

The Book of Romans

The Gospel of God

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁷ For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "BUT THE RIGHTEOUS *man* SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

(Romans 1:16-17)

Paul's Thesis (pt. 1)

- *"I am not ashamed of the gospel"*
 - we will be shamed *for* the gospel and therefore tempted to be ashamed *of* the gospel
 - Christ crucified is a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles (cf. 1 Cor. 1:23)

Paul's Thesis (pt. 1)

- Possible reasons to feel ashamed:
 1. Being thought of as non-intellectual, unscientific and unsophisticated
 2. Fear of offending someone by speaking of sin and judgment
 3. Being thought of as intolerant and judgmental

Paul's Thesis (pt. 1)

- Possible reasons to feel ashamed:
 - "fear of man"* – being controlled by other people's opinions, judgments and approval

Paul's Thesis (pt. 1)

1. The power of God for salvation
 - the gospel proclaimed mediates God's power to deliver people
 - salvation – both an escape from wrath and share of glory; both present and future

Paul's Thesis (pt. 1)

2. To everyone who believes

- universality of the gospel – to everyone; Jew and Gentile alike
- necessity of faith alone – trusting in the person of Christ; the opposite of works