**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Book that Changed the World |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Romans 1:1-7 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2039 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. Books have been written that have changed the world.
      1. In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler wrote about his Nazi philosophies, and the result of that book was a world war with its devastation and the Holocaust, in which six million Jews were murdered.
      2. Hitler had read Nietzsche’s *Man and Superman*, from which Hitler got his ideas.
      3. Karl Marx wrote his *Communist Manifesto* and enslaved much of the world.
         1. Not only were millions enslaved, but millions have also died because of the ideas in this book.
      4. Charles Darwin wrote *The Origin of the Species*, in which he said that we are the product of blind evolutionary forces.
         1. Men have read that book and have tried to make a monkey out of themselves ever since.
      5. But no book has ever influenced or impacted the world like the book of Romans.
         1. The book of Romans has been called the Constitution of Christianity.
         2. Martin Luther studied the book of Romans and was born again, and thus began the Protestant Reformation in 1517 that changed the world.
            1. Romans 1:17
         3. John Wesley heard a Bible study on the book of Romans and was saved.
            1. Out of that meeting at Aldersgate where John Wesley heard the truth of God, the Methodist church was born and the Wesleyan Revival began.
   2. The book of Romans is a letter written from Corinth to the church at Rome.
      1. Rome ruled the world at that time.
         1. The Roman Empire was at its height with its intellectualism, its military, its laws, its roads and its heroes.
      2. The Apostle Paul wrote this letter to the church at Corinth.
         1. They were about to turn Rome upside down.
   3. The book of Romans has been called the foundation of our faith.
      1. If we will study it, we will have personal revival.
      2. If we study it together in our churches, we will have corporate revival.
2. the table of contents
   1. Any book has a table of contents.
   2. What is the book Romans about? What is its table of contents?
      1. Chapters 1 – 3 deal with sin.
         1. These chapters explain what is wrong.
         2. The emphasis is upon God’s holiness as compared to our sin.
      2. Chapters 4 – 5 tell us about salvation.
         1. Whereas the first three chapters tell us the problem, these chapters tell us the answer.
      3. Chapters 6 – 8 tell us about sanctification.
         1. The emphasis here is how to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
      4. Chapters 9 – 11 deal with God’s sovereignty.
         1. They show us that the sovereign God is ruling the world and the nations.
         2. He is in charge.
      5. Chapters 12 – 16 deal with service.
3. the author of the book (romans 1:1)
   1. God the Holy Spirit is the ultimate author.
   2. The human author is the Apostle Paul.
      1. Romans 1:1
      2. In Bible times, the author of a letter signed his name at the beginning of the letter.
   3. Paul’s name used to be Saul.
      1. He was named after a king in Israel.
         1. King Saul was head and shoulders above everyone else.
         2. He was a handsome but self-willed and carnal man.
         3. The very name “Saul” reeks with pride.
      2. This Saul, who was now called Paul, was also a man who had been filled with pride.
   4. Paul was an unusual man.
      1. He was a Jew.
         1. He was one of the chosen.
      2. Paul was also a Roman citizen.
         1. He was a free man.
      3. He was well educated.
      4. He was world traveled.
      5. He was fluent in many languages.
      6. He had been sent to Jerusalem to be the personal scholar of Gamaliel, who was known as the greatest teacher in the world at that time.
         1. He had been taught by Gamaliel.
      7. He was a Pharisee of the Pharisees.
         1. He was a leader of the leaders.
      8. He had been praised and prized.
         1. He was a big shot with a big shot name of Saul.
   5. Paul was a saved man.
      1. He changed his name to Paul.
         1. The name Paul means “little, small.”
      2. This man who had been so bold and arrogant met the Lord Jesus and became a new creature in Christ.
         1. 2 Corinthians 5:17
      3. Ephesians 3:8
      4. 1 Corinthians 15:9
      5. He had been so arrogant and proud, but one of the first things that true salvation does is that it humbles us.
         1. We can never be too small for God to use, but we may be too big for Him to use.
         2. Nothing will keep us out of the devil’s reach more than genuine humility.
      6. Paul was changed.
   6. Paul was a surrendered man.
      1. Romans 1:1
         1. He calls himself a servant.
         2. The word “servant” here literally means “bond slave.”
            1. In Bible times, if a man owed someone money but could not pay the debt, he was then in servitude to that man.

He was sold into slavery and became the property of the one to whom he owed money.

* + - * 1. There was a law in Israel that after seven years, the bond slave had to be set free.

He was set free in the Year of Jubilee.

* + - * 1. But there would sometimes be slaves whose master was so kind, loving, good and providing, that the slave did not want to be free.

The slave wanted to stay because he loved his master.

* + - * 1. If the bond slave chose to stay with his master, then he would verbally declare that he loved his master, they would pierce his ear, and he would now be a bond slave of his own choice.

