



# Logos Class

## *Book of Romans Intro & Ch 1A*

Class for July 26, 2026

Rooms 123/124 Adult Ed Building

# Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *July 26, 2026*      *Book of Romans, Intro and Ch 1A*
- *Aug 2, 2026.*      *Romans Ch 1B*
- *Aug 9, 2026*      *Romans Ch 2A*
- *Aug 16, 2026.*      *Carroll Springer teaching for me*
- *Aug 23, 2026*      *Romans Ch 2B*
-  *Aug 28, 2026.*      *Ice Cream Social at the Steinke's*
- *Aug 30, 2026.*      *Romans Ch 3*

# Before we get into the lesson

- We have had a number of people join the class recently, and I want to recap how you do it for others interested.
  - Simply ask Vicki or me, and we will enroll you. Then you will be assigned a Care Group and be sent the class online directory. We will need some info like emails, phone numbers, birthdates, and anniversaries as appropriate, and a picture to include. Most of the info is on the sheets you filled out as a visitor, but we do not put you in the class unless you want to be included.
  - Care Groups are the small group with the class that is your first line of support, prayer, and general follow-up. We have 7 groups at present
  - You will also be moved from the visitor prayer time to the class member prayer time, and our Prayer Warrior Team will pray for you every day.
  - As a member, you can serve on the other groups, such as the Social Committee, greeters, and other leadership teams
  - You do not have to be a member of FRC to be a class member, but we certainly recommend that as well. That is also pretty easy.

# Quick Update .../CYMI

## *Middle East*

- *The US has resumed action against Iran; the President has told Congress, which started a 60-day clock*
- *Iran has retaliated against its Arab neighbors and some US bases*
- *Gas prices have moved higher, and prospects of a diplomatic settlement have diminished*

