN, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS!"
 - (B) FULFILLMENT OF THE PROMISE - AS SEEN HERE IN 1:2
 - (C) A MANIFESTATION OF:
 - (i) GOD'S CREATION
 - 1) ROMANS 1:20 FOR SINCE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD GOD'S INVISIBLE QUALITIES--HIS ETERNAL POWER AND DIVINE NATURE--HAVE BEEN CLEARLY SEEN, BEING UNDERSTOOD FROM WHAT HAS BEEN MADE, SO THAT MEN ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE.
 - 2) EPHESIANS. 3:9 AND TO MAKE PLAIN TO EVERYONE THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS MYSTERY, WHICH FOR AGES PAST WAS KEPT HIDDEN IN GOD, WHO CREATED ALL THINGS.
 - 3) EPHESIANS. 3:9 AND TO MAKE ALL MEN SEE WHAT IS THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE MYSTERY, WHICH FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD HATH BEEN HID IN GOD, WHO CREATED ALL THINGS BY JESUS CHRIST:
 - (ii) MANS REBELLION - AS WILL BE SEEN HERE IN ROMANS 1:21 - 3:23
 - (iii) GOD'S LOVE, GRACE, AND MERCY
 - 1) JOHN 1:17 FOR THE LAW WAS GIVEN THROUGH MOSES; GRACE AND TRUTH CAME THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.
 - 2) JOHN 3:16 "FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.
 - 3) TITUS 2:11-12 FOR THE GRACE OF GOD THAT BRINGS SALVATION HAS APPEARED TO ALL MEN. [12] IT TEACHES US TO SAY "NO" TO UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY PASSIONS, AND TO LIVE SELF-CONTROLLED, UPRIGHT AND GODLY LIVES IN THIS PRESENT AGE,
 - 4) TITUS 3:5 HE SAVED US, NOT BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUS THINGS WE HAD DONE, BUT BECAUSE OF HIS MERCY. HE SAVED US THROUGH THE WASHING OF REBIRTH AND RENEWAL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT,
 - (iv) GOD'S WRATH - WILL BE SEEN HERE IN ROMANS 1:18-32
 - (v) GOD'S SALVATION - WILL BE SEEN HERE IN ROMANS 1:16, 3:24-31 AND
 - 1) JOHN 3:16 ABOVE,
 - 2) 1 JOHN 1:9 IF WE CONFESS OUR SINS, HE IS FAITHFUL AND JUST AND WILL FORGIVE US OUR SINS AND PURIFY US FROM ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.
 - (vi) GOD'S PLAN - WILL BE SEEN HERE IN ROMANS 8:19-25 AND
 - 1) ACTS 3:19-21 REPENT, THEN, AND TURN TO GOD, SO THAT YOUR SINS MAY BE WIPED OUT, THAT TIMES OF REFRESHING MAY COME FROM THE LORD, [20] AND THAT HE MAY SEND THE CHRIST, WHO HAS BEEN APPOINTED FOR YOU--EVEN JESUS. [21] HE MUST REMAIN IN HEAVEN UNTIL THE TIME COMES FOR GOD TO RESTORE EVERYTHING, AS HE PROMISED LONG AGO THROUGH HIS HOLY PROPHETS.
 - 2) EPHESIANS. 1:10 TO BE PUT INTO EFFECT WHEN THE TIMES WILL HAVE REACHED THEIR FULFILLMENT--TO BRING ALL THINGS IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH TOGETHER UNDER ONE HEAD, EVEN CHRIST.

- 3) BOOK OF REVELATIONS CHAPTERS 21 AND 22
- (vii) MAN'S DESTINY -
 - 1) REBELS - THOSE THAT WILL NOT ALLOW HIM TO BE THE GOD OF THEIR LIVES
 - A) MATTHEW 25:41 "THEN HE WILL SAY TO THOSE ON HIS LEFT, 'DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO ARE CURSED, INTO THE ETERNAL FIRE PREPARED FOR THE DEVIL AND HIS ANGELS.
 - B) MATTHEW 25:46 "THEN THEY WILL GO AWAY TO ETERNAL PUNISHMENT, BUT THE RIGHTEOUS TO ETERNAL LIFE."
 - C) REVELATIONS 14:9-11 A THIRD ANGEL FOLLOWED THEM AND SAID IN A LOUD VOICE: "IF ANYONE WORSHIPS THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE AND RECEIVES HIS MARK ON THE FOREHEAD OR ON THE HAND, [10] HE, TOO, WILL DRINK OF THE WINE OF GOD'S FURY, WHICH HAS BEEN POURED FULL STRENGTH INTO THE CUP OF HIS WRATH. HE WILL BE TORMENTED WITH BURNING SULFUR IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY ANGELS AND OF THE LAMB. [11] AND THE SMOKE OF THEIR TORMENT RISES FOR EVER AND EVER. THERE IS NO REST DAY OR NIGHT FOR THOSE WHO WORSHIP THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE, OR FOR ANYONE WHO RECEIVES THE MARK OF HIS NAME."
 - D) REVELATIONS 20:10-15 AND THE DEVIL, WHO DECEIVED THEM, WAS THROWN INTO THE LAKE OF BURNING SULFUR, WHERE THE BEAST AND THE FALSE PROPHET HAD BEEN THROWN. THEY WILL BE TORMENTED DAY AND NIGHT FOR EVER AND EVER. [11] THEN I SAW A GREAT WHITE THRONE AND HIM WHO WAS SEATED ON IT. EARTH AND SKY FLED FROM HIS PRESENCE, AND THERE WAS NO PLACE FOR THEM. [12] AND I SAW THE DEAD, GREAT AND SMALL, STANDING BEFORE THE THRONE, AND BOOKS WERE OPENED. ANOTHER BOOK WAS OPENED, WHICH IS THE BOOK OF LIFE. THE DEAD WERE JUDGED ACCORDING TO WHAT THEY HAD DONE AS RECORDED IN THE BOOKS. [13] THE SEA GAVE UP THE DEAD THAT WERE IN IT, AND DEATH AND HADES GAVE UP THE DEAD THAT WERE IN THEM, AND EACH PERSON WAS JUDGED ACCORDING TO WHAT HE HAD DONE. [14] THEN DEATH AND HADES WERE THROWN INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE. THE LAKE OF FIRE IS THE SECOND DEATH. [15] IF ANYONE'S NAME WAS NOT FOUND WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE, HE WAS THROWN INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE.
 - 2) THE SAVED
 - A) ACTS 2:21 AND EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'
 - B) ACTS 22:16 AND NOW WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? GET UP, BE BAPTIZED AND WASH YOUR SINS AWAY, CALLING ON HIS NAME.'
 - C) 1 JOHN 3:23 AND THIS IS HIS COMMAND: TO BELIEVE IN THE NAME OF HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST, AND TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS HE COMMANDED US.
 - D) 1 JOHN 5:13 I WRITE THESE THINGS TO YOU WHO BELIEVE IN THE NAME OF THE SON OF GOD SO THAT YOU MAY KNOW THAT YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.
 - E) GENESIS 9:12 AND GOD SAID, "THIS IS THE SIGN OF THE COVENANT I AM MAKING BETWEEN ME AND YOU AND EVERY LIVING CREATURE WITH YOU, A COVENANT FOR ALL GENERATIONS TO COME:
 - F) ISAIAH 45:18 FOR THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS-- HE WHO CREATED THE HEAVENS, HE IS GOD; HE WHO FASHIONED AND MADE THE EARTH, HE FOUNDED IT; HE DID NOT CREATE IT TO BE EMPTY, BUT FORMED IT TO BE INHABITED-- HE SAYS: "I AM THE LORD, AND THERE IS NO OTHER.
 - G) ISAIAH 66:22-24 "AS THE NEW HEAVENS AND THE NEW EARTH THAT I MAKE WILL ENDURE BEFORE ME," DECLARES THE LORD, "SO WILL YOUR NAME AND DESCENDANTS ENDURE. [23] FROM ONE NEW MOON TO

ANOTHER AND FROM ONE SABBATH TO ANOTHER, ALL MANKIND WILL COME AND BOW DOWN BEFORE ME," SAYS THE LORD. [24] "AND THEY WILL GO OUT AND LOOK UPON THE DEAD BODIES OF THOSE WHO REBELLED AGAINST ME; THEIR WORM WILL NOT DIE, NOR WILL THEIR FIRE BE QUENCHED, AND THEY WILL BE LOATHSOME TO ALL MANKIND."