Exodus 21:5-6

* + - 1. Paul is stating that he loves his Master and is a bond slave of the Lord Jesus.
    1. Some people say that they don’t want to be slaves to Christ.
       1. Everybody is a slave to something or someone.
       2. A person who is in bondage to sin is in the worst kind of slavery.
          1. An unsaved man says that he wants to be free; but as he seeks freedom, he goes into the worst bondage of all, which is the bondage of sin.
    2. When a person comes to the Lord Jesus, he receives glorious freedom.
       1. John 8:36
    3. Being a bond slave to the Lord Jesus does not mean that it’s His will instead of my will, but it means that His will is now my will.
       1. Psalm 37:4
          1. If our desire is to be rich, then our delight is in money.
          2. If our desire is to be famous, then our delight is in pride.
          3. We should delight in the will of God.
       2. As Christians, we should want what God wants.
  1. Paul was a sent man.
     1. Romans 1:1
        1. “Called to be an apostle” literally means “a called apostle.”
     2. Paul didn’t choose to get into the ministry; God chose him.
     3. 1 Corinthians 11:1
     4. The word “apostle” means “one who has been sent.”
     5. Every Christian has been sent.
        1. Romans 1:6
        2. We’re not all called to be the same thing, but we’re all part of getting out the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
  2. Paul was a separated man.
     1. Romans 1:1
     2. Christians are to be separated.
        1. We’re to be different; we’re to stand out.
           1. We’re a sheep fold.
        2. In many churches today, people don’t talk about being separate because they are afraid of offending someone.
           1. So, rather than being in a sheep fold, we’ve become a zoo.
     3. 2 Corinthians 6:17
     4. In Romans 1, the phrase “separated unto” does not mean “separation from.”
        1. It is not a negative separation but a positive separation.
        2. Paul had already lived a separate life as a Pharisee.
           1. The very word “Pharisee” implies separation.
           2. But Paul had not been separated unto the Gospel.

Many people today think that they live a separated Christian life because they don’t do this and they don’t do that.

But if our separation is only that we quit doing certain things, then all we become is a proud, bitter Pharisee.

* + - 1. As a Pharisee, Paul was already separated “from;” but now as a Christian, he is separated “to.”
    1. The Greek word “separated” in Romans 1:1 is the word from which we get our word “horizon;” it is two words that mean “from off the horizon.”
       1. When our center changes, our horizon changes.
       2. When Jesus Christ is the center of our life, then our entire horizon has changed.
    2. Paul was separated unto the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
       1. When Christ is the center of our life, then we will be separated unto the Gospel of Christ.

1. the hero of the book (romans 1:1-4)
   1. Romans 1:1-4
      1. This book is written about the Lord Jesus Christ.
         1. He is the center of Paul’s horizon.
   2. The Lord Jesus is the promised one.
      1. Romans 1:2
         1. Paul is talking about the Old Testament when he refers to the “Holy Scriptures.”
      2. One of the ways that we know that Jesus Christ is the Messiah is fulfilled prophecy.
         1. There is no way that these prophecies could have been fulfilled in the Lord Jesus by accident.
      3. After Saul (now Paul) was saved, he opened the Old Testament and saw Jesus on every page.
         1. John 5:39
   3. The Lord Jesus is the provided one.
      1. Romans 1:3-4
         1. Speaking of His humanity, Jesus was a descendent of David, a rightful heir to Israel’s throne.
         2. In these verses, we see His absolute humanity and His absolute deity.
      2. Jesus was not a divine man or a human God.
         1. Jesus was and is the God-man.
      3. It is as much a heresy to deny His humanity as it is to deny His deity.
      4. He was born of a virgin into this world.
   4. The Lord Jesus is the powerful one.
      1. Romans 1:4
         1. The Lord Jesus walked out of that grave.
      2. We know that Jesus rose from the dead because the Bible says that He showed Himself alive by many infallible proofs.
         1. Acts 1:3
         2. Scholars have said that there is more proof that Jesus Christ rose from the dead than there is that Julius Caesar lived.
      3. Paul, who was an intellectual genius, said with no doubts, stammer or apology, that the Lord Jesus walked out of the grave.
         1. Paul went everywhere preaching the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
   5. Jesus Christ is the pure one.
      1. Romans 1:4
         1. The Lord Jesus was totally and absolutely sinless in His humanity and His deity.
      2. Hebrews 7:26
2. the subject of the book (romans 1:1)
   1. The subject is the Gospel.
      1. Romans 1:1
         1. The Gospel did not originate with a denomination or a church; it is the Gospel of God’s Son.
         2. The subject of the Gospel is the Lord Jesus Christ.
   2. Galatians 1:12
   3. Galatians 1:9
      1. Don’t tamper with the Gospel.
   4. Galatians 1:6-7
      1. Paul said that there were some who were preaching a synthetic or false gospel.
         1. This false gospel leads to a synthetic salvation, which leads to a very real Hell.
   5. The source of the Gospel is God.
      1. Romans 1:1, 3
         1. The subject of the Gospel is the Lord Jesus Christ.
      2. This is not a Gospel that mentions Jesus or alludes to Jesus; Jesus is the Gospel.
         1. The reason we have some churches today that are filled with worldliness is because they have religion, but they’ve never met Jesus Christ.
      3. Christianity is not a creed, a code or a cause; it is Christ.
         1. You can take Buddha out of Buddhism and still have Buddhism.
         2. You can take Confucius out of Confucianism and still have Confucianism.
         3. But you cannot take Jesus Christ out of Christianity and still have Christianity.
   6. The supply of the Gospel is grace.
      1. Romans 1:5
      2. It is by God’s grace that we’re saved.
3. CONCLUSION
   1. Are you saved?
      1. This question is not asking if you are a church member, but are you saved?
   2. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   3. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16