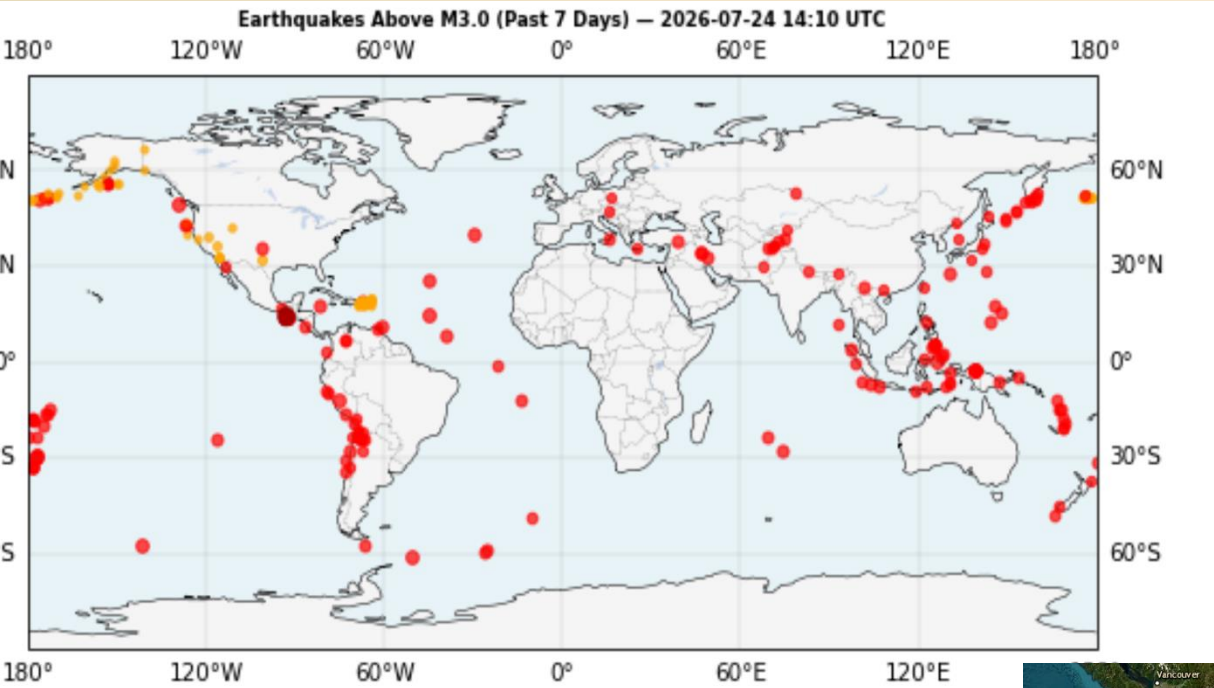
## *US/World*

- *The Russia-Ukraine war is going nowhere towards an end.*
- *Ukraine is taking the offensive to Russian territory. US has licensed them to produce Patriot Missiles*

*Earthquakes, Floods, volcanic eruptions, **famine, and disease.** Wars and rumors of wars. California fault lines are under the most pressure for hundreds of years*

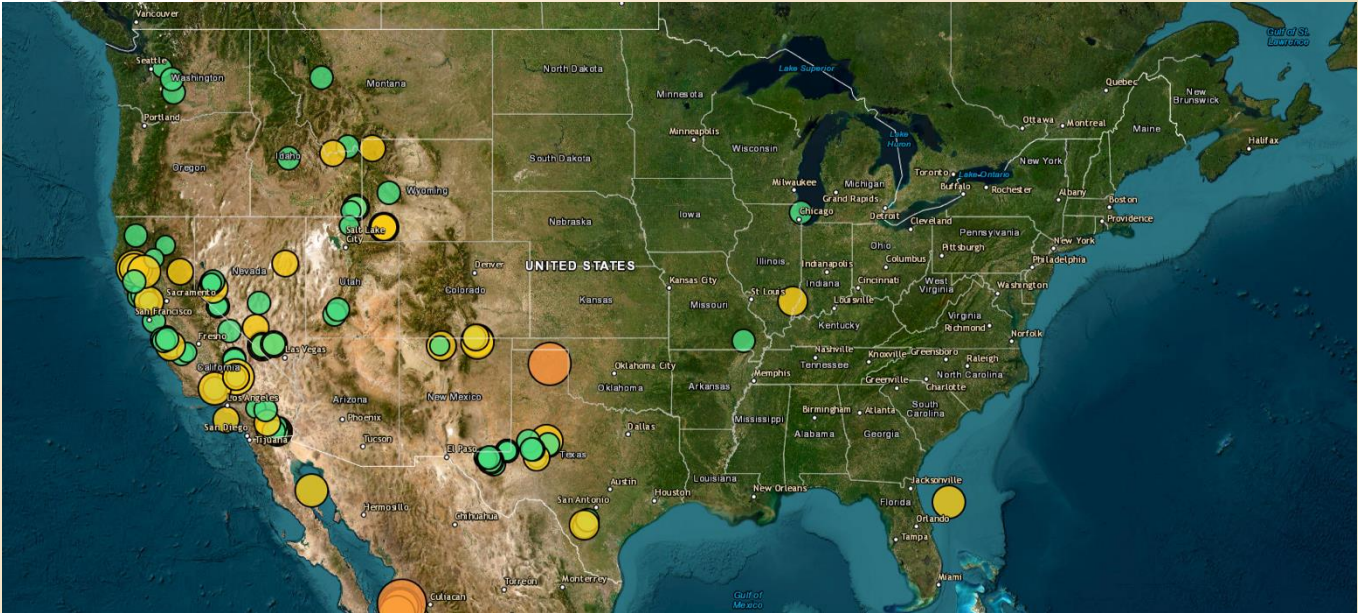
- **Many signs of the Tribulation are appearing with more frequency**
  - *Natural Disasters, Isolation of Israel, Antisemitism, Apostasy in the church, **Peace in Israel to presage the Antichrist,** Scoffers of Prophecy, and deniers of God. Time of Noah and time of Lot prophecies. Continuation of the Aliyah to Israel. **Isolation of Israel, and end-time coalitions forming. Christian Apostasy and Lack of Unity. One World Religion***
  - *Substantial European acts to move away from Western values and embrace one-world ideas.*
  - *Remember, Israel is God's timepiece for the End of Time. Israel is the hour hand, Jerusalem is the minute hand, and the Temple Mount is the second hand*

# Past 7 days Earthquakes...

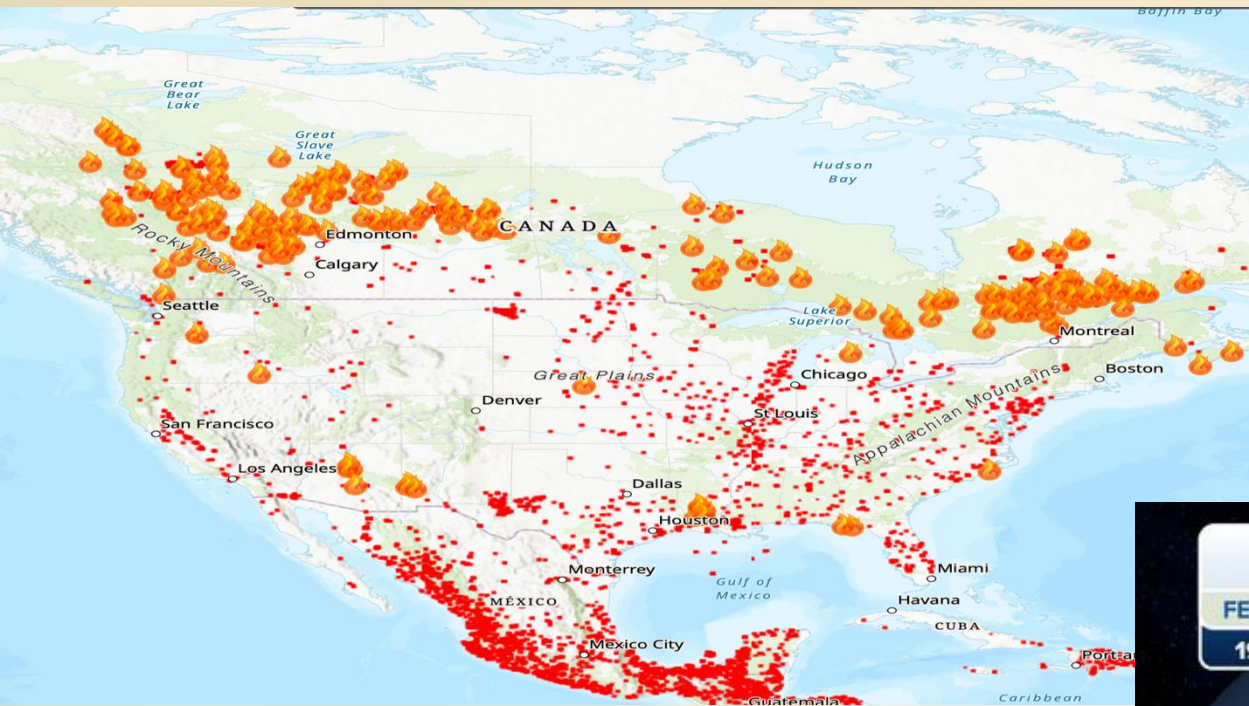


*In the US*

*In the World*

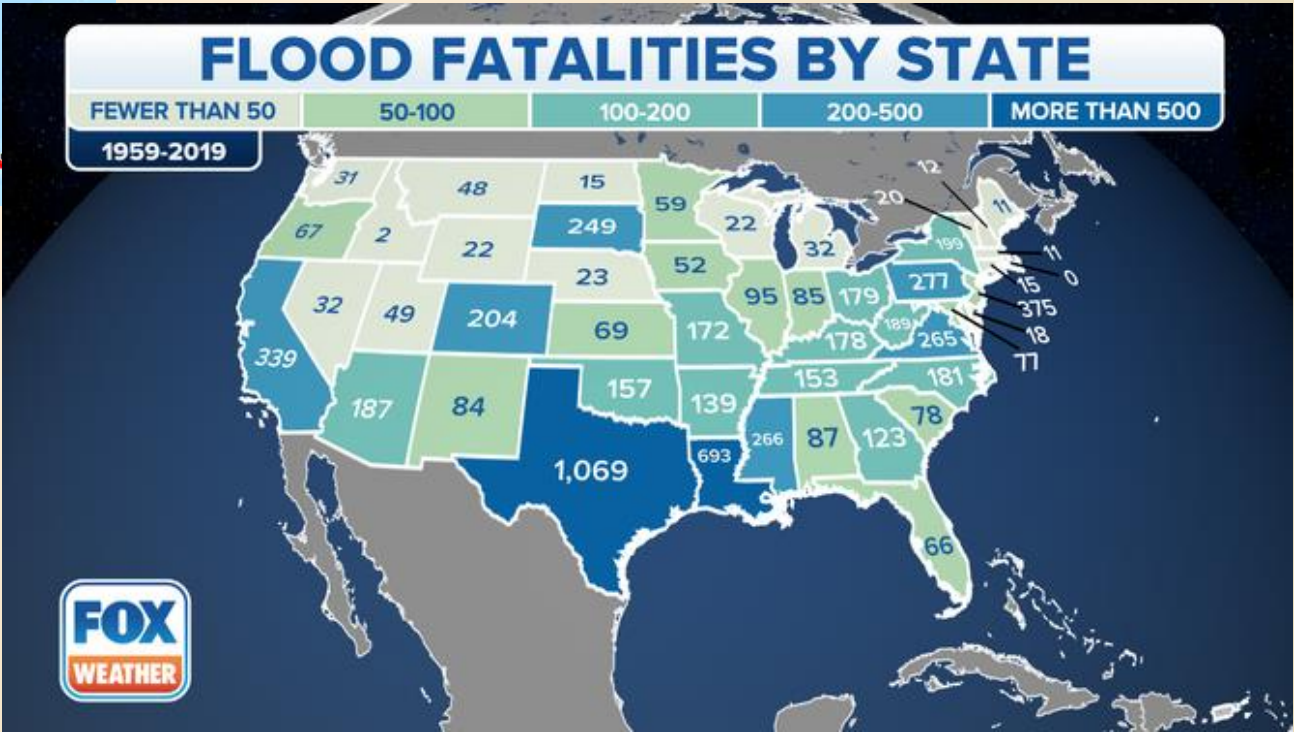


# Past 7 days Wildfires... Other weather signs...



*Flood fatalities*

*In the North America*



# General Introduction to the Letters of Paul

- *There is no more interesting body of documents in the NT than the Letters of Paul.*
- *Of all forms of writing or literature, the letter is the most personal.*
- *Because he left us so many letters, we feel like we know Paul as a person better than the other writers*
- *He opened his mind and heart to those he loved. Even now we feel the passion and love that comes through his letters*
- *Even through the difficult situations and difficult people, Paul's love for them is very evident*
- *Some people call them epistles, but that is not what they are. They are letters in the truest sense. Epistles leave the impression they are planned documents rather than personal letters*

# Difficulty with Letters...

- *A letter is one side of a dialog. It is like when we listen to someone who is on the phone. We only hear one part and are left to imagine what the other party is saying*
- *When we read the letters of Paul, we are left with this difficulty. We do not possess the letter he was answering or have deep knowledge of the situation he is discussing.*
- *We are aided somewhat by the narrative in Acts, which describes some of the situations, but we try to imagine what Paul is replying to by the text of the letter.*
- *I know if I don't repeat a Q someone in class asks, and you did not hear it, you are left trying to figure it out by my answer. (I will try to do better)*
- *So, before we can hope to understand his letters, we must reconstruct the situation that produced them.*

