



**Only One
Message Can
Change**

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. ⁹God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you ¹⁰in 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. ¹¹I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong— ¹²that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. ¹³I 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. ¹⁴I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. ¹⁵That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are at Rome. ¹⁶I 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. ¹⁷For 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." - **Romans 1:8-17**

"It's not what we do for God; instead it's what God has done for us."

For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. - **Romans 14:7-8**

Notice Paul's servant heart as he writes this letter. It was evident that Paul was saved by grace.

1. (Verse 8) He thanks God for them.
2. (Verse 9) He prays for them.
3. (Verse 12) He longed to encourage them.

4. (Verse 11) He could not wait to see them.

The greatest example of God's grace in Paul's life was his passion for the gospel message.

- ◆ Paul had a correct understanding of the message Jesus gave him.
- ◆ Verse 14 – "I am obligated" NJV
"I am a debtor" KJV

This message of grace...

- ◆ Humbled Paul.
- ◆ Allowed Paul not to play favorites.
- ◆ Allowed Paul to be unashamed to proclaim it.

Question: Why was Paul not ashamed of the gospel message?

Answer: He knew it had the power to change lives.

Paul knew this message was more powerful than Rome itself!

"Christianity is not behavior modification; it's faith in the one who can save."