

Romans Refresh

Renewing Gospel-Centrality

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Romans 1:16-17

THEME OF ROMANS

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¹⁶For 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.

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

(Romans 1:16-17)

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Theme of Romans: the Gospel

1. It is the power of God for salvation

- the gospel proclaimed mediates God's power to deliver people from sin and rebellion
- "salvation" is both an escape from wrath and a share in glory; it is both present and future
- this salvation is universally available through faith alone in Christ Jesus

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Theme of Romans: the Gospel

2. It reveals the righteousness of God

➤ Old Testament Usage

- as ruler and judge, God acts to restore His right order (justice) in His good creation
- the focus is on God's saving activity which comes through judgment: "saving justice"
- God's ruling and judging the world include His right to be God; He acts for His own sake

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¹O sing to the LORD a new song,
For He has done wonderful things,
His right hand and His holy arm
have gained the victory for Him.

²The LORD has made known His salvation;
He has revealed His righteousness in the
sight of the nations.

³He has remembered His lovingkindness and
His faithfulness to the house of Israel;
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

(Psalm 98:1-3)

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Theme of Romans: the Gospel

2. It reveals the righteousness of God

- God's saving justice is revealed in the gospel, and is seen and received only by faith
- ultimately, the saving justice of God issues in the "life" given to the one who believes (in Christ)