# The Pattern

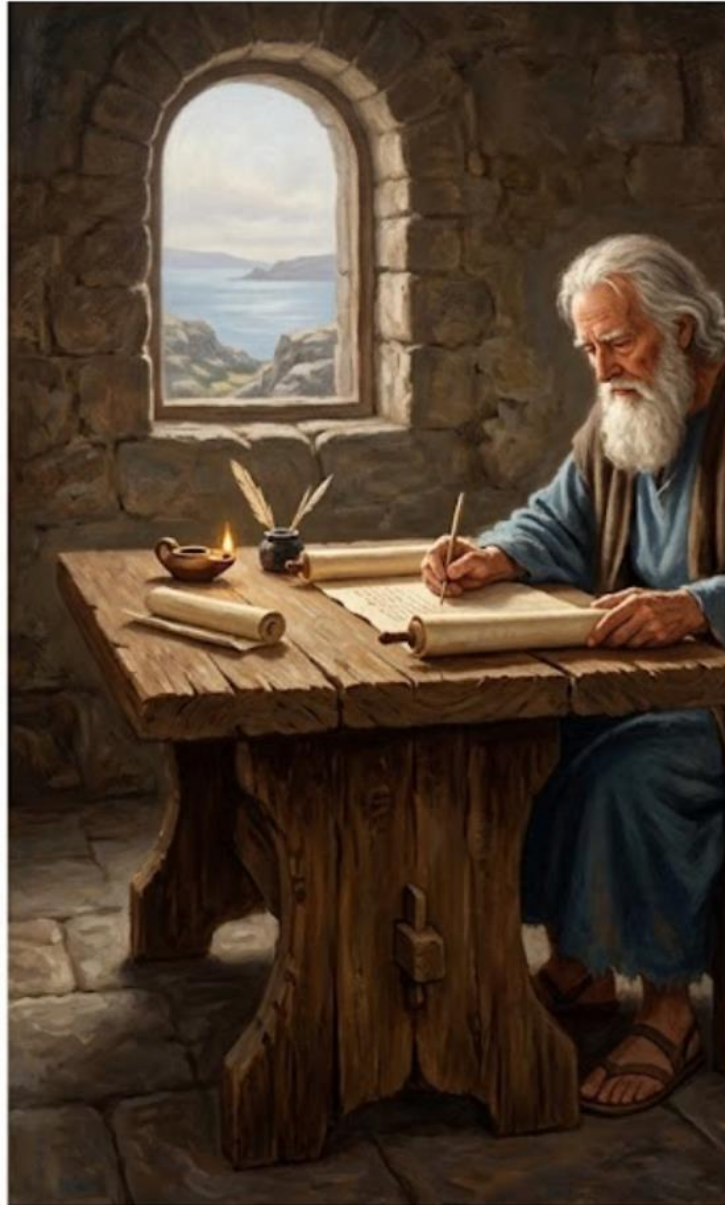
*Ancient letters followed a well-used pattern.*

- ✓ *Greeting: (Romans 1:1)*
- ✓ *Prayer for grace: (Romans 1:7)*
- *Thanksgiving: (Romans 1:8)*
- *Main body of letter ( reason for writing)*
- *Special salutations and Personal Greetings: (Romans 16)*

*There are several unique elements of Paul's letters*

- *The way they are created*
- *The flowing style as the spoken word*
- *Let me explain...*

# Comparison of Paul and John



*Paul tends to use run-on sentences and abrupt changes in his discussion.*

**Q:** *Why is that?*

*These letters are **spoken words**, being transcribed by an assistant. Paul is not at a desk writing, rereading, and correcting his words. **They are a stream of consciousness**, and he is pacing as he dictates them. The scribe is furiously taking notes*

*John is more deliberate in writing his letters and gospel and writes them himself*

# Other common features of Paul's letters

- *Paul had no thought that his letters would make up a long-lasting document and become part of what we view as “God's spoken Word to us”. He was addressing a situation he felt needed his guidance.*
- *With very few exceptions, Paul's letters were written to address specific needs of individuals or churches.*
- *For reference, most songs of faith, love songs, and other music are written to a person or to address a situation in the writer's life at the time.*
- *Paul's letters address threats to the church or a need for a person, and because these situations exist for us today...God speaks to us through them with lessons we can apply.*
- *Picture Paul walking around fully engaged in what his letter is being written to address, and a flood of words flows from him. This is why sometimes he starts a conversation and never finishes it. ...Poor Scribe*

# Having said all that – *Romans is different*

If you read the letter to the Corinthians or the Galatians, then read Romans, you will notice several key differences in both the **atmosphere** and the **tone**. **Slight differences also in the method**

