

ROMANS
March 8, 2026

II. Paul's concern for the church in Rome

1:8-17

1. First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported ("proclaimed, announced") all over the world. (e.g., Acts 28:11-16; 1 Thessalonians 1:8-9)

a. God, whom I serve ("service, worship") in my spirit in preaching the gospel of His Son, is my witness how constantly I remember ("make mention") you in my prayers at all times.

Romans 12:1; 1 Corinthians 5:14-15; Galatians 2:20 - *How do we serve, worship God?*

b. And I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be open for me to come ("that I will make a prosperous journey") to you. Paul wanted his time with them to be fruitful.

What might people know and say about our faith?

2. I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong —that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.

(1 Thessalonians 3:10; 1 Peter 4:10)

a. I do not want you to be unaware, brothers [and sisters], that I planned many times to come to you in order that I might have a harvest among you (but I have been prevented from doing so until now). Paul had long wanted and planned to go to Rome. (e.g., Acts 19:21; Romans 15:23-28)

b. I am obligated ("a debtor") to both Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish ("unwise"). That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 9:15; 26:15-18)

In our outreach and friendships, what is our goal?

3. I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone [who] believes, first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

a. For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last. (Romans 3:21-26; Galatians 3:1-9)

b. Just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." (Habakkuk 2:4; James 2:14-26)

So, how about this gospel?!