- H) MATTHEW 5:5 BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY WILL INHERIT THE EARTH.
 - I) MATTHEW 25:34 "THEN THE KING WILL SAY TO THOSE ON HIS RIGHT, 'COME, YOU WHO ARE BLESSED BY MY FATHER; TAKE YOUR INHERITANCE, THE KINGDOM PREPARED FOR YOU SINCE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD.
 - J) REVELATIONS 21:3-4 AND I HEARD A LOUD VOICE FROM THE THRONE SAYING, "NOW THE DWELLING OF GOD IS WITH MEN, AND HE WILL LIVE WITH THEM. THEY WILL BE HIS PEOPLE, AND GOD HIMSELF WILL BE WITH THEM AND BE THEIR GOD. [4] HE WILL WIPE EVERY TEAR FROM THEIR EYES. THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH OR MOURNING OR CRYING OR PAIN, FOR THE OLD ORDER OF THINGS HAS PASSED AWAY."
 - K) REVELATIONS 21:24-26 THE NATIONS WILL WALK BY ITS LIGHT, AND THE KINGS OF THE EARTH WILL BRING THEIR SPLENDOR INTO IT. [25] ON NO DAY WILL ITS GATES EVER BE SHUT, FOR THERE WILL BE NO NIGHT THERE. [26] THE GLORY AND HONOR OF THE NATIONS WILL BE BROUGHT INTO IT.
- 3) THE SONS OF GOD
- A) JOHN 1:12 YET TO ALL WHO RECEIVED HIM, TO THOSE WHO BELIEVED IN HIS NAME, HE GAVE THE RIGHT TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD—
 - B) MATTHEW 5:9 BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED SONS OF GOD.
 - C) LUKE 20:36 AND THEY CAN NO LONGER DIE; FOR THEY ARE LIKE THE ANGELS. THEY ARE GOD'S CHILDREN, SINCE THEY ARE CHILDREN OF THE RESURRECTION.
 - D) JOHN 11:52 AND NOT ONLY FOR THAT NATION BUT ALSO FOR THE SCATTERED CHILDREN OF GOD, TO BRING THEM TOGETHER AND MAKE THEM ONE.
 - E) ROMANS 8:16 THE SPIRIT HIMSELF TESTIFIES WITH OUR SPIRIT THAT WE ARE GOD'S CHILDREN.
 - F) ROMANS 8:21 THAT THE CREATION ITSELF WILL BE LIBERATED FROM ITS BONDAGE TO DECAY AND BROUGHT INTO THE GLORIOUS FREEDOM OF THE CHILDREN OF GOD.
 - G) ROMANS 9:8 IN OTHER WORDS, IT IS NOT THE NATURAL CHILDREN WHO ARE GOD'S CHILDREN, BUT IT IS THE CHILDREN OF THE PROMISE WHO ARE REGARDED AS ABRAHAM'S OFFSPRING.
 - H) GALATIANS 3:26 YOU ARE ALL SONS OF GOD THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS,
 - I) 1 JOHN 3:10 THIS IS HOW WE KNOW WHO THE CHILDREN OF GOD ARE AND WHO THE CHILDREN OF THE DEVIL ARE: ANYONE WHO DOES NOT DO WHAT IS RIGHT IS NOT A CHILD OF GOD; NOR IS ANYONE WHO DOES NOT LOVE HIS BROTHER.
 - J) 1 JOHN 5:2 THIS IS HOW WE KNOW THAT WE LOVE THE CHILDREN OF GOD: BY LOVING GOD AND CARRYING OUT HIS COMMANDS.
 - K) JOHN 14:1-3 "DO NOT LET YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED. TRUST IN GOD; TRUST ALSO IN ME. [2] IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE ARE MANY ROOMS; IF IT WERE NOT SO, I WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU. I AM GOING THERE TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU. [3] AND IF I GO AND PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU, I WILL COME BACK AND TAKE YOU TO BE WITH ME THAT YOU ALSO MAY BE WHERE I AM.
 - L) REVELATIONS 5:10 YOU HAVE MADE THEM TO BE A KINGDOM AND

- PRIESTS TO SERVE OUR GOD, AND THEY WILL REIGN ON THE EARTH."
- M) BOOK OF REVELATIONS CHAPTER 21:1 TO 22:5
 - N) JOHN 6:56-57 WHOEVER EATS MY FLESH AND DRINKS MY BLOOD REMAINS IN ME, AND I IN HIM. [57] JUST AS THE LIVING FATHER SENT ME AND I LIVE BECAUSE OF THE FATHER, SO THE ONE WHO FEEDS ON ME WILL LIVE BECAUSE OF ME.
 - O) JOHN 8:29 THE ONE WHO SENT ME IS WITH ME; HE HAS NOT LEFT ME ALONE, FOR I ALWAYS DO WHAT PLEASES HIM."
 - P) JOHN 10:38 BUT IF I DO IT, EVEN THOUGH YOU DO NOT BELIEVE ME, BELIEVE THE MIRACLES, THAT YOU MAY KNOW AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE FATHER IS IN ME, AND I IN THE FATHER."
 - Q) JOHN 14:10 DON'T YOU BELIEVE THAT I AM IN THE FATHER, AND THAT THE FATHER IS IN ME? THE WORDS I SAY TO YOU ARE NOT JUST MY OWN. RATHER, IT IS THE FATHER, LIVING IN ME, WHO IS DOING HIS WORK.
 - R) JOHN 14:23 JESUS REPLIED, "IF ANYONE LOVES ME, HE WILL OBEY MY TEACHING. MY FATHER WILL LOVE HIM, AND WE WILL COME TO HIM AND MAKE OUR HOME WITH HIM.
 - S) JOHN 17:21-22 THAT ALL OF THEM MAY BE ONE, FATHER, JUST AS YOU ARE IN ME AND I AM IN YOU. MAY THEY ALSO BE IN US SO THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE SENT ME. [22] I HAVE GIVEN THEM THE GLORY THAT YOU GAVE ME, THAT THEY MAY BE ONE AS WE ARE ONE:
 - T) ROMANS 8:32 HE WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN SON, BUT GAVE HIM UP FOR US ALL--HOW WILL HE NOT ALSO, ALONG WITH HIM, GRACIOUSLY GIVE US ALL THINGS?
 - U) 2 CORINTHIANS 4:6 FOR GOD, WHO SAID, "LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS," MADE HIS LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE US THE LIGHT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE FACE OF CHRIST.
 - V) COLOSSIANS 2:9-10 FOR IN CHRIST ALL THE FULLNESS OF THE DEITY LIVES IN BODILY FORM, [10] AND YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN FULLNESS IN CHRIST, WHO IS THE HEAD OVER EVERY POWER AND AUTHORITY.
- (VIII) HISTORICAL AND PROPHETIC FACTS OF THE GOSPEL
- 1) LUKE 24:44 HE SAID TO THEM, "THIS IS WHAT I TOLD YOU WHILE I WAS STILL WITH YOU: EVERYTHING MUST BE FULFILLED THAT IS WRITTEN ABOUT ME IN THE LAW OF MOSES, THE PROPHETS AND THE PSALMS."
 - 2) BOOK OF EPHESIANS 15:1 - 23
- (IX) ORDINANCES OF THE GOSPEL
- 1) WATER BAPTISM
 - A) MATTHEW 28:19 THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
 - 2) LORD'S SUPPER
 - A) 1 CORINTHIANS 11:19-34
- (X) PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL
- 1) MATTHEW 28:19-20 THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, [20] AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE."
 - 2) LUKE 24:41 AND WHILE THEY STILL DID NOT BELIEVE IT BECAUSE OF JOY AND AMAZEMENT, HE ASKED THEM, "DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING HERE TO EAT?"
 - 3) ACTS 1:8 BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA

AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH."