**Q:** *Why is that?*

- The key fact is that in Romans, ***Paul is writing to a church that he had nothing to do with founding...he had never even been there***
- *This is why this letter seems much less personal*
- *Since Paul is not writing to correct any issues, this letter is much more theological and is a systematic exposition of Paul's own theological positions.*

# What was the occasion of Paul's Letter to Rome?

- Paul was a Roman citizen, and all his life he had been haunted by the thought of Rome
- In **Acts 19**, Paul is in Ephesus and just survived a riot, and we see a verse just plop into the narrative that was on Paul's mind:
  - **Acts 19:21** <sup>21</sup> *Now after these events **Paul resolved in the Spirit** to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, “**After I have been there, I must also see Rome.**”*
  - In **Acts 23**, we see that later, when Paul was arrested, a plot by the Jews to kill him was uncovered by the Romans, and in the evening **Acts 23:11** records this: <sup>11</sup> *The following night **the Lord stood by him** and said, “**Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome.**”*
- In the actual letter to the Romans, Paul wrote it from Corinth in AD 58. He was planning on going back to Jerusalem to take a mission offering back to the home church in Jerusalem.
  - He wanted the prayers of the Roman church for that journey, and he also wanted to get them to help sponsor a planned trip to Spain for him

# The Structure of the Letter to the Romans

*Four divisions, two sections*

*Section 1- What God accomplished through Christ*

- **Chapters 1-8:** deal with the problem of righteousness in an evil world
- **Chapters 9-11:** deal with problems of the Jewish people, God's chosen

*Section 2 – Instructions for Christians living out these truths*

- **Chapters 12-15:** deal with practical questions and instruction on life and living.
- **Chapter 16:** Personal greetings and a letter of introduction for Phoebe

*Paul begins this letter with a survey of the Gentile world that the new churches he started existed within.*

*Jews were trying to obtain righteousness through strict observance of the Law and forcing it on the Gentiles in Rome. Paul has personal experience with this and was passionate about being “right with God”.*

*A huge focus in all of Paul's letters is salvation by grace alone, not works or the law.*

# Letter to the Romans...A *brief discussion*



- *The Book of Romans is a foundational and theologically significant letter in the New Testament, authored by the Apostle Paul around AD 57 during his **third missionary journey**.*
- *Contrary to tradition, the Roman church was not founded by Peter but likely emerged from converts influenced by Paul and those present at Pentecost. Tensions between Jewish and Gentile believers marked the community. Rome was also persecuting Christians*
- *Paul wrote Romans while in Corinth, aiming to unify Jewish and Gentile Christians, explain the gospel's universal scope, and **seek support for his planned mission to Spain** after delivering aid to Jerusalem.*

*Central themes include righteousness, salvation, and the fulfillment of Old Testament promises, emphasizing that the gospel is for both Jews and Gentiles and demonstrates God's faithfulness.*

# How did the Roman Church begin?



 The Fire was lit at Pentecost, then fires began wherever the believers returned home

**Acts 2:** <sup>5</sup> Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup> And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?

<sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?

