

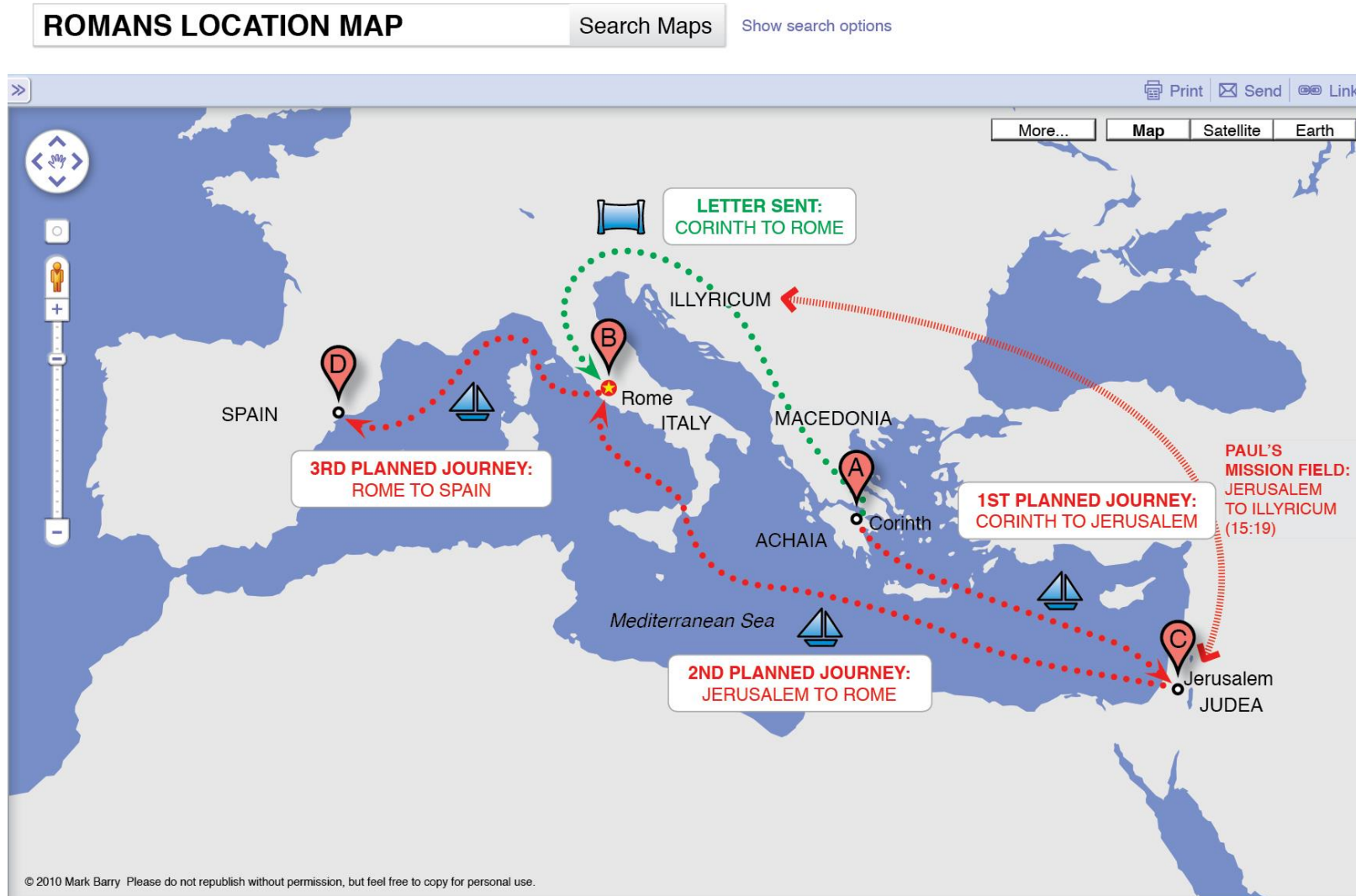
Paul's Salutation
Romans 1:1-7

From last week . . .

1. The author, location, date, and purpose

- Author:** the apostle Paul
- Where written:** Corinth
- Written for:** the Church in Rome (contains both Jews and Gentiles)
- Date:** 57 A.D. (Paul's three missionary trips 47-57 A.D.)
- Purpose:** to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ:
 - ¹⁵ So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. (Romans 1:15)

Paul writes Letter to the Romans (57 A.D.)