- 4) 1 CORINTHIANS 1:21 FOR SINCE IN THE WISDOM OF GOD THE WORLD THROUGH ITS WISDOM DID NOT KNOW HIM, GOD WAS PLEASED THROUGH THE FOOLISHNESS OF WHAT WAS PREACHED TO SAVE THOSE WHO BELIEVE.

(XI) CONFIRMATION OF THE GOSPEL

- 1) MARK 16:15-20 HE SAID TO THEM, "GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOOD NEWS TO ALL CREATION. [16] WHOEVER BELIEVES AND IS BAPTIZED WILL BE SAVED, BUT WHOEVER DOES NOT BELIEVE WILL BE CONDEMNED. [17] AND THESE SIGNS WILL ACCOMPANY THOSE WHO BELIEVE: IN MY NAME THEY WILL DRIVE OUT DEMONS; THEY WILL SPEAK IN NEW TONGUES; [18] THEY WILL PICK UP SNAKES WITH THEIR HANDS; AND WHEN THEY DRINK DEADLY POISON, IT WILL NOT HURT THEM AT ALL; THEY WILL PLACE THEIR HANDS ON SICK PEOPLE, AND THEY WILL GET WELL." [19] AFTER THE LORD JESUS HAD SPOKEN TO THEM, HE WAS TAKEN UP INTO HEAVEN AND HE SAT AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD. [20] THEN THE DISCIPLES WENT OUT AND PREACHED EVERYWHERE, AND THE LORD WORKED WITH THEM AND CONFIRMED HIS WORD BY THE SIGNS THAT ACCOMPANIED IT.
- 2) ROMANS 15:18-29 I WILL NOT VENTURE TO SPEAK OF ANYTHING EXCEPT WHAT CHRIST HAS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH ME IN LEADING THE GENTILES TO OBEY GOD BY WHAT I HAVE SAID AND DONE-- [19] BY THE POWER OF SIGNS AND MIRACLES, THROUGH THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT. SO FROM JERUSALEM ALL THE WAY AROUND TO ILLYRICUM, I HAVE FULLY PROCLAIMED THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST. [20] IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY AMBITION TO PREACH THE GOSPEL WHERE CHRIST WAS NOT KNOWN, SO THAT I WOULD NOT BE BUILDING ON SOMEONE ELSE'S FOUNDATION. [21] RATHER, AS IT IS WRITTEN: "THOSE WHO WERE NOT TOLD ABOUT HIM WILL SEE, AND THOSE WHO HAVE NOT HEARD WILL UNDERSTAND." [22] THIS IS WHY I HAVE OFTEN BEEN HINDERED FROM COMING TO YOU. [23] BUT NOW THAT THERE IS NO MORE PLACE FOR ME TO WORK IN THESE REGIONS, AND SINCE I HAVE BEEN LONGING FOR MANY YEARS TO SEE YOU, [24] I PLAN TO DO SO WHEN I GO TO SPAIN. I HOPE TO VISIT YOU WHILE PASSING THROUGH AND TO HAVE YOU ASSIST ME ON MY JOURNEY THERE, AFTER I HAVE ENJOYED YOUR COMPANY FOR A WHILE. [25] NOW, HOWEVER, I AM ON MY WAY TO JERUSALEM IN THE SERVICE OF THE SAINTS THERE. [26] FOR MACEDONIA AND ACHAIA WERE PLEASED TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION FOR THE POOR AMONG THE SAINTS IN JERUSALEM. [27] THEY WERE PLEASED TO DO IT, AND INDEED THEY OWE IT TO THEM. FOR IF THE GENTILES HAVE SHARED IN THE JEWS' SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS, THEY OWE IT TO THE JEWS TO SHARE WITH THEM THEIR MATERIAL BLESSINGS. [28] SO AFTER I HAVE COMPLETED THIS TASK AND HAVE MADE SURE THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED THIS FRUIT, I WILL GO TO SPAIN AND VISIT YOU ON THE WAY. [29] I KNOW THAT WHEN I COME TO YOU, I WILL COME IN THE FULL MEASURE OF THE BLESSING OF CHRIST.
- 3) HEBREWS 2:1-4 WE MUST PAY MORE CAREFUL ATTENTION, THEREFORE, TO WHAT WE HAVE HEARD, SO THAT WE DO NOT DRIFT AWAY. [2] FOR IF THE MESSAGE SPOKEN BY ANGELS WAS BINDING, AND EVERY VIOLATION AND DISOBEDIENCE RECEIVED ITS JUST PUNISHMENT, [3] HOW SHALL WE ESCAPE IF WE IGNORE SUCH A GREAT SALVATION? THIS SALVATION, WHICH WAS FIRST ANNOUNCED BY THE LORD, WAS CONFIRMED TO US BY THOSE WHO HEARD HIM. [4] GOD ALSO TESTIFIED TO IT BY SIGNS, WONDERS AND VARIOUS MIRACLES, AND GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT DISTRIBUTED ACCORDING TO HIS WILL.

2. THE GOSPEL, THE THEME OF THE PROPHETS

- A. ROMANS 1:[2] THE GOSPEL HE PROMISED BEFOREHAND THROUGH HIS PROPHETS IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
- I. LUKE 24:44 HE SAID TO THEM, "THIS IS WHAT I TOLD YOU WHILE I WAS STILL WITH YOU:

- EVERYTHING MUST BE FULFILLED THAT IS WRITTEN ABOUT ME IN THE LAW OF MOSES, THE PROPHETS AND THE PSALMS."
- II. ACTS 3:21 HE MUST REMAIN IN HEAVEN UNTIL THE TIME COMES FOR GOD TO RESTORE EVERYTHING, AS HE PROMISED LONG AGO THROUGH HIS HOLY PROPHETS.
 - III. HEBREWS 1:1 IN THE PAST GOD SPOKE TO OUR FOREFATHERS THROUGH THE PROPHETS AT MANY TIMES AND IN VARIOUS WAYS,
3. JESUS CHRIST THE THEME OF THE GOSPEL AND THE FULFILMENT OF SCRIPTURE
- A. ROMANS 1:[3] REGARDING HIS SON, WHO AS TO HIS HUMAN NATURE WAS A DESCENDANT OF DAVID, [4] AND WHO THROUGH THE SPIRIT OF HOLINESS WAS DECLARED WITH POWER TO BE THE SON OF GOD BY HIS RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD: JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. [5] THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE, WE RECEIVED GRACE AND APOSTLESHIP TO CALL PEOPLE FROM AMONG ALL THE GENTILES TO THE OBEDIENCE THAT COMES FROM FAITH. [6] AND YOU ALSO ARE AMONG THOSE WHO ARE CALLED TO BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST.
 - I. FULFILMENT OF SCRIPTURE
 - (1) LUKE 24:44 ABOVE
 - (2) JOHN 5:39 YOU DILIGENTLY STUDY THE SCRIPTURES BECAUSE YOU THINK THAT BY THEM YOU POSSESS ETERNAL LIFE. THESE ARE THE SCRIPTURES THAT TESTIFY ABOUT ME,
 - (3) ACTS 1:21-22 THEREFORE IT IS NECESSARY TO CHOOSE ONE OF THE MEN WHO HAVE BEEN WITH US THE WHOLE TIME THE LORD JESUS WENT IN AND OUT AMONG US, [22] BEGINNING FROM JOHN'S BAPTISM TO THE TIME WHEN JESUS WAS TAKEN UP FROM US. FOR ONE OF THESE MUST BECOME A WITNESS WITH US OF HIS RESURRECTION."
 - II. JESUS DECLARED TO BE THE SON OF GOD - NOT GOD ALONE.
 - (1) 1 JOHN 5:7 FOR THERE ARE THREE THAT TESTIFY:
 - (2) 1 JOHN 5:7 FOR THERE ARE THREE THAT BEAR RECORD IN HEAVEN, THE FATHER, THE WORD, AND THE HOLY GHOST: AND THESE THREE ARE ONE.
 - III. JESUS WAS MADE
 - (1) ISAIAH 9:6 FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN, AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS. AND HE WILL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.
 - (2) ISAIAH 11:1 A SHOOT WILL COME UP FROM THE STUMP OF JESSE; FROM HIS ROOTS A BRANCH WILL BEAR FRUIT.
 - (3) LUKE 1:32 HE WILL BE GREAT AND WILL BE CALLED THE SON OF THE MOST HIGH. THE LORD GOD WILL GIVE HIM THE THRONE OF HIS FATHER DAVID,
 - (4) GALATIANS 4:4 BUT WHEN THE TIME HAD FULLY COME, GOD SENT HIS SON, BORN OF A WOMAN, BORN UNDER LAW,
 - IV. WHO AS TO HIS HUMAN NATURE
 - (1) HEBREWS 2:7-18 YOU MADE HIM A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; YOU CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR [8] AND PUT EVERYTHING UNDER HIS FEET." IN PUTTING EVERYTHING UNDER HIM, GOD LEFT NOTHING THAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO HIM. YET AT PRESENT WE DO NOT SEE EVERYTHING SUBJECT TO HIM. [9] BUT WE SEE JESUS, WHO WAS MADE A LITTLE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS, NOW CROWNED WITH GLORY AND HONOR BECAUSE HE SUFFERED DEATH, SO THAT BY THE GRACE OF GOD HE MIGHT TASTE DEATH FOR EVERYONE. [10] IN BRINGING MANY SONS TO GLORY, IT WAS FITTING THAT GOD, FOR WHOM AND THROUGH WHOM EVERYTHING EXISTS, SHOULD MAKE THE AUTHOR OF THEIR SALVATION PERFECT THROUGH SUFFERING. [11] BOTH THE ONE WHO MAKES MEN HOLY AND THOSE WHO ARE MADE HOLY ARE OF THE SAME FAMILY. SO JESUS IS NOT ASHAMED TO CALL THEM BROTHERS. [12] HE SAYS, "I WILL DECLARE YOUR NAME TO MY BROTHERS; IN THE PRESENCE OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISES." [13] AND AGAIN, "I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM." AND AGAIN HE SAYS, "HERE AM I, AND THE CHILDREN GOD HAS GIVEN ME." [14] SINCE THE CHILDREN HAVE FLESH AND BLOOD, HE TOO SHARED IN THEIR HUMANITY SO THAT BY HIS DEATH HE MIGHT DESTROY HIM WHO HOLDS THE POWER OF DEATH--THAT IS, THE DEVIL-- [15] AND FREE THOSE WHO ALL THEIR LIVES WERE HELD IN SLAVERY BY THEIR FEAR OF DEATH. [16] FOR SURELY IT IS NOT ANGELS HE HELPS, BUT ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS. [17] FOR THIS REASON HE HAD TO BE MADE LIKE HIS BROTHERS IN EVERY WAY, IN ORDER THAT HE

MIGHT BECOME A MERCIFUL AND FAITHFUL HIGH PRIEST IN SERVICE TO GOD, AND THAT HE MIGHT MAKE ATONEMENT FOR THE SINS OF THE PEOPLE. [18] BECAUSE HE HIMSELF SUFFERED WHEN HE WAS TEMPTED, HE IS ABLE TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE BEING TEMPTED.

- (2) 1 JOHN 4:2 THIS IS HOW YOU CAN RECOGNIZE THE SPIRIT OF GOD: EVERY SPIRIT THAT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT JESUS CHRIST HAS COME IN THE FLESH IS FROM GOD,

V. HIS POWER FROM GOD SHOWED WHO HE WAS.

- (1) LUKE 4:18-21 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS ON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM FREEDOM FOR THE PRISONERS AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT FOR THE BLIND, TO RELEASE THE OPPRESSED, [19] TO PROCLAIM THE YEAR OF THE LORD'S FAVOR." [20] THEN HE ROLLED UP THE SCROLL, GAVE IT BACK TO THE ATTENDANT AND SAT DOWN. THE EYES OF EVERYONE IN THE SYNAGOGUE WERE FASTENED ON HIM, [21] AND HE BEGAN BY SAYING TO THEM, "TODAY THIS SCRIPTURE IS FULFILLED IN YOUR HEARING."

- (2) JOHN 10:10 THE THIEF COMES ONLY TO STEAL AND KILL AND DESTROY; I HAVE COME THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE, AND HAVE IT TO THE FULL.

- (3) ACTS 10:38 HOW GOD ANOINTED JESUS OF NAZARETH WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND POWER, AND HOW HE WENT AROUND DOING GOOD AND HEALING ALL WHO WERE UNDER THE POWER OF THE DEVIL, BECAUSE GOD WAS WITH HIM.

VI. AGAIN, WE ARE CALLED OF JESUS CHRIST.

4. THE SALUTATION OF PAUL

- A. ROMANS 1:[7] TO ALL IN ROME WHO ARE LOVED BY GOD AND CALLED TO BE SAINTS: GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND FROM THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

I. CALLED TO BE A SAINT.

- (1) SAINT ONE SEPARATED FROM THE WORLD AND CONSECRATED TO GOD; ONE HOLY BY PROFESSION AND BY COVENANT; A BELIEVER IN CHRIST

- (A) PSALM 16:3 AS FOR THE SAINTS WHO ARE IN THE LAND, THEY ARE THE GLORIOUS ONES IN WHOM IS ALL MY DELIGHT.

- (B) PHILIPPIANS 1:1 PAUL AND TIMOTHY, SERVANTS OF CHRIST JESUS, TO ALL THE SAINTS IN CHRIST JESUS AT PHILIPPI, TOGETHER WITH THE OVERSEERS AND DEACONS:

- (C) HEBREWS 6:10 GOD IS NOT UNJUST; HE WILL NOT FORGET YOUR WORK AND THE LOVE YOU HAVE SHOWN HIM AS YOU HAVE HELPED HIS PEOPLE AND CONTINUE TO HELP THEM.

5. PAUL'S PRAYER CONCERNING HIS VISIT

- A. ROMANS 1:[8] FIRST, I THANK MY GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST FOR ALL OF YOU, BECAUSE YOUR FAITH IS BEING REPORTED ALL OVER THE WORLD. [9] GOD, WHOM I SERVE WITH MY WHOLE HEART [SPIRIT] IN PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF HIS SON, IS MY WITNESS HOW CONSTANTLY I REMEMBER YOU [10] IN MY PRAYERS AT ALL TIMES; AND I PRAY THAT NOW AT LAST BY GOD'S WILL THE WAY MAY BE OPENED FOR ME TO COME TO YOU.

I. I SERVE GOD WITH MY SPIRIT.

- (1) HERE BY PREACHING THE GOSPEL

- (2) BY HIS PRAYERS

II. MAN SERVES GOD WITH MORE THAN HIS BODY,

- (1) 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20 DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT YOUR BODY IS A TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IS IN YOU, WHOM YOU HAVE RECEIVED FROM GOD? YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN; [20] YOU WERE BOUGHT AT A PRICE. THEREFORE HONOR GOD WITH YOUR BODY.

