



FAITH AS REALITY

The Reordering of the World

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Romans 1:1-7

Dave Lomas

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:1

Paul, a slave of Christ...

What right did Paul have calling himself a slave?

What was behind Paul sending a letter into the heart of the Empire identifying himself as a slave?

And what does this teach us about the way Paul uses language throughout this letter?

Philippians 3:4-11

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Romans 1:5-6

Circumcised on the Eighth Day

Of the People of Israel: Tribe of Benjamin

A Hebrew of Hebrews

Law degree? Pharisee

Zeal? Hunted & Hurt Christians

Righteousness Based on the Law: Faultless

“Such a person must have no stable or solid foundation to build upon, and yet nonetheless tries to build his way out of his problem. It’s an impossible situation. You can’t compensate for having a foundation made of quicksand by building a new story on top. But this person takes no notice and hopes that the problem down in the foundation won’t be found out if only the construction work on the top keeps going.”

- Matias Dalsgaard

Philippians 3:7-8

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Philippians 3:10

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection...

Philippians 3:10

I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings...

Romans 1:1-4

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus...set apart for the gospel of God — the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel

Son of God

Romans 1:3-4

...as to his earthly life was a descendant of David...appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead.