

ROMANS 1:16–23

THE POWER AND REVELATION OF GOD

Paul's message of the Gospel: why it matters,
what it reveals, and how it changes us

Setting the Scene

- Written by **Paul** to Christians in **Rome**, the center of global power.
- The church was **divided** between Jewish and Gentile believers.
- Paul's goal: **Show that the Gospel unites everyone under one King—Jesus Christ.**

Romans 1:16–17 = The Gospel revealed
Romans 1:18–23 = Why we need it

The Gospel's Power (1:16–17)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel...

- **What is the Gospel?**
The *Good News* that Jesus is King—
crucified, risen, and reigning.
- **What does it do?**
It is **the power of God for salvation**—it
transforms and rescues.
- **Who is it for?**
Everyone who believes—Jew and Gentile
alike.
- **How do we receive it?**
By faith – trusting allegiance to Jesus.

True power doesn't come from Rome—it
comes from God.

The Gospel's Purpose

- **Reveals God's righteousness**
 - His justice, mercy, and saving power.
- **Unites all people** under one King.
- **Transforms hearts** through faith.

The Gospel isn't just advice; it's *news* about what God has already done.



Why We Need the Gospel (1:18–23)

Because humanity has turned away from God.

- *Verse 18:* God's wrath = His settled opposition to evil.
- People **suppress the truth** about God.
- *Verses 19–20:* God has **revealed Himself through creation**.
 - His **power** and **divine nature** are clearly seen.
 - Creation says, "*There is a Creator!*"

Everyone has some knowledge of God—but not everyone responds to it.



God Revealed in Creation

- The world displays **design, order, and beauty.**
 - Mountains, oceans, galaxies
→ point to a Creator.
- *Psalm 19:1–4 – The heavens declare the glory of God.*
- This is called **General Revelation.**

The evidence of God is everywhere—the question is, do we acknowledge Him?



Humanity's Response

- *Verse 21:* They knew God but **did not glorify Him or give thanks.**
- Result: **Futile thinking, darkened hearts.**
- *Verses 22–23:* They **exchanged God's glory** for idols.

Modern Idols:

- Success, comfort, money, approval, self.

Everyone worships something. The question isn't *if* we worship, but *what*.

The Root of Sin

- The core issue: **ingratitude** and **idolatry**.
- When we replace the infinite God with temporary things, life loses meaning.
- Only by returning to the Creator can we find life and light again.

We are created to worship the Giver, not the gifts.



The Good News

Even though humanity turned away—

- God still **revealed His love** through Jesus.
- The same power that created the universe now **saves us through Christ.**

The Gospel is God's rescue plan for a world that forgot its Maker.

Application for Today

- **God has made Himself known** – in creation, conscience, and Christ.
- We have two choices:
 - Suppress the truth.
 - Acknowledge and worship Him.
- The Gospel brings both **humility** and **hope**:
 - Humility: We are all sinners.
 - Hope: Salvation is available to all.

We all start in the same place—under sin—but God offers the same rescue to all.



Closing Thought

Romans 1:16–17
*For I am not ashamed of
the Gospel, for it is the
power of God for
salvation to everyone
who believes...*

**Jesus is still the true
King—the power that
saves, the truth that
endures, and the hope
our world still needs.**