- (2) 1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20 WHAT? KNOW YE NOT THAT YOUR BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY GHOST WHICH IS IN YOU, WHICH YE HAVE OF GOD, AND YE ARE NOT YOUR OWN? [20] FOR YE ARE BOUGHT WITH A PRICE: THEREFORE GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY, AND IN YOUR SPIRIT, WHICH ARE GOD'S.

6. THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT!

- A. ROMANS 1:[11] I LONG TO SEE YOU SO THAT I MAY IMPART TO YOU SOME SPIRITUAL GIFT TO MAKE YOU STRONG-- [12] THAT IS, THAT YOU AND I MAY BE MUTUALLY ENCOURAGED BY EACH OTHER'S FAITH. [13] I DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE UNAWARE, BROTHERS, THAT I PLANNED MANY

TIMES TO COME TO YOU (BUT HAVE BEEN PREVENTED FROM DOING SO UNTIL NOW) IN ORDER THAT I MIGHT HAVE A HARVEST AMONG YOU, JUST AS I HAVE HAD AMONG THE OTHER GENTILES.

I. PAUL REALIZED AND BELIEVED THAT HE HAD THE FULLNESS OF GOD.

(1) ROMANS 15:29 I KNOW THAT WHEN I COME TO YOU, I WILL COME IN THE FULL MEASURE OF THE BLESSING OF CHRIST.

II. THIS BEING THE CASE HE COULD IMPART ON THEM SPIRITUAL GIFTS BY THE LAYING ON OF HANDS.

(1) SEE MY STUDY ON THE DOCTRINES OF JESUS HEBREW 6:1-2

(2) 1 TIMOTHY 4:14 DO NOT NEGLECT YOUR GIFT, WHICH WAS GIVEN YOU THROUGH A PROPHETIC MESSAGE WHEN THE BODY OF ELDERS LAID THEIR HANDS ON YOU.

(3) 2 TIMOTHY 1:6 FOR THIS REASON I REMIND YOU TO FAN INTO FLAME THE GIFT OF GOD, WHICH IS IN YOU THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF MY HANDS.

(4) HEBREWS 6:1-2 THEREFORE LET US LEAVE THE ELEMENTARY TEACHINGS ABOUT CHRIST AND GO ON TO MATURITY, NOT LAYING AGAIN THE FOUNDATION OF REPENTANCE FROM ACTS THAT LEAD TO DEATH, AND OF FAITH IN GOD, [2] INSTRUCTION ABOUT BAPTISMS, THE LAYING ON OF HANDS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD, AND ETERNAL JUDGMENT.

III. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE USED TO MAKE YOU STRONG.

(1) ROMANS 12:3-8 FOR BY THE GRACE GIVEN ME I SAY TO EVERY ONE OF YOU: DO NOT THINK OF YOURSELF MORE HIGHLY THAN YOU OUGHT, BUT RATHER THINK OF YOURSELF WITH SOBER JUDGMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MEASURE OF FAITH GOD HAS GIVEN YOU. [4] JUST AS EACH OF US HAS ONE BODY WITH MANY MEMBERS, AND THESE MEMBERS DO NOT ALL HAVE THE SAME FUNCTION, [5] SO IN CHRIST WE WHO ARE MANY FORM ONE BODY, AND EACH MEMBER BELONGS TO ALL THE OTHERS. [6] WE HAVE DIFFERENT GIFTS, ACCORDING TO THE GRACE GIVEN US. IF A MAN'S GIFT IS PROPHECYING, LET HIM USE IT IN PROPORTION TO HIS FAITH. [7] IF IT IS SERVING, LET HIM SERVE; IF IT IS TEACHING, LET HIM TEACH; [8] IF IT IS ENCOURAGING, LET HIM ENCOURAGE; IF IT IS CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEEDS OF OTHERS, LET HIM GIVE GENEROUSLY; IF IT IS LEADERSHIP, LET HIM GOVERN DILIGENTLY; IF IT IS SHOWING MERCY, LET HIM DO IT CHEERFULLY.

(2) 1 CORINTHIANS 1:7 THEREFORE YOU DO NOT LACK ANY SPIRITUAL GIFT AS YOU EAGERLY WAIT FOR OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST TO BE REVEALED.

(3) 1 CORINTHIANS 4:1 SO THEN, MEN OUGHT TO REGARD US AS SERVANTS OF CHRIST AND AS THOSE ENTRUSTED WITH THE SECRET THINGS OF GOD.

(4) 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-11 THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF GIFTS, BUT THE SAME SPIRIT. [5] THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF SERVICE, BUT THE SAME LORD. [6] THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF WORKING, BUT THE SAME GOD WORKS ALL OF THEM IN ALL MEN. [7] NOW TO EACH ONE THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT IS GIVEN FOR THE COMMON GOOD. [8] TO ONE THERE IS GIVEN THROUGH THE SPIRIT THE MESSAGE OF WISDOM, TO ANOTHER THE MESSAGE OF KNOWLEDGE BY MEANS OF THE SAME SPIRIT, [9] TO ANOTHER FAITH BY THE SAME SPIRIT, TO ANOTHER GIFTS OF HEALING BY THAT ONE SPIRIT, [10] TO ANOTHER MIRACULOUS POWERS, TO ANOTHER PROPHECY, TO ANOTHER DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN SPIRITS, TO ANOTHER SPEAKING IN DIFFERENT KINDS OF TONGUES, AND TO STILL ANOTHER THE INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES. [11] ALL THESE ARE THE WORK OF ONE AND THE SAME SPIRIT, AND HE GIVES THEM TO EACH ONE, JUST AS HE DETERMINES.

(5) 1 CORINTHIANS 12:28-30 AND IN THE CHURCH GOD HAS APPOINTED FIRST OF ALL APOSTLES, SECOND PROPHETS, THIRD TEACHERS, THEN WORKERS OF MIRACLES, ALSO THOSE HAVING GIFTS OF HEALING, THOSE ABLE TO HELP OTHERS, THOSE WITH GIFTS OF ADMINISTRATION, AND THOSE SPEAKING IN DIFFERENT KINDS OF TONGUES. [29] ARE ALL APOSTLES? ARE ALL PROPHETS? ARE ALL TEACHERS? DO ALL WORK MIRACLES? [30] DO ALL HAVE GIFTS OF HEALING? DO ALL SPEAK IN TONGUES? DO ALL INTERPRET?

(6) 1 PETER 4:11 IF ANYONE SPEAKS, HE SHOULD DO IT AS ONE SPEAKING THE VERY WORDS OF GOD. IF ANYONE SERVES, HE SHOULD DO IT WITH THE STRENGTH GOD PROVIDES, SO THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE PRAISED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. TO HIM BE THE GLORY AND THE POWER FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.

- (7) PAUL DOES NOT WANT THESE BELIEVERS IGNORANT
- (A) ROMANS 11:25 I DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE IGNORANT OF THIS MYSTERY, BROTHERS, SO THAT YOU MAY NOT BE CONCEITED: ISRAEL HAS EXPERIENCED A HARDENING IN PART UNTIL THE FULL NUMBER OF THE GENTILES HAS COME IN.
 - (B) 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1 FOR I DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE IGNORANT OF THE FACT, BROTHERS, THAT OUR FOREFATHERS WERE ALL UNDER THE CLOUD AND THAT THEY ALL PASSED THROUGH THE SEA.
 - (C) 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1 NOW ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS, BROTHERS, I DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE IGNORANT.
 - (D) 2 CORINTHIANS 1:8 WE DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE UNINFORMED, BROTHERS, ABOUT THE HARDSHIPS WE SUFFERED IN THE PROVINCE OF ASIA. WE WERE UNDER GREAT PRESSURE, FAR BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO ENDURE, SO THAT WE DESPAIRED EVEN OF LIFE.
 - (E) 1 THESSALONIANS. 4:13 BROTHERS, WE DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE IGNORANT ABOUT THOSE WHO FALL ASLEEP, OR TO GRIEVE LIKE THE REST OF MEN, WHO HAVE NO HOPE.
7. HIS RESPONSIBILITY AND READINESS TO PREACH THE GOSPEL
- A. ROMANS 1:[14] I AM [A DEBTOR] OBLIGATED BOTH TO GREEKS AND NON-GREEKS, BOTH TO THE WISE AND THE FOOLISH. [15] THAT IS WHY I AM SO EAGER TO PREACH THE GOSPEL ALSO TO YOU WHO ARE AT ROME.
 - I. MATTHEW 6:12 FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE ALSO HAVE FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS.
 - II. MATTHEW 18:24 AS HE BEGAN THE SETTLEMENT, A MAN WHO OWED HIM TEN THOUSAND TALENTS WAS BROUGHT TO HIM.
 - III. LUKE 13:4 OR THOSE EIGHTEEN WHO DIED WHEN THE TOWER IN SILOAM FELL ON THEM--DO YOU THINK THEY WERE MORE GUILTY THAN ALL THE OTHERS LIVING IN JERUSALEM?
 - IV. ROMANS 8:12 THEREFORE, BROTHERS, WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION--BUT IT IS NOT TO THE SINFUL NATURE, TO LIVE ACCORDING TO IT.
 - V. ROMANS 15:27 THEY WERE PLEASED TO DO IT, AND INDEED THEY OWE IT TO THEM. FOR IF THE GENTILES HAVE SHARED IN THE JEWS' SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS, THEY OWE IT TO THE JEWS TO SHARE WITH THEM THEIR MATERIAL BLESSINGS.
8. THE GOSPEL IS GOD'S POWER OF DELIVERANCE TO ALL BELIEVERS
- A. ROMANS 1:[16] I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE **GOSPEL**, BECAUSE IT IS THE POWER OF GOD FOR THE SALVATION OF EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES: FIRST FOR THE JEW, THEN FOR THE GENTILE. [17] FOR IN THE GOSPEL A RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM GOD IS REVEALED, A RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT IS BY FAITH FROM FIRST TO LAST, JUST AS IT IS WRITTEN: "THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY FAITH."
 - B. ROMANS 1:16-17 FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE **GOSPEL OF CHRIST**: FOR IT IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION TO EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVETH; TO THE JEW FIRST, AND ALSO TO THE GREEK. [17] FOR THEREIN IS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD REVEALED **FROM FAITH TO FAITH**: AS IT IS WRITTEN, THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH. THIS IS THE GOOD NEWS ALSO OF THE MESSIAH - SEE THE DOCTRINES OF JESUS CHRIST.
 - I. THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION
 - (1) GIVES SALVATION
 - (A) EPHESIANS. 1:13 AND YOU ALSO WERE INCLUDED IN CHRIST WHEN YOU HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH, THE GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION. HAVING BELIEVED, YOU WERE MARKED IN HIM WITH A SEAL, THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT,
 - (B) EPHESIANS. 1:13 IN WHOM YE ALSO TRUSTED, AFTER THAT YE HEARD THE WORD OF TRUTH, THE GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION: IN WHOM ALSO **AFTER THAT YE BELIEVED, YE WERE SEALED WITH THAT HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE,**
 - (2) IMPARTS GRACE
 - (A) ACTS 20:24 HOWEVER, I CONSIDER MY LIFE WORTH NOTHING TO ME, IF ONLY I MAY FINISH THE RACE AND COMPLETE THE TASK THE LORD JESUS HAS GIVEN ME--THE TASK OF TESTIFYING TO THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S GRACE.
 - (3) PRODUCES THE NEW BIRTH
 - (A) 1 PETER 1:23 FOR YOU HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN, NOT OF PERISHABLE SEED, BUT OF

IMPERISHABLE, THROUGH THE LIVING AND ENDURING WORD OF GOD.

- (4) ESTABLISHES US IN THE FAITH
 - (A) ROMANS 16:25 NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO ESTABLISH YOU BY MY GOSPEL AND THE PROCLAMATION OF JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY HIDDEN FOR LONG AGES PAST,
- (5) IT WILL GENERATE FAITH
 - (A) ROMANS 10:17 CONSEQUENTLY, FAITH COMES FROM HEARING THE MESSAGE, AND THE MESSAGE IS HEARD THROUGH THE WORD OF CHRIST.
 - (B) ROMANS 10:17 SO THEN FAITH COMETH BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD.
- (6) IT WILL SET US FREE
 - (A) JOHN 8:31-36 TO THE JEWS WHO HAD BELIEVED HIM, JESUS SAID, "IF YOU HOLD TO MY TEACHING, YOU ARE REALLY MY DISCIPLES. [32] THEN YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE." [33] THEY ANSWERED HIM, "WE ARE ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS AND HAVE NEVER BEEN SLAVES OF ANYONE. HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT WE SHALL BE SET FREE?" [34] JESUS REPLIED, "I TELL YOU THE TRUTH, EVERYONE WHO SINS IS A SLAVE TO SIN. [35] NOW A SLAVE HAS NO PERMANENT PLACE IN THE FAMILY, BUT A SON BELONGS TO IT FOREVER. [36] SO IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE, YOU WILL BE FREE INDEED.
- (7) IT WILL GROW US INTO A CHILD OF GOD.
 - (A) 1 PETER 2:2 LIKE NEWBORN BABIES, CRAVE PURE SPIRITUAL MILK, SO THAT BY IT YOU MAY GROW UP IN YOUR SALVATION,
 - (B) 1 PETER 2:2 AS NEWBORN BABES, DESIRE THE SINCERE MILK OF THE WORD, THAT YE MAY GROW THEREBY:
- (8) IT IS WHAT CLEANSSES THE CHURCH
 - (A) EPHESIANS. 5:26 TO MAKE HER HOLY, CLEANSING HER BY THE WASHING WITH WATER THROUGH THE WORD,
- (9) SEARCH OUR LIVES, TO HELP US GROW
 - (A) HEBREWS 4:12 FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING AND ACTIVE. SHARPER THAN ANY DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD, IT PENETRATES EVEN TO DIVIDING SOUL AND SPIRIT, JOINTS AND MARROW; IT JUDGES THE THOUGHTS AND ATTITUDES OF THE HEART.
- (10) CAN MAKE US PARTAKERS OF CHRIST
 - (A) EPHESIANS. 3:6 THIS MYSTERY IS THAT THROUGH THE GOSPEL THE GENTILES ARE HEIRS TOGETHER WITH ISRAEL, MEMBERS TOGETHER OF ONE BODY, AND SHARERS TOGETHER IN THE PROMISE IN CHRIST JESUS.
- (11) IT WILL CHANGE THE WAY WE LIVE
 - (A) 2 TIMOTHY 1:10 BUT IT HAS NOW BEEN REVEALED THROUGH THE APPEARING OF OUR SAVIOR, CHRIST JESUS, WHO HAS DESTROYED DEATH AND HAS BROUGHT LIFE AND IMMORTALITY TO LIGHT THROUGH THE GOSPEL.
- (12) IT BRINGS US PEACE
 - (A) ROMANS 10:15 AND HOW CAN THEY PREACH UNLESS THEY ARE SENT? AS IT IS WRITTEN, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS!"
- (13) IT GIVES US PROTECTION
 - (A) EPHESIANS. 6:17 TAKE THE HELMET OF SALVATION AND THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD.
- (14) IT CAN BRING US INTO THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST JESUS
 - (A) ROMANS 15:29 I KNOW THAT WHEN I COME TO YOU, I WILL COME IN THE FULL MEASURE OF THE BLESSING OF CHRIST.
- II. THE CHILD OF GOD MUST CONTINUALLY LIVE BY FAITH - CONTINUALLY GROW IN FAITH.
 - (1) HABAKKUK 2:4 "SEE, HE IS PUFFED UP; HIS DESIRES ARE NOT UPRIGHT— BUT THE RIGHTEOUS WILL LIVE BY HIS FAITH—
 - (2) 1 JOHN 1:7 BUT IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT, AS HE IS IN THE LIGHT, WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER, AND THE BLOOD OF JESUS, HIS SON, PURIFIES US FROM ALL SIN.

THE WHOLE WORLD GUILTY BEFORE GOD

1. THE WRATH OF GOD REVEALED FROM HEAVEN

- A. ROMANS 1:[18] THE WRATH OF GOD IS BEING REVEALED FROM HEAVEN AGAINST ALL THE GODLESSNESS AND WICKEDNESS OF MEN WHO SUPPRESS THE TRUTH BY THEIR WICKEDNESS,
 - I. THE WRATH OF GOD
 - (1) JOHN 3:36 WHOEVER BELIEVES IN THE SON HAS ETERNAL LIFE, BUT WHOEVER REJECTS THE SON WILL NOT SEE LIFE, FOR GOD'S WRATH REMAINS ON HIM."
 - (2) EPHESIANS 5:6 LET NO ONE DECEIVE YOU WITH EMPTY WORDS, FOR BECAUSE OF SUCH THINGS GOD'S WRATH COMES ON THOSE WHO ARE DISOBEDIENT.
 - (3) COLOSSIANS 3:6 BECAUSE OF THESE, THE WRATH OF GOD IS COMING.
 - II. IN VERSES 18 TO 32 PAUL PROVES THE UNGODLINESS OF THE GENTILE WORLD AND ITS DESERVING OF GOD'S WRATH.
 - III. IN VERSES 2:1 TO 3:8 HE PROVES THE SAME ABOUT THE JEWS.
 - IV. IN VERSES 3:9 TO 20 HE PROVES ALL ARE DESERVING THE WRATH OF GOD.
- 2. THE UNIVERSE A REVELATION OF GOD AND ALL INVISIBLE THINGS
 - A. ROMANS 1:[19] SINCE WHAT MAY BE KNOWN ABOUT GOD IS PLAIN TO THEM, BECAUSE GOD HAS MADE IT PLAIN TO THEM. [20] FOR SINCE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD GOD'S INVISIBLE QUALITIES--HIS ETERNAL POWER AND DIVINE NATURE--HAVE BEEN CLEARLY SEEN, BEING UNDERSTOOD FROM WHAT HAS BEEN MADE, SO THAT MEN ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE.
 - I. DEUTERONOMY 29:29 THE SECRET THINGS BELONG TO THE LORD OUR GOD, BUT THE THINGS REVEALED BELONG TO US AND TO OUR CHILDREN FOREVER, THAT WE MAY FOLLOW ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LAW.
 - II. THE DIVINE NATURE OF GOD.
 - (1) 2 PETER 1:4 THROUGH THESE HE HAS GIVEN US HIS VERY GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES, SO THAT THROUGH THEM YOU MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE NATURE AND ESCAPE THE CORRUPTION IN THE WORLD CAUSED BY EVIL DESIRES.
 - (A) GALATIANS 5:22 BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS,
 - (B) EPHESIANS 5:9 (FOR THE FRUIT OF THE LIGHT CONSISTS IN ALL GOODNESS, RIGHTEOUSNESS AND TRUTH)

THE EIGHTEEN STAGES OF WORLD APOSTASY

- 1. TEN SINS FOR WHICH GOD GAVE MEN UP TO DEFILE THE BODY
 - A. ROMANS 1:[21] FOR ALTHOUGH THEY KNEW GOD, THEY NEITHER GLORIFIED HIM AS GOD NOR GAVE THANKS TO HIM, BUT THEIR THINKING BECAME FUTILE AND THEIR FOOLISH HEARTS WERE DARKENED. [22] ALTHOUGH THEY CLAIMED TO BE WISE, THEY BECAME FOOLS [23] AND EXCHANGED THE GLORY OF THE IMMORTAL GOD FOR IMAGES MADE TO LOOK LIKE MORTAL MAN AND BIRDS AND ANIMALS AND REPTILES.
 - I. TO KNOW GOD IS TO EXPERIENCE GOD.
 - (1) JOHN 1:48 "HOW DO YOU KNOW ME?" NATHANAEL ASKED. JESUS ANSWERED, "I SAW YOU WHILE YOU WERE STILL UNDER THE FIG TREE BEFORE PHILIP CALLED YOU."
 - (A) WE BECOME AWARE OF HIS ALL KNOWING PRESENCE.
 - (2) EPHESIANS 5:5 FOR OF THIS YOU CAN BE SURE: NO IMMORAL, IMPURE OR GREEDY PERSON--SUCH A MAN IS AN IDOLATER--HAS ANY INHERITANCE IN THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST AND OF GOD.
 - (A) WE LOOK AT OTHERS WHO MEET THESE CHARACTERISTIC AND KNOW THEY HAVE NO PART WITH GOD. WE OFTEN DO NOT SEE THE SAME IN US. BECAUSE WE REFUSE TO BE WASHED BY THE WORD.
 - (3) 1 JOHN 5:20 WE KNOW ALSO THAT THE SON OF GOD HAS COME AND HAS GIVEN US UNDERSTANDING, SO THAT WE MAY KNOW HIM WHO IS TRUE. AND WE ARE IN HIM WHO IS TRUE--EVEN IN HIS SON JESUS CHRIST. HE IS THE TRUE GOD AND ETERNAL LIFE.
 - (A) IF WE HAVE A DESIRE WE CAN KNOW JESUS THE CHRIST.
 - II. THEY GLORIFIED HIM NOT.
 - (1) THEY MADE GOD A MYSTERY AND GAVE THE PEOPLE IMAGES OF ALL KINDS TO WORSHIP
 - III. THEIR THINKING BECAME FUTILE
 - IV. THEIR IMAGINATIONS NO LONGER HAD A CONCEPT OF GOD
 - V. THEY DECIDED THAT THEY WERE WISE WITHOUT GOD.
 - VI. THEIR HEARTS WERE DARKENED
 - VII. THEY BECAME FOOLS

