

December 7/Day 341

Acts 20:1-3

Verses 1-3

- It has been a while since we read from Acts, do you remember what the uproar was? If you don't, how would you find out?
- How long did he spend in Greece?
- Where did he go after that?

Romans 1

Verses 1-6

- Romans is known as the longest of the Pauline epistles. An epistle is a letter and Paul is the author, as evidenced by his signature in verse one.
- What are we told about Paul in this passage?
- What are we told about the gospel?
- What are we told about the recipients of this letter in verse 6?

Verse 7

- To whom is this letter written? What does he call them? What kind of people are they?

Verses 8-15

- What information had Paul heard about the church in Rome? Who else had heard this?
- In what way does he make mention of them? How often?
- Had he yet been to see them?
- Have we seen Paul mention the wise and the foolish before?

Verses 16-17

- You are probably very familiar with these verses. Does it help to understand the context?
- Is salvation only for a select few?
- To whom was salvation offered first? I believe this is why Paul visited the synagogue first in every town that received him.
- How do righteous men live? By the law?

Verses 18-23

- What does it mean to suppress the truth in unrighteousness? Would this be something like denial? Notice how the truth is suppressed.

- Does mankind have an awareness of God? How?
- But what did mankind do with this knowledge?

Verses 24-25

- “Therefore” is like saying *for this reason*. For what reason, referring back to the previous verses, did God give them over to have their way?
- Giving us over to have our way is the essence of God’s wrath.
- Suppressing the truth in unrighteousness led to exchanging the truth for a lie.
- They worshiped the created or the creation rather than the Creator.
- Is there any application for us? Do we do this? In what ways?

Verses 26-27

- Again, for what reason?
- What did God give them over to?
- What is this passage about?

Verses 28-32

- What else did God give them over to?
- With what kinds of behaviors were they filled?
- Of what are those who practice such things worthy?
- Why do you think they would give hearty approval?

Romans 2

Verses 1-11

- If chapter one was dealing with mankind in general in the sense they deny God and are lost, who would these men in chapter two be who pass judgment?
- What were those who judged practicing?
- Notice “practice such things” is repeated. Will those who practice these things escape judgment?
- What characteristic of God leads us to repentance? Would believers do well to remember this when sharing the gospel?
- What other characteristics of God are noted in this passage?
- What were they storing up in verses 5 and 6? Why?
- What repeated phrase is written in verses 9 and 10 and how does this tie to verse 11?

Verses 12-16

- Are those who do not have the law still accountable to the law? Why or why not?

Verses 17-24

- What were these religious men, those who kept the law, doing?
- How did this blaspheme God's name?
- Is there application for us? For the church?

Verses 25-29

- Why is he talking about circumcision again? What point is he making?
- The "letter" represents the law ("letter of the law"), and the contrast is the Spirit.
- Explain circumcision of the heart. Think about circumcision, it requires a cutting. It was a sign of the cutting of covenant and it was exercised in the area closest to the seed. The stone tablets were hard ("hard hearted"). What kind of heart would one have to have in order for it to be circumcised?
- Ezekiel 11:19-20, "And I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them. And I will take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and do them. Then they will be My people, and I shall be their God."

Romans 3

Verses 1-4

- What was the benefit of being a Jew?
- Of what were they entrusted?
- Is God still faithful though not all believe? He answers the question in verse 4.

Verses 5-8

- Is there any such thing as justice if God allowed people to get away sin?

Verses 9-12

- So, are Jews better than Gentiles? Are religious people better than everyone else in the world? Who is under sin?
- How many are righteous? Therefore, if we are righteous (right with God), it is because He made us to become that way.
- Who seeks after God? Therefore, if we seek after God, it is because He put the desire there.
- How many do good? Therefore, if we do good, it is because He put it within us.

Verses 13-20

- What are the throats, tongues, and mouths of mankind like naturally?

- What are their feet and paths like?
- Do they fear (have holy respect for) God?
- Who is under the law? Just some? All?
- How many become justified (declared not guilty) by keeping the law?
- Then, what is the purpose of the law? To define sin.

Verses 21-26

- How many have sinned?
- How many fall short of God's glory?
- What is He to those who have faith in Jesus?

Verses 27-31

- How is man justified?
- Is salvation for the Jews only?
- Does faith make the Law null and void?

See you tomorrow.