

**"A Look at the Book: An Overview of Romans!"**  
(Romans)

**I. Introduction:**

**A. Some Stories**

1. A Monk
2. A Missionary

**B. Some Statements**

1. Samuel Taylor Coleridge
2. Frédéric Louis Godet
3. Martin Luther

**II. Some Introductory Comments about:**

**A. The Author: Paul**

1. External Evidence
2. Internal Evidence – Romans 1:1; 11:1; 16:1-16

**B. The Audience: Gentile and Jewish Christians**

1. External Evidence
2. Internal Evidence – Romans 1:7, 16; 16:1-16

**C. The Area: Place and Date of Writing**

1. Corinth –
2. A.D. 57 or 58 –

**D. The Aspiration: Reasons for Writing**

1. Plans to visit Rome - Personal
2. Presentation of the gospel – Theological
3. Participation in the ministry – Financial

**E. The Attributes: Style of Writing**

1. Book of instruction - Doctrine
2. Book of inquiry – Questions and Answers
3. Book of impact – Practical

**F. The Attitude: Servant (Humility)**

1. Romans 1:1
2. Romans 1:11-12

**G. The Argument: Statement of Theme**

1. Gospel's power for salvation – Romans 1:16
2. God's righteousness is revealed – Romans 1:17

**III. The Overview of the Book**

**A. The chart – 30,000-foot flyover**

**B. The challenge – Read and reread the book**

**IV. Conclusion:**

**A. Another Story – A Mother's Prayer**

**B. Another Statement – John Calvin**

**Questions to reflect on individually and discuss in Small Groups:**

1. What stuck out to you from the message? (What's your keeper?)
2. What most excites you as we begin a study of the Book of Romans? What most concerns you?
3. Think about the theme of the book. What do we learn from this about God and about man?
4. Romans flows very logically. What does this teach us about Paul, as a thinker and as a theologian?
5. Finish this sentence with the primary thing that God is leading you to do: "In light of these passages and this discussion, I will ..." (What is your action point?)