



# ROSE GUIDE TO THE EPISTLES

Romans to Revelation





## ROMANS

Romans is believed to be Paul's "life work," his magnum opus. From creation to Christ, Paul's letter to the Roman church is a densely packed theological narrative whose key emphasis is the gospel as "the power of God" for salvation (Rom. 1:16).

Chapters 1–11 lay out Paul's theology and chapters 12–16 apply that theology to godly living.

### Who wrote Romans?

Paul claims authorship in the first verse, although Tertius served as his secretary and wrote down the letter (Rom. 16:22). Paul's authorship of Romans has rarely been challenged in scholarship.

### When was Romans written?

Though Romans is first among the New Testament epistles, it is actually one of Paul's later epistles, being written during his third missionary journey around AD 57. Bible scholars point to circumstantial evidence that suggests this epistle was written from Corinth, including early manuscript evidence that has the name Erastus as the Corinth "director of public works" (Rom. 16:23). The commendation of Phoebe in Romans 16:1–2, who lived near Corinth, may indicate that she carried the letter to Rome.

### Who were the Romans?

Situated in west-central Italy where it still stands today, Rome was the heart of the Roman Empire's culture, governance, and power. Imagine modern-day New York City combined with Washington DC—that was Rome. In Rome, archaeologists have found impressive stadiums, such as the Circus Maximus, as well as theaters and marketplaces, known as



Etching by Jan Luyken of Paul dictating to Tertius his letter to the Romans



forums. These centers of cultural life included many temples to pagan gods, but none of these outshone the devotion to the emperor of Rome. The early emperors had their images throughout the city, all aimed at reinforcing the citizenry's devotion to Caesar. The most notable is the Altar of Peace, representing Peace of Rome, or *Pax Romana*, which undergirded Rome's hold on the known world.

Christianity reached Rome within the first generation of the church and was the farthest northern and western outpost of the church. This is why it was from Rome that Paul hoped to reach even farther to Spain (Rom. 15:24).

### Why did Paul write to the church in Rome?

Like many large cities, the population of Rome was diverse in its religious and cultural makeup. This diversity was brought into the church, which was a good thing, but in the earliest days of the church, Jewish and gentile diversity also caused conflict about how to live the Christian life. We can discern from Paul's letter that there was debate over true faith and its origin, as well how the Old Testament law applied to gentiles and Jews.

### What is Paul's message to the Romans?

**Universal guilt:** Paul aims to show that both Jews and gentiles stand condemned before God and fall short of God's glory (Rom. 1–3).

**Justification by faith:** Salvation and righteousness are only received by faith. Paul shows this by arguing that the law points to humanity's need



for righteousness, which we do not have on our own. Then he observes the central place of faith in salvation and God's call upon his elect into new life in Christ (Rom. 3:21–11:36).

**Godly living:** Paul explains that once a person is saved by faith, then he or she should grow in godliness and other-centered living. Christians should live self-sacrificially, putting the church, the body of Christ, first (Rom. 12:1–15:13).

### Key Verses

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

ROMANS 1:16

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 3:23–24

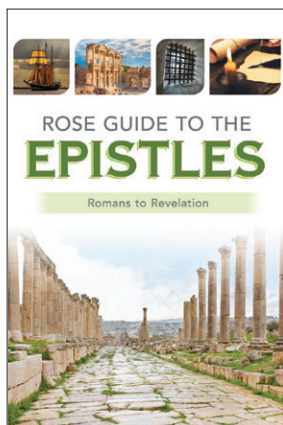
Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

ROMANS 12:1

### Contribution to Scripture

Romans is the prime statement of faith concerning God's plan of salvation for the Jew first and then the gentile. In the Bible, there is no clearer and more detailed case made for the mission to the gentiles and all humanity's need for God's justification and applied righteousness in Jesus Christ alone.

BOOK	AUTHOR	DATE	AUDIENCE
<b>ROMANS</b>	Paul	AD 57	Church in Rome
<b>1 CORINTHIANS</b>	Paul	AD 55-56	Church in Corinth
<b>2 CORINTHIANS</b>	Paul	AD 56	Church in Corinth
<b>GALATIANS</b>	Paul	AD 49	Churches in Galatia
<b>EPHESIANS</b>	Paul	AD 60-62	Church in Ephesus
<b>PHILIPPIANS</b>	Paul	AD 60-62	Church in Philippi
<b>COLOSSIANS</b>	Paul, with Timothy	AD 60-62	Church in Colossae
<b>1 THESSALONIANS</b>	Paul, with Silas and Timothy	AD 50-51	Church in Thessalonica
<b>2 THESSALONIANS</b>	Paul, with Silas and Timothy	AD 50-51	Church in Thessalonica
<b>1 TIMOTHY</b>	Paul	AD 62-66	Timothy
<b>2 TIMOTHY</b>	Paul	AD 66-67	Timothy



## Rose Guide to the Epistles

*Rose Guide to the Epistles* is your quick-reference guide through all the epistles in the New Testament. From Romans to Revelation, you'll find the key facts and teachings of each epistle. Learn about the early church letters in their historical context: Who wrote them? Why were they written? Why did they become part of the Bible? Plus, a closer look at the seven churches of Revelation and different Christian ways to interpret the book of Revelation.

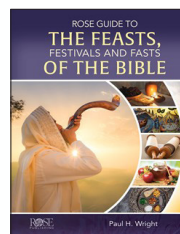
*Softcover* ..... 978-1-64938-022-7 ..... \$15.99



## Romans, Pamphlet

Paul's letter to the church in Rome was instructional, missional, and pastoral emphasizing three important themes of redemption, atonement, and justification. This simple guide highlights its context and outlines its content revealing the power of the gospel in our lives today. In quick reference chart format, the 14-panel pamphlet summarizes six main segments of the entire book providing more meaningful reading of Romans.

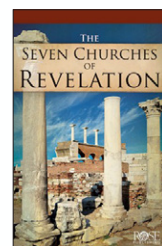
*Pamphlet* ..... 978-1-59636-529-2 ..... \$4.99



## Rose Guide to the Feasts, Festivals and Fasts of the Bible

Passover. Yom Kippur. Feast of Tabernacles. Rosh Hashanah. With all the ceremonies, festivals, and observances in the Bible, it's hard to keep track of them all and remember why they're important to our faith! It's never been easier to get an expert look at the traditions, fasts, and feasts of the Bible

*Hardcover* ..... 978-1-64938-021-0 ..... \$34.99



## The Seven Churches of Revelation, Pamphlet

Packed with quick-reference charts, simple summaries, and a full-color map, this quick-reference pamphlet explains Jesus' message to each of the seven churches and shows key information at a glance! Perfect for personal use, small groups, or to add depth to any Revelation Bible study.

*Pamphlet* ..... 978-1-62862-255-3 ..... \$4.99

**HENDRICKSON  
Publishing Group**

[www.hendricksonrose.com](http://www.hendricksonrose.com) | [csresponse@tyndale.com](mailto:csresponse@tyndale.com)  
or call 1-855-277-9400



**Money Back  
Guarantee!**

**ECPA**  
EVANGELICAL  
CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS  
ASSOCIATION