- VIII. THEY EXCHANGED THE GLORY OF GOD
- IX. THEIR HEARTS AND MINDS WERE TURNED TO WORSHIPING THINGS MADE BY GOD.
- X. THEY NO LONGER WORSHIP THE INCORRUPTIBLE, BUT THE CORRUPTIBLE THINGS THAT WERE ON THE SAME LEVEL AS A LOST MAN.
- 2. RESULT OF APOSTASY: SEX UNCLEANNESS OR PERVERSION
 - A. ROMANS 1:[24] THEREFORE GOD GAVE THEM OVER IN THE SINFUL DESIRES OF THEIR HEARTS TO SEXUAL IMPURITY FOR THE DEGRADING OF THEIR BODIES WITH ONE ANOTHER.
 - I. OVER TO HOMOSEXUAL SINS
 - (1) PAUL WILL USE THIS TERM MANY TIMES, ALWAYS MEANING THE SAME THING.
 - (A) 2 CORINTHIANS 12:21 I AM AFRAID THAT WHEN I COME AGAIN MY GOD WILL HUMBLE ME BEFORE YOU, AND I WILL BE GRIEVED OVER MANY WHO HAVE SINNED EARLIER AND HAVE NOT REPENTED OF THE IMPURITY, SEXUAL SIN AND DEBAUCHERY IN WHICH THEY HAVE INDULGED.
 - (B) GALATIANS 5:19 THE ACTS OF THE SINFUL NATURE ARE OBVIOUS: SEXUAL IMMORALITY, IMPURITY AND DEBAUCHERY;
 - (C) EPHESIANS 4:19 HAVING LOST ALL SENSITIVITY, THEY HAVE GIVEN THEMSELVES OVER TO SENSUALITY SO AS TO INDULGE IN EVERY KIND OF IMPURITY, WITH A CONTINUAL LUST FOR MORE.
 - (D) COLOSSIANS 3:5 PUT TO DEATH, THEREFORE, WHATEVER BELONGS TO YOUR EARTHLY NATURE: SEXUAL IMMORALITY, IMPURITY, LUST, EVIL DESIRES AND GREED, WHICH IS IDOLATRY.
 - (E) 1 THESSALONIANS 4:7 FOR GOD DID NOT CALL US TO BE IMPURE, BUT TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE.
 - (2) 2 CORINTHIANS 12:21 AND LEST, WHEN I COME AGAIN, MY GOD WILL HUMBLE ME AMONG YOU, AND THAT I SHALL BEWAIL MANY WHICH HAVE SINNED ALREADY, AND HAVE NOT REPENTED OF THE UNCLEANNESS AND FORNICATION AND LASCIVIOUSNESS WHICH THEY HAVE COMMITTED.
 - (3) GALATIANS 5:19 NOW THE WORKS OF THE FLESH ARE MANIFEST, WHICH ARE THESE; ADULTERY, FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS, LASCIVIOUSNESS,
 - (4) EPHESIANS 4:19 WHO BEING PAST FEELING HAVE GIVEN THEMSELVES OVER UNTO LASCIVIOUSNESS, TO WORK ALL UNCLEANNESS WITH GREEDINESS.
 - (5) COLOSSIANS 3:5 MORTIFY THEREFORE YOUR MEMBERS WHICH ARE UPON THE EARTH; FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS, INORDINATE AFFECTION, EVIL CONCUPISCENCE, AND COVETOUSNESS, WHICH IS IDOLATRY:
 - (6) 1 THESSALONIANS 4:7 FOR GOD HATH NOT CALLED US UNTO UNCLEANNESS, BUT UNTO HOLINESS.
- 3. TWO SINS FOR WHICH GOD GAVE MEN UP TO DEFILE THEIR SOULS
 - A. ROMANS 1:[25] THEY EXCHANGED THE TRUTH OF GOD FOR A LIE, AND WORSHIPED AND SERVED CREATED THINGS RATHER THAN THE CREATOR--WHO IS FOREVER PRAISED. AMEN.
 - I. THEY CAN NO LONGER SEE THE TRUTH.
 - II. WORSHIP AND SERVE CREATED THINGS OF GOD RATHER THAN GOD THE CREATOR.
 - (1) TREE HUGGERS, ETC.
- 4. RESULT OF APOSTASY: HOMOSEXUALITY; LESBIANISM
 - A. ROMANS 1:[26] BECAUSE OF THIS, GOD GAVE THEM OVER TO SHAMEFUL LUSTS. EVEN THEIR WOMEN EXCHANGED NATURAL RELATIONS FOR UNNATURAL ONES. [27] IN THE SAME WAY THE MEN ALSO ABANDONED NATURAL RELATIONS WITH WOMEN AND WERE INFLAMED WITH LUST FOR ONE ANOTHER. MEN COMMITTED INDECENT ACTS WITH OTHER MEN, AND RECEIVED IN THEMSELVES THE DUE PENALTY FOR THEIR PERVERSION.
 - I. BECAUSE OF VERSES 21 TO 25 GOD GAVE THEM UP.
 - II. THIS LUST IS ALMOST BEYOND UNDERSTANDING. IN THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES IT WAS NOT UNUSUAL FOR A MAN TO HAVE FROM 5 TO 15 SEXUAL PARTNERS IN ONE NIGHT.
- 5. TWO SINS FOR WHICH GOD GAVE MEN UP TO DEFILE THEIR SPIRITS
 - A. ROMANS 1:[28] FURTHERMORE, SINCE THEY DID NOT THINK IT WORTHWHILE TO RETAIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, HE GAVE THEM OVER TO A DEPRAVED MIND, TO DO WHAT OUGHT NOT TO BE DONE.
 - I. DEPRAVED OR REPROBATE MIND

- (1) 2 TIMOTHY 3:8 JUST AS JANNES AND JAMBRES OPPOSED MOSES, SO ALSO THESE MEN OPPOSE THE TRUTH--MEN OF DEPRAVED MINDS, WHO, AS FAR AS THE FAITH IS CONCERNED, ARE REJECTED.
 - (2) TITUS 1:16 THEY CLAIM TO KNOW GOD, BUT BY THEIR ACTIONS THEY DENY HIM. THEY ARE DETESTABLE, DISOBEDIENT AND UNFIT FOR DOING ANYTHING GOOD.
- II. WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THIS?
 - (1) HEBREWS 6:8 BUT LAND THAT PRODUCES THORNS AND THISTLES IS WORTHLESS AND IS IN DANGER OF BEING CURSED. IN THE END IT WILL BE BURNED.
- 6. RESULT OF APOSTASY; 23 SINS THAT WILL DAMN THE SOUL
 - A. ROMANS 1:[29] THEY HAVE BECOME FILLED WITH EVERY KIND OF WICKEDNESS, EVIL, GREED AND DEPRAVITY. THEY ARE FULL OF ENVY, MURDER, STRIFE, DECEIT AND MALICE. THEY ARE GOSSIPS, [30] SLANDERERS, GOD-HATERS, INSOLENT, ARROGANT AND BOASTFUL; THEY INVENT WAYS OF DOING EVIL; THEY DISOBEY THEIR PARENTS; [31] THEY ARE SENSELESS, FAITHLESS, HEARTLESS, RUTHLESS.
 - I. MARK 7:14 AGAIN JESUS CALLED THE CROWD TO HIM AND SAID, "LISTEN TO ME, EVERYONE, AND UNDERSTAND THIS.
 - II. 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9 DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT THE WICKED WILL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD? DO NOT BE DECEIVED: NEITHER THE SEXUALLY IMMORAL NOR IDOLATERS NOR ADULTERERS NOR MALE PROSTITUTES NOR HOMOSEXUAL OFFENDERS
 - III. GALATIANS 5:19 THE ACTS OF THE SINFUL NATURE ARE OBVIOUS: SEXUAL IMMORALITY, IMPURITY AND DEBAUCHERY;
 - IV. COLOSSIANS 3:5 PUT TO DEATH, THEREFORE, WHATEVER BELONGS TO YOUR EARTHLY NATURE: SEXUAL IMMORALITY, IMPURITY, LUST, EVIL DESIRES AND GREED, WHICH IS IDOLATRY.
- 7. FINAL RESULT OF APOSTASY: GOD'S JUDGMENT KNOWN, BUT NOT FEARED BY APOSTATES
 - A. ROMANS 1:[32] ALTHOUGH THEY KNOW GOD'S RIGHTEOUS DECREE THAT THOSE WHO DO SUCH THINGS DESERVE DEATH, THEY NOT ONLY CONTINUE TO DO THESE VERY THINGS BUT ALSO APPROVE OF THOSE WHO PRACTICE THEM.
 - I. THE APOSTATE CHURCH KNOWS WHAT GOD CALLS RIGHT AND WHAT GOD CALLS SIN.
 - II. THEY KNOW THAT THOSE WHO COMMIT SUCH THINGS DESERVE DEATH.
 - III. BUT NOW, THOSE IN THE EARTHLY CHURCH NOT ONLY DO THEM, THEY APPROVE OF THOSE OTHERS WHO DO THE SAME THINGS.