

Romans Part One: What It Takes to Change the World – Second Week

Turning the World Upside Down

What Motivated Paul to Share the Good News – Romans 1:7-17

Introduction: As the book of Romans opens, Paul expresses his intense desire to visit Rome and communicate the gospel in the capitol city of the empire. Paul was passionate about this in spite of the immense challenges and oppositions he anticipated. As Paul writes, we discern 3 motivations that will encourage us share the good news.

- 1. *FIRST MOTIVATION – The gospel contains the ultimate meaning to life. Romans 1:17***
 - A. The world desperately wants to know the meaning of life and struggles to find it.
 - B. Meaning comes because...the gospel shows us how to reconnect to God. 1:17a
 - C. Meaning comes because...the gospel is received by faith not by works. 1:17b
 - D. Meaning comes because...the gospel leads to a quality of life marked by spiritual power. 1:17c

- 2. *SECOND MOTIVATION – Communicating the gospel is an obligation of all Christ-followers. Romans 1:14-16***
 - A. Paul’s statement – “I am under obligation.” 1:14
 - B. First response – We should be eager to share it. 1:15
 - C. Second response – We should not be ashamed of it. 1:16

- 3. *THIRD MOTIVATION – Communicating the gospel is designed to take place in the context of a servant community. Romans 1:7-13***
 - A. The church in Rome was serving as a community & sharing the good news as a community. 1:7-8
 - B. Paul wanted to equip the Romans to be more effective by providing a spiritual gift to enhance their service and their witness. 1:9-12
 - C. Paul’s conviction is that the gospel has the power to spontaneously “combust” when shared in a serving community. 1:13