<sup>9</sup> Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

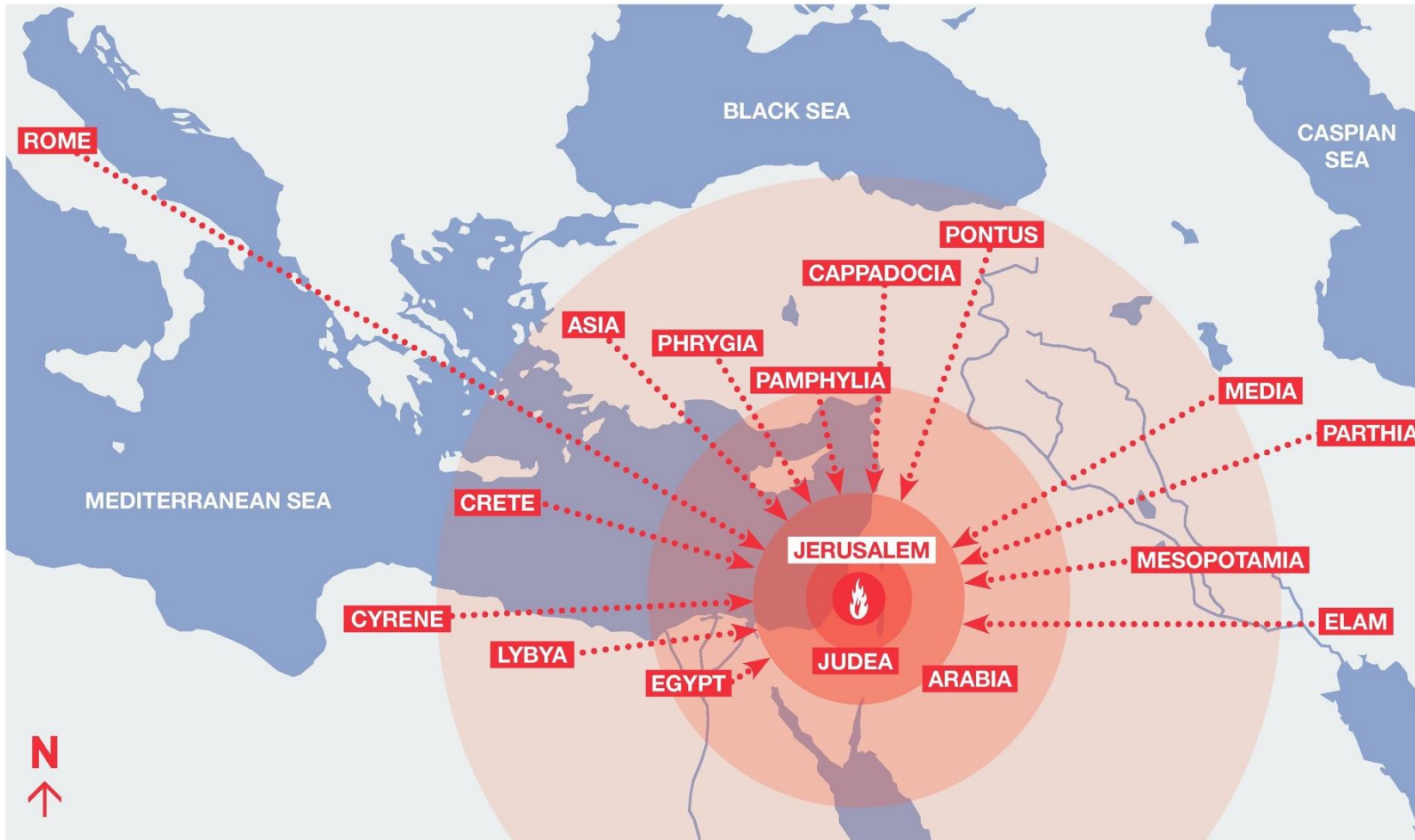
<sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and **visitors from Rome,**

<sup>11</sup> **both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians**—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”

# Countries of Pentecost, Acts Ch 2

## THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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- *Amazing Span of countries that were converted and heard the Gospel from Peter.*
- *The explosion of the Gospel at Pentecost was the beginning of the Spread of the Gospel throughout the world*

*Pentecost and Roman Empire*

# Romans is different that Paul's other letters

- *Paul's other letters are sent to churches that he had started and ministered in, or personal letters like Philemon*
- *This letter is written to a church that he had never been to and had no role in starting*
- *So great is the impact of this letter that copies were made and circulated among the other churches. This gives rise to manuscripts that edited out the personal salutations at the end and changed the placement of the doxology in the original letter.*
- *Let's see for ourselves as we begin our study.*

# Romans Ch 1:7. The Greeting...

*1 Paul, a **servant** of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,*

*2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,*

*3 concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh*

*4 and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,*

*5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,*

*6 including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,*

*7 To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:*

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

# I want you to notice a few things

1 Paul, a **servant** (**doulos**) of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, **set apart** for the gospel of God,

First of all, this whole section is one long sentence (vv1-7), but Paul wants to introduce himself, since he has never been there and was not at Pentecost.

- “A *servant of Christ*” – Paul uses the term **doulos**, which means **bond servant**.

*Doulos is a Greek term sometimes translated as “bondservant,” “servant,” or “slave” in the New Testament. More specifically, doulos means “bond-slave”—literally “**one tied to another**”—and speaks of one who is subject to the will of his or her master.*

*In the New Testament context, the term carries **theological significance** beyond its literal meaning. The apostles used “bond-slave” to express their **absolute subjection and devotion to the Lord Jesus**, and all believers are pictured as being Jesus’ bond-slaves **because they accept His lordship**. **Also, an Honor***

So, Paul describes himself as a bond servant, *plus*  
... “**called to be an apostle**”

*Many of them had probably heard about Paul, but now he makes sure they know that he was **not selected by man**, but by **God Himself**. Paul always was defensive about his calling not being like the other Apostles, but it was still a very personal, individual calling by Christ Himself for a role selected by Christ.*

***For each of us**, we have a calling. It is the plan that God has for us in helping usher in the Kingdom of God. Our callings are different. Last Wed. night, **Connor Frick** made the point that he was called to be a pastor and preach the Gospel, not be a teacher. He did a fine job teaching us. I understand his concern, however, because I am called to be a teacher, not a pastor. They are different callings.*

 *God makes a sovereign decision on the call for each of us, and He gifts us to be able to respond to his calling.*

 *Discuss the Importance of a real calling...*

# Bondservant, Called by God, and...

*“**set apart**” for the gospel of God*

*When Paul was called, He was made different, made holy, and separated for God's use. He was already a Pharisee and Rabbi*

*Being set apart will make all of us different. We are supposed to be different so that when we are looked upon, people see the holiness of God, and a person who is trying desperately to do what is required by a Holy God.*

*Paul was not only unique, but he was **set apart** for the Gospel of God*

*Paul was laying out his qualifications to be able to speak to them in the name of the Lord, to preach the Good News*

# Romans Ch 1:2-4. The Power of Christ

*<sup>2</sup> which he **promised beforehand** through his prophets in the **holy Scriptures**,*

*<sup>3</sup> concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh*

*<sup>4</sup> and **was declared to be the Son of God in power** according to the **Spirit of holiness** *by his resurrection from the dead*, **Jesus Christ our Lord**,*

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The Bible has predicted through the prophets that the Kingdom of God would include the nations, and they would be grafted into the tree of salvation along with the Jews. Paul is a fulfillment of that instrument of the Lord to preach to the Gentiles.

Paul reaffirms his belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and His Deity was confirmed in power by his resurrection from the dead

# What is the task, and who is called to do it?

*<sup>5</sup> through whom **we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,***

*<sup>6</sup> including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,*

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Christ has empowered us with both his grace and calling to bring the nations to faith in Christ, for his name and honor, *including all of us who are called to belong to Christ.*

*Both the Roman church and Paul were called to reach the unbelievers with the message of the Gospel, to bring them all to faith.*

*As it was true for them, it is also true for us...*

***Acts 1:8** tells us, “**we WILL be witnesses**”, will it be a good, faithful witness?*

# Romans Ch 1:7

## *The Letter to us all*

*<sup>7</sup> To all those in Rome who are **loved by God** and **called to be saints**:  
**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.***

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*Paul never wrote this as a general letter to all Christians, but it has become the **best distillation of the Gospel in one place in the Bible and is beloved by all.***

*Paul did what God called him to do, but God had long-lasting plans for his work. **Paul was a seed sower**; this seed has reaped millions of believers since it was written. Let it be the same with us...*

# Next week

*We will pick up where we left off; we will see the pagan world that existed at that time and notice some similarities to our world today. Read the remainder of Romans Ch 1*

➤ *Pray for our Nation and its leaders*

- *Pray for both the Iranian War and the Russia/Ukraine wars to come to an end*
- *Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and Peace for Israel*

➤ *Our State and its Leaders, and the elections to come, for God to give us Godly leaders*

➤ *Our Church, the Pastors and Leaders*

➤ *Pray for the needs of our class members and families*

*Thank God for his mercy and grace for each of us as we struggle with life*

***Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem to come to the world***