

## "NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL"

(Romans 1:15-17) "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith"

"ashamed" - to have a feeling which prevents a person from doing a thing; embarrassed; to feel guilty.  
"not ashamed" - opposite of ashamed.

"of the gospel of Christ" - The "gospel" is "good news" that <sup>God</sup> sent His Son to provide salvation for us.

(John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9; 1 Cor. 15:1-4)

It's "good news" because the Son of God accomplished what no other could do, it's a heavenly message, and we need what He provided.

"it is the power of God unto salvation" - no man made message has that power.

"salvation" - deliverance now, and eternal deliverance, from the consequence of our sins.

"to every one who believes" - salvation is conditional.

"every one" - available to a world of people (Titus 2:7; 2 Peter 3:9)

"who believes" - not mere mental ascent; not believe "only."

(Romans 1:5 and 16:26) speaks of "obedience to the faith."

(2 Thess. 1:8-10) "... that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ ... "

"for therein is the righteousness of God revealed"

The gospel certainly reveals this attribute of God; also, the "gospel" reveals God's plan for us to be right in His sight.

"revealed from faith to faith" - the source of the gospel is "from" the faithfulness of God, and its purpose is "to" produce faith in us. (see Romans 10:17)

"The just shall live by faith" - those who are "just" with God are given spiritual life as a gift from God when they express their faith to His will by obedient faith.

## SOME WOULD SAY, "PAUL, YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED."

1. **JEWS** - "Shame on you, Paul, for calling Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God." (1 Cor. 1:23).
2. **GREEKS** - "Shame, Paul, we are the intellectuals. Don't preach this foolish message." (1 Cor. 1:25)
3. **ROMANS** - "Shame, Paul, the Roman Empire has the power. Trust Caesar to provide for you."
4. **FAMILY** - "Shame on you, Paul, our son. We didn't bring you up in this new religion. Don't leave us."

CLOSE - (1 Cor. 11:1) "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ."