### Romans

## Chapter 1

1Paul, a slave of Jesus the Anointed One, who’s called an Apostle and was set aside for the good news of God 2that He promised through His Prophets in the Holy Scriptures, 3which tell about His Son who came in the flesh from the offspring of David, 4and who proved to be God’s Son in a powerful way when he (by Holy Breath) was resurrected from the dead… Yes, Jesus the Anointed One and our Lord, 5through whom we’ve received loving care and a commission that we’ve obeyed so that the gentiles might also believe in his name 6and be called, [that they too might] belong to the Anointed Jesus.  
  
7To all those in Rome that are loved by God and have a holy calling:  
  
May you have favor and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus, the Anointed!  
  
  
8First, I thank my God for all of you through the Anointed Jesus, because your faith is being announced throughout the whole world!  
  
9For my God (who appointed me to use my breath in service to the good news about His Son) is my Witness that I never fail to mention you in my prayers.  
  
10I keep begging that I might find a way (as it is God’s Will) to come to you sometime... 11For I long to see you so that I might be able to give you some spiritual gift that would make you unshakable… 12Or perhaps we could encourage each other through our faith (both yours and mine).  
  
  
13I don’t want you to fail to recognize this, brothers:  
  
I planned to come to you many times, but I’ve been prevented from doing so until now... So that I could find the same type of fruitage that I have in you among the rest of the gentiles 14(the Greeks and the barbarians, the wise and the ignorant… All those to whom I’m indebted).  
  
15Yet I’m also still eager to preach the good news to you there in Rome.  
  
16I’m not ashamed of the good news, because it’s the power that God uses to save everyone who has faith… First the Jews, and then the Greeks.  
  
17For God’s righteous ways are revealed in the faith of the faithful.  
  
Notice that it is written:  
  
 ‘It’s by their faith that the righteous will live.’ [Habakkuk 2:4]  
  
18However, God’s rage is also being displayed from the heavens against all the ungodly and bad people who unrighteously try to resist the truth.  
  
19For everything that can be known about God already shines among them, because God made it shine among them!  
  
20Indeed, His invisible qualities can be seen in everything that He’s made since the creation of the cosmos... And when they understand these things that clearly demonstrate His eternal power and might, it leaves them without any excuse!  
  
21But even though they already know God, they don’t glorify Him as God or give thanks to Him.  
  
Therefore, their thoughts are wasted and their foolish hearts are darkened.  
  
22And while they claim to be wise, they’ve become morons... 23Since they’ve turned the glory of the incorruptible God into images of corruptible men, or of flying creatures, or of four-footed creatures, or of things that slither... 24So God is allowing them the uncleanness that their hearts have desired so as to dishonor their bodies.  
  
25Yes, they’ve exchanged the truth of God for a lie – and they’ve started worshiping and serving things that were created, rather than the One who created them… The One who’s to be praised throughout the ages!  
  
Amen!  
  
26Therefore, this is why God has abandoned them to their dishonorable passions; for their females have changed the natural use of themselves into something that’s unnatural, 27and the same is true of their males…  
  
They’ve left the natural use of females and started burning in their lust towards each other – males with males – doing what’s indecent and receiving the ‘reward’ that they deserve for such wrongdoing.  
  
28Yes, because they don’t approve of coming to an accurate knowledge of The God, He’s given them depraved minds, which make them do these wrong things.  
  
29So they’ve become filled with unrighteousness, wickedness, greediness, badness, envy, murder, arguing, deceitfulness, rudeness, and gossip.  
  
30[They’re] slanderers, God haters, insolent, proud, braggarts, inventors of badness, disobedient to parents, 31without any understanding, and agreement-breakers that are without any natural love or mercy!  
  
32So even though they know the righteous judgments of God very well (that those who do such things deserve death); they not only keep on doing them, but they also approve of others who do such things!