Paul's Salutation (Romans 1:1-4)

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,

3 concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh

4 and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Paul's Salutation (Romans 1:5-7)

⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,

⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷ To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Entering the Rapids . . .

- A single sentence crammed with theological details!
- “Paul’s letter to the Romans is his masterpiece. It covers many different topics from many different angles, bringing them all together into a fast-moving and compelling line of thought. Reading it sometimes feels like being swept along in a small boat on a swirling, bubbling river.”

--N. T. Wright, *Paul for Everyone*, p. xii

“Systematic Theology”

- An attempt to identify important doctrines found in the Bible and explain how they relate to each other to create a unified set of beliefs.

“Conventions” of Modern Letters/e-mails

- “Salutation” [“Dear” or “Hello” plus the identity of the receiver of the message]
- Compliment [e.g. “It was nice meeting you”]
- Or Small-talk [Establish rapport: e.g. the weather in WI]

- The content [The information in the message]

- “Valediction” [“Sincerely” plus the identity of the sender of the message]

Paul's Salutation: The Framework

- **1** Paul (1:1) [The Sender]
- **7** To all those in Rome (1:7a) [The Recipient]
- Grace to you and peace (1:7b) [The Greeting]

Paul's Salutation: The Participants

- **1 Paul,** [The Sender]
a servant of Christ Jesus,
called to be an apostle,
set apart for the gospel of God, (1:1)
- ⁷ To all those in Rome,** [The Recipient]
who are loved by God,
and called to be saints: (1:7a)
- Grace to you and peace [The Greeting]
from **God our Father**
and **the Lord Jesus Christ.**(1:7b)

Paul's Salutation: The Gospel

- For **the gospel of God**,
 - ² which he promised beforehand
 - through his prophets
 - in the holy Scriptures,
 - ³ concerning his Son,
 - who was descended from David
 - according to the flesh
 - ⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God
 - in power**
 - according to the Spirit of holiness
 - by his resurrection from the dead,
 - Jesus Christ
 - our Lord,
- [God's righteousness/trustworthiness]
[Deliverers of God's revelation(s)]
[Inspired Word of God]
[Fulfillment of prophesy]
[Jesus as fully human]
[Jesus as fully divine]
[The power of the Holy Spirit]
[Resurrected thru the power of the H.S.]
[Jesus as King; we as servants/"slaves"]

God's promises spoken through the prophets in holy Scripture

- But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
 who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
 one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
 from ancient days. (Micah 5:2)

The Messiah, descended from David

- ⁵ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land (Jeremiah 23:5).

The Power of the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:9-13)

- ⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”
- ¹² **The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.** ¹³ And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan.

The Power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11)

- ¹¹ The Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. If the same Holy Spirit lives in you, He will give life to your bodies in the same way. (Romans 8:11)
- “The minute you decide to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord, **the power of the Holy Spirit** comes into your life. It’s the power of the resurrection—the same thing that raised Jesus from the dead.”
--Timothy Keller, “Knowing the Power of His Resurrection”

The Power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 1:16)

- ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is **the power of God for salvation** to everyone who believes,

The Power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8)

- Jesus to His disciples when He ascended into heaven:
- ⁸ But **you will receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

Paul's Salutation: Jesus Christ

- **Jesus Christ our Lord,**

⁵ through whom we have received
grace and
apostleship

to bring about the obedience
of faith

for the sake of his name

among all the nations,

⁶ including you

who are called

to belong to Jesus Christ,

[We as beneficiaries in God's covenant]

[Unmerited favor; contrast to "works"]

[Sent out as messengers]

[Servanthood rather than pride]

[Righteousness by faith, not works]

[Our purpose: to glorify God]

[Go to the ends of the earth]

[And nearby]

[God's sovereignty and plans for us]

["Slaves" to the Lord]

Paul's Salutation: The Romans

- **7 To all those in Rome**

who are loved by God

[Attributes of God: Love]

and called to be saints:

[God's sovereignty]

- Grace to you and peace

[Greek greeting: *Chaire* ("Rejoice!)]

[Jewish greeting: *Shalom* ("Peace!)]

[Unwarranted favor leading to *shalom*]

from God our Father

[Elohim: the Creator of the universe]

and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[The Redeemer of fallen humanity]

A silhouette of two hands holding a glowing cross against a sunset background. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with the fingers spread and the palms facing each other. A bright, glowing cross is centered between the hands, emitting a strong light that creates a lens flare effect. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.

Let Us Pray