



Salvation: Why? and How?
or, SALVATION: ITS NEED AND PROVISION
Romans Chapters One to Five
Calvary Baptist Church

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Sermon 2: A Preacher and a Church

October 14, 2012

Romans 1:8-13

INTRODUCTION:

- We are in the section of Romans that I have called the salutation (1:1-17).
- Last week we looked at Paul and his calling (1:1-7).
- Today we turn our attention to Paul and the Church (1:8-13).

I. Paul Was Proud of the Church (1:8)

A. Thankful for Saving Faith

(Cf., Rom. 12:2; 2 Cor. 6:17-18; 1 Jn. 2:15-16)

B. Thankful to the Source of Their Faith

C. Thankful for the Spreading of the Their Faith (Cf., Mt. 5:16)

II. Paul Prayed for the Church (1:9,10A)

A. The Proof of His Prayer

"with my spirit" - Paul has just commended their faith. In so doing, he reveals his faith. Paul remembers a time when he thought that he served God. But it was external, nationalistic and fleshly. But now that Christ lives within, all is different. He serves with his spirit. This is a key theme in Romans. (Cf., Introduction to Romans, *Proclaiming the New Testament, Romans*)

B. The Persistence of His Prayer

C. The People of His Prayer

III. Paul Was **Passionate** About the Church (1:10-13)

QUOTE: "I long to see you!" This is the pastor's heart in Paul the great missionary. Some of the saints in Rome were very dear to Paul, such as Priscilla and Aquila (Rom. 16:3-4), who risked their lives for him; "the beloved Persis" (Rom. 16:12); and others who had labored and suffered with Paul. But he also loved the believers that he did not know, and he longed to be able to share some spiritual gift with them. Wiersbe, *Bible Exposition Commentary*

A. He Wanted to **Meet** the Church (1:10,13)

1. **Prayer** and His Visit (10)
2. **Plans** for His Visit (13)
3. **Providence** and His Visit (10B; 13)

PAUL AND ROME

All his life Paul had been haunted by the thought of Rome. It had always been one of his dreams to preach there. When he is in Ephesus, he is planning to go through Achaea and Macedonia again, and then comes a sentence obviously dropped straight from the heart, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome" ([Ac 19:21](#)). When he was up against things in Jerusalem, and the situation looked threatening and the end seemed near, he had one of those visions which always lifted up his heart. In that vision the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage, Paul. For as you have testified about me at Jerusalem, so you must bear witness also at Rome" ([Ac 23:11](#)). In the very first chapter of this letter Paul's desire to see Rome breathes out. "I long to see you that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you" ([Rom 1:11](#)). "So, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome" ([Rom 1:15](#)). It might well be said that the name Rome was written on Paul's heart. *Daily Study Bible*

B. He Wanted to Minister to the Church (1:11-12)

1. A **Spiritual** Ministry (11; Lk. 3:11; 1 Cor. 9:11; Acts 3:6)

Impart - *metadidomi*, to share with someone.

Spiritual - *pneumatikos* - non-carnal. Related to the spirit, not the flesh.

2. A **Stabilizing** Ministry

(11B; Lk. 9:51; Rom. 16:25; 1 Thess. 3:2)

Established - *sterizo*. To strengthen, set firmly, establish in a place, decide firmly.

3. A **Shared** Ministry (12; Philip. 1:4-5)

C. He Wanted to **Multiply** the Church (1:13)

QUOTE: Fruit. Scripture catalogs 3 kinds of spiritual fruit: 1) spiritual attitudes that characterize a Spirit-led believer (Gal. 5:22, 23); 2) righteous actions (6:22; Phil. 4:16, 17; Heb. 13:15); and 3) new converts (16:5). In this context, Paul is probably referring to the third one—a desire that was eventually realized during his imprisonment in Rome (Phil. 4:22). *MacArthur Study Bible*

CONCLUSION AND APPLICATION:

NOTE: Why such a relationship of Paul to this church? In large part it had to do with real faith. Paul knew what it was like to be religious and lost. He knew what it had been like to think of God as a **concept**, not a person. He would never cease to thank God for saving the chief of sinners. He now knew that faith was a **relationship** ("my God"). And faith was something within ("with my spirit"). And he recognized that same, life transforming faith within the body of believers at Rome. When pastor and church both love God, have real faith, follow the **Bible** pattern for the church, the relationship can be something beautiful to behold!

