

"Paul's Salutation to the Romans! (Part 3)"*(Romans 1:5-7)***I. Introduction:****A. Replies**

- What are you doing?
- Why are you here?

B. Review (Romans 1:1-4)

- God's Messenger – Paul
- God's Messengers – His prophets
- God's Message – His Son

II. Exposition: God's Method (Romans 1:5-7)**A. God's gifts: received (through the resurrected Christ)**

1. Grace

- Ephesians 2:8-9
- Titus 3:4-7
- Romans 3:23-24

2. Apostleship

- Specific – Capital "A" Apostle -
- General – Lower case "a" apostle
- Grace must precede apostleship

B. God's requirement: obedience (for His name's sake)

1. The faith – the gospel (Acts 6:7)

- A command that must be obeyed

2. The life of faith (2 Corinthians 10:5)

- An obedience that must be demonstrated

C. God's people: described (all believers ... in Rome)

1. The called of Jesus Christ

- General Call to everyone
 - Isaiah 45:22
 - Matthew 11:28

- Efficacious call to the elect

- 1 Corinthians 1:22-24
- John 6:37

2. Beloved of God

- Jeremiah 31:3
- Romans 8:35-39

3. Called as saints

D. God's blessing: bestowed (unity in the body)

1. Grace and peace

2. From God the Father

3. From the Lord Jesus Christ

III. Conclusion:**A. The seeds of the epistle (James M. Stifler)**

- Message in accord with Scripture
- Message from the risen Christ
- Message that is universal
- Message on obedience to the faith

B. GRACE

- God's Riches At Christ's Expense
- God's Righteousness At Christ's Enablement
- God's Revelation At Christ's Enthronement

Questions to reflect on individually and discuss in Small Groups:

1. What stuck out to you from the message? (What's your keeper?)
2. Why must grace precede apostleship? Why are both gifts from God?
3. Why is obedience such a key ingredient in the Christian life?
4. Which description of the people of God (called, beloved, saints) most impacts you and why?
5. What stuck out to you from the conclusion?
6. 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?)