



## **The Epistle to the Romans**

### ***DESCRIPTIVE SHEET***

#### **Author**

The apostle Paul wrote the epistle to the Romans. No one doubts that he is indeed the author. Paul, whose Hebrew name was Saul, was miraculously converted on the road to Damascus while on his way to persecute Christians who were preaching salvation in Jesus Christ (Acts 9). After his conversation, he became instrumental in spreading the message he had opposed, especially in the non-Jewish world. Thus, he became the one who wrote more epistles in the New Testament (13 in total). But the epistle to the Romans is a major work in the scriptural corpus of the New Testament from the point of view of fundamental doctrine related to the conditions of human beings in God's redemptive plan. This letter is the basis of all significant spiritual revivals in the history of the Church.

#### **Date**

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter during his third missionary trip to Corinth in the year 57. In fact, it must be said that he wrote this letter to the Christians of Rome without knowing Rome at the time of writing. Moreover, he clearly expressed in this letter the desire to visit the church of Rome whenever God would give him the opportunity (Ro. 1:11-13).

#### **Core theme and target audience**

No one knows who founded the church of Rome. It is likely that those who had received the Gospel during their stay in Jerusalem or in other places where the message of salvation had already reached were the founders. But it is obvious, when reading through this letter, that the church of Rome was an assembly composed of Jews and non-Jews. In this epistle, Paul addressed fundamental questions related to the conditions of every man: Jews and Gentiles. Therefore, Paul's core message, which concerns both Jews and non-Jews in this church, is salvation in Jesus Christ, the Gospel of grace. Jews have the same problem as non-Jews, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Ro. 3:23). And the only way to be justified before God is by faith in Jesus Christ (Ro. 3:24).

#### **Outline of the book**

1. Greetings and introduction. (Ro. 1:1-15)
2. The theme (Ro. 1:16-17)
3. The condemned ones need God's righteousness. (Ro. 1:18-3:20).
4. Justification as provision of God's righteousness. (Ro. 3:21-5:21).
5. Sanctification as demonstration of God's righteousness. (Ro. 6:1-8:39)
6. The restoration of the people of Israel. (Ro. 9:1-11:36).
7. Application: the behavior of believers. (Ro. 12:1-15:13)
8. Conclusion: Greetings and Blessing. (Ro. 15:14-16:27)