

Introduction to NT Books

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VI. Romans

A. The Authorship of Romans

1. External Evidence

- a. Ignatius, Polycarp, Hippolytus, and Marcion accepted Paul as the author of this Epistle.
- b. This Epistle enjoys the favor of the critics that it is Pauline.

2. Internal Evidence

- a. Paul began the letter with his assertion of authorship (1:1), corresponding with Acts.
- b. Tertius was the human scribe who wrote for the Apostle Paul (16:22).

B. The Date of Romans—Paul wrote this Epistle after the Corinthian Correspondence as he prepared to take the collection to Jerusalem (c. AD 56).

C. The Origin and Destination of Romans

1. Paul wrote from Corinth immediately prior to his trip to Jerusalem.
2. Paul wrote to the Roman Christians whose spiritual roots were at least threefold: converts on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:10); Paul's converts from other areas who eventually located in Rome, and other disciples' converts who were known to Paul.

D. The Purpose of Romans—to expound the path to and the outworkings from the doctrine of Justification by Faith.

E. The Characteristics of Romans

1. It is the most formal, the longest, and most systematic work in the Pauline corpus.
2. It uses more OT citations than all other Pauline Epistles combined.
3. It was highly influential in establishing Rome as the capital of Christianity.
4. Paul builds many doctrines of the Christian Faith on the concept of Justification by Faith.

F. The Flow of the Book

1. Sinfulness of Mankind (1-3)

- a. All mankind (1)
- b. All Gentiles (1-2)
- c. All Jews and Gentiles (3)

2. Salvation for Mankind (4-5)

- a. Examples of Moses and David (4)
- b. Work of Christ (5)

3. Sanctification for Believers (6-8)

- a. Relative to the Law (6)
- b. Relative to the Flesh (7)

- c. Relative to the Spirit (8)
- 4. Sovereignty for Israel (9-11)
 - a. Israel's Selection (9)
 - b. Israel's Rejection (10)
 - c. Israel's Restoration (11)
- 5. Service in NT assemblies (12-16)
 - 1. Relative to spiritual gifts (12)
 - 2. Relative to government (13)
 - 3. Relative to weak brethren (14)
 - 4. Paul's Example (15-16)