

Studies In Romans

(Romans 1:1-8)

1. Though Paul was an Apostle, what did he say that shows he did not seek to be exalted?

He calls himself a servant of Christ: *"Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God"* (Romans 1:1).

- Though an Apostle, he realized he is first and servant (II Corinthians 4:5 and Philippians 1:1; cf. Luke 17:7-10).
- Paul is an apostle (I Corinthians 9:1-2, II Corinthians 1:1, II Corinthians 11:5, I Timothy 2:7, and Titus 1:1).
- He was "called" to be such (I Corinthians 1:1).
- His apostleship is by the will of God (I Corinthians 1:1, Galatians 1:1, Ephesians 1:1, I Timothy 1:1, and II Timothy 1:1).
- Separated [set of by boundary; Strong's # 873] unto the Gospel (Acts 13:1-4 and Galatians 1:10-24).

2. Was the Gospel, the message concerning our Lord, something God promised through the prophets?

Yes: *"(1) Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, (2) (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,) (3) Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh"*(Romans 1:1-3).

- The prophets did write of these things (Genesis 22:18, Deuteronomy 18:15-19, Jeremiah 23:5-6, Jeremiah 31:31-34, Luke 24:26-27, Acts 3:24-26, Acts 13:32-33, and Acts 26:22-23).
- Jesus is the only begotten Son of God (more on this in the next question).
- Jesus did come of the seed of David (Jeremiah 33:15-17, Matthew 1:1, Matthew 9:27, Luke 1:31-33, and II Timothy 2:8).

3. Though Jesus was in the flesh, was He the Son of God?

Yes, He was/is the only begotten Son of God: *"(3) Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; (4) And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead"* (Romans 1:3-4).

- Jesus was/is the only begotten Son of God (Mark 1:1, Mark 5:1-7, John 3:16-18, John 20:30-31, Acts 3:26, II Corinthians 1:19, Hebrews 4:14, I John 4:9, I John 4:15, and I John 5:20).
- The resurrection is one proof of this in that all prophecies were then fulfilled as proof (Luke 18:31-33).

4. What purpose does/did grace and apostleship share?

Obedience: *“By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name” (Romans 1:5).*

- Apostles existed to help people be obedient (**Romans 15:18-19**).
- Grace teaches obedience (**Titus 2:11-14**).
- Salvation requires obedience (**Hebrews 5:8-9**).

5. Could Christians be identified as the “called of Jesus Christ”?

Yes: *“Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ” (Romans 1:6).*

- **II Timothy 1:9, I Peter 2:21, I Peter 5:10, and Jude 1:1.**
- We are called by the Gospel (**II Thessalonians 2:14**).

6. From whom do saints receive grace and peace?

From God the Father and God the Son: *“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” (Romans 1:7).*

- The term “Saints” is a synonym for “Christians” or “Disciples” (**I Corinthians 1:2, Ephesians 1:1, Ephesians 5:1-3, Philippians 1:1, and Colossians 1:12-13**).
- The term is used of living followers of God (**Romans 15:25-26**) as well as dead ones (**Matthew 27:52**).
- Grace is from God (**Psalms 84:11 and I Peter 5:5**).
- Real peace is from God (**I Corinthians 14:33, Philippians 4:7, and Colossians 3:15**).

7. What reputation did the church in Rome have throughout the whole world?

That they were a congregation of faith: *“First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world” (Romans 1:8).*

- Thanks to God THROUGH Jesus Christ (**Ephesians 5:20, I Timothy 2:5, and I Peter 2:5**).
- The world knew of their faith (**Romans 16:19; cf. Matthew 5:14-16**).