

## Promised By His Prophets

(Rom 1:2)

- Read introduction: Rom 1:1-15
- Paul, after introducing himself and his subject, at once brings in his method and authority in all he says: it is “according to the scriptures”
- I. The parenthesis of verse 2
  - A) A parenthesis is used to include additional information without losing the main thought or statement
    - 1) Paul’s subject is going to be the Lord Jesus Christ and His gospel
      - i. But nearly as important to him to bring in at this point is that this is no “new message” nor one that could not be substantiated, as his method will be to prove everything by the scriptures
    - 2) The gospel is the great message of all time (Gen 3:15), and the bible is one
    - 3) This great event was promised and has taken place just exactly as it was prophesied
  - B) Take away the parenthesis and the emphasis is on the fact that the gospel was prophesied, but with the parenthesis the emphasis is on the Son
    - 1) John 15:26 & 16:13-14- The Spirit will always testify about and glorify the Son
  - C) Paul deliberately puts this statement in here, even in the midst of his introducing the Son, probably because of the accusations that were always being brought against him by the Jews (Jews prominent in church in Rome)
    - 1) Acts 21:18-22&28- Jewish accusations about Paul
      - i. The same things are always used by them in their attacks against the gospel
        - a) Matt 15:1-6- Accusations against the Lord about “traditions”
        - b) Mark 14:58- Accusations against the Lord about temple
        - c) Acts 6:14- Accusations against apostles about both
  - D) What Paul will prove by this epistle is that his message was not some new theory or even some new religion, it was the message which was from the beginning
  - E) Considering this, it makes sense why this man always tried to start at the synagogue
- II. “Which He had promised afore” (**WHAT** God promised)
  - A) Acts 13:23- “According to His promise”
    - 1) This was always Paul’s method
      - i. Acts 17:1-3- “As his manner was...”

- a) Thus in Romans what we have is a synopsis of Paul’s sermons or “talking points,” and “outline” of his preaching and all according to his “manner”
  - b) Far from the gospel being just a declaration of a few principles or even 2 verses (1 Cor 15:3-4), the gospel is the teaching of the promises of God and their fulfillment in and through the Lord Jesus Christ
    - 1. Acts 18:7-11- Paul teaching 18 months
    - 2. Acts 19:8-10- Paul taught daily for years
    - 3. Acts 20:7- Paul “preached until midnight”
- B) 2 Cor 1:20- All God’s promises have their fulfillment in Christ, this is the gospel
- C) Gal 3:16- GOD promised Abraham and Paul’s message is that those promises of HIS are made to all Abraham’s seed spiritually, not physically
- 1) Rom 15:8-9- Christ confirmed the promises made by the Father to both Jew and Gentile
  - 2) These promises all started in Gen 3:15, and what we have in the Old Testament is a steady stream of more information regarding that promise or that “mustard seed” of promise
    - i. His lineage
      - a) Gen 9:26- Through Shem
      - b) Gen 12:1-3- Through Abraham (Gen 15:1-6, 17:1-8, 22:15-18)
      - c) Gen 26:1-5- Through Isaac
      - d) Gen 28:1-4- Through Jacob
      - e) Gen 49:10- Through Judah
      - f) 2 Sam 7:8-17- Through David
    - ii. His birth
      - a) Isa 7:14- Born of a virgin
      - b) Mic 5:2- Born in Bethlehem
      - c) Dan 9:24-27- Born at “due time”
    - iii. His forerunner
      - a) Isa 40:3-5- Voice crying in wilderness
      - b) Mal 3:1- His messenger
    - iv. His ministry
      - a) Deut 18:15-19- He is a Prophet
      - b) Psa 110:4- He is a Priest
      - c) Dan 2:44-45- He is a King
        - 1. Isa 42:1-7- King of not only Jews but also Gentiles
          - (a) Isa 49:6, Isa 60:3, Psa 22:27, Psa 86:9, Dan 7:14, Hos 2:23)
    - v. His Rejection and crucifixion

- a) Zech 9:9- His entry into Jerusalem
  - b) Psa 41:9- His betrayal
  - c) Zech 11:12- His price
  - d) Isa 53- His rejection and offering
  - e) Psa 22- His crucifixion
  - f) Zech 12:10- His side pierced
  - vi. His resurrection
    - a) Psa 16:10-11- His resurrection
    - b) Psa 68:18- His ascension
  - vii. These are just some, and in addition to this there is all the indirect prophecies of the types and shadows and characters of the Old Testament
    - a) John 5:39- Scriptures testify of Christ
- III. “By His prophets” (**HOW** God promised)
- A) Amos 3:7- God’s method
    - 1) Prov 25:2- Glory of God revealed in this manner
  - B) “His” prophets as opposed to Satan’s
    - 1) Jer 14:14- False prophets not sent by the Lord
    - 2) Lam 2:14- Vain and foolish prophets
    - 3) Matt 7:15- Beware of false prophets
    - 4) 2 Pet 2:1- False teachers
  - C) “His” Prophets are chosen by God and sent with a commission
    - 1) Num 12:6- Lord makes Himself known to the prophets
    - 2) Deut 13:1-10- Test the prophets
      - i. A true prophet was someone taken hold of by God, in order to declare God’s promises and the results of rejecting Him
    - 3) 2 Pet 1:15-21- God’s method in prophecy
      - i. Revelation and Inspiration (God’s prophets had both together)
        - a) Revelation- Making known certain facts
        - b) Inspiration- Controlling the expression of those facts
          - 1. No prophet of God spoke his own opinion, or prognosticated; he didn’t view current circumstances and forecast his findings, he wasn’t simply a “discerner of the times” nor did he “reason through things”
          - 2. 1 Pet 1:10-12- The prophets did not even fully understand their own message
            - (a) This is because the prophet always spoke of spiritual things to be fulfilled in Christ, even though they may have had a contemporary link

- D) Prophet- Hebrew word means “person under influence of divine spirit”; Greek means a “before-speaker”
- 1) Higher Critics went to work on the meaning of this word to rid themselves of the problem of prophecy, they say it means “forth-teller”
    - i. The prophets of God were “forth-tellers” but they also were “fore-tellers”
      - a) Deut 13:2- “If that thing come to pass”
        1. 2 Pet 1:19- “More sure word of prophecy”
          - (a) Peter is saying we not only heard God speak at the Mount of Transfiguration, but we have something for more verifiable and certain, his prophecies have all been fulfilled to the letter,  
**THUS:**  
**(1) Rom 1:2- Paul is making this the foundation of all that he is going to say**
- The prophets not only spoke, but many also wrote the things God revealed to them, and this is “the holy scriptures” (take this up next time)