

IMPACT

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A Weekly Publication of the Metropolitan Bible Baptist Ekklesia Containing Life-Changing Sunday School Lessons and BMA's Preaching Materials

Our Memory Verse

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.



STRAIGHT FROM THE BELOVED PASTOR'S HEART

BOOK OF ROMANS

Lesson No. 15 PAUL, A SERVANT OF JESUS CHRIST Chapter 1

There is no dignity in closeness with God.

being a servant but Paul chose to be called a servant of Jesus

Christ...a well-known lawyer, a proud politician, a top level

bureaucrat before his conversion would rather be called a servant. "Doulos" in the Greek actually translated "bondslave," means "devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interest."

In this chapter, we shall learn about Paul the servant, the church in Rome and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

MESSAGE

1. Paul, the bondslave (vv.1-6, 14). He is:
 - 1.1. An apostle to the Gentiles (2 Tim. 1:11; Romans 15:16).
 - 1.2. Separated unto the Gospel of God. Set apart for the Gospel (Rom. 1:1).
 - 1.3. Called and set apart by God (vv.2-6). An appeal for **God's people to know that all of us are called by His grace** to serve (v.6).
 - 1.4. A debtor (bound by some duty) to all who do not know God (v.14).
2. The Church in Rome (vv.7-13). She is:
 - 2.1. Called the beloved of God and saints (v.7). The term "*beloved of God*" must have been an expression of

2.2. They have a testimony of faith (v.8) - broadcast all over the known world.

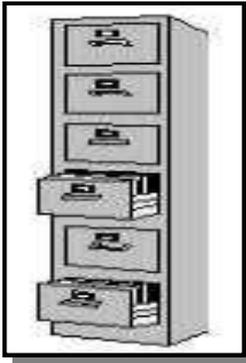
2.3. **They are always in Paul's prayers (v.9)** - a very important church to Paul.

2.4. The church in which Paul has been longing to visit (vv.10-13) -

*To establish them in the faith;
To bear fruits among them; and
To evangelize (v.15).*

Is this not what the ekklesia of the Lord should be? What happened to the ekklesia in Rome later is pathetic and mind-boggling. The Roman Catholic Church became the result of it. We do really wonder why until we read the Seven Churches of the Book of Revelations. This should be a solemn reminder to all of us to continue on and be steadfast. This also makes us realize how powerful Satan is and the world.

3. The Gospel of Jesus Christ (v.16) -
 - 3.1. **The Gospel is the "dynamo" of God for the** conversion of sinners to Christ.
 - 3.2. The Gospel is the single greatest need of everyone to be accepted by God.
 - 3.3. The Gospel is the story of the life of Christ, His death, resurrection, and coming again (1 Cor. 15:1-5).



The BMA

**Dr. Benny M. Abante's
PREACHING MATERIALS**

NOTHING SHALL OUR MOUTH SPEAK
BUT THE BLESSING OF THE WORD
AND THE GLORY OF GOD.



**THROUGH THE BIBLE
IN A YEAR**

CHAPTERS TO READ THIS WEEK:

| | |
|----------|------------------|
| APRIL 17 | HEBREWS 10:32-39 |
| APRIL 18 | PSALM 112 |
| APRIL 19 | MATTHEW 5:11-16 |
| APRIL 20 | PSALM 118:1-14 |
| APRIL 21 | ACTS 1:1-11 |
| APRIL 22 | PSALM 119:97-106 |
| APRIL 23 | 1 KINGS 19:1-8 |

To memorize one (1) verse in every chapter, tokens shall be awarded to those who can recite all memory verses after every book.

Contd. from p. 1

4. Like Paul, we must be bold without shame in preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ (vv.16-17).

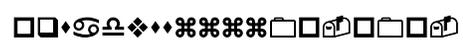
CONCLUSION

Like Paul, let us be servants of God. It is our highest privilege and honor. Humble but bold; friendly but firm; and steadfast and abounding. A bonds slave. What is a bonds slave?

**“He has no will of his own;
He has no wish of his own;
He has no plans of his own;
He has no purpose of his own;
He has no prerogative of his own;
He has lost himself completely
in the service of his Master; and
He has resolved that he must serve Him
unceasingly.”**

Like the ekklesia in Rome, let us have the testimony of faith - an example of the grace of God, preaching the Gospel of our Lord with passion and love and realizing that we have been **“put in trust with the Gospel”** (1 Thessalonians 2:4).

—BMA’s Messages 04.17.16



The person who writes the epistle described (Rom. 1:1): Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ; this is his title of honour, which he glories in, not as the Jewish teachers, Rabbi, Rabbi; but a servant, a more immediate attendant, a steward in the house. Called to be an apostle. Some think he alludes to his old name Saul, which signifies one called for, or enquired after: Christ sought him to make an apostle of him, Acts 9:15. He here builds his authority upon his call; he did not run without sending, as the false apostles did; kletos apostolos—called an apostle, as if this were the name he would be called by, though he acknowledged himself not meet to be called so, 1 Cor. 15:9. Separated to the gospel of God. The Pharisees had their name from separation, because they separated themselves to the study of the law, and might be called *aphorismenoi eis ton nomon*; such a one Paul had formerly been; but now he had changed his studies, was *aphorismenos eis to Euangelion*, a gospel Pharisee, separated by **the counsel of God (Gal. 1:15), separated from his mother's womb**, by an immediate direction of the Spirit, and a regular ordination according to that direction (Acts 13:2, 3), by a dedication of himself to this work. He was an entire devotee to the gospel of God, the gospel which has God for its author, the origin and extraction of it divine and heavenly.

—Matthew Henry