FOR THE SAKE OF HIS NAME

Romans 1:1–7

Key Verse: 1:5

1. What does Paul mean by introducing himself as “a servant of Christ Jesus”? (1a; 1Co7:22; Eph6:6; Php1:20,21) Think about the meaning of “called” (1:6,7; 8:28,30; 11:29), “an apostle” (11:13; Gal1:1; Eph2:20; 3:5; 4:11; 1Th2:6), and “set apart” (Ac13:2; Gal1:15). How can we see ourselves in Christ the way he did?
2. What does Paul say first about “the gospel” he preaches? (2; cf. 3:21; 1Co15:3,4; Lk24:44–46; Gal3:8) Why does he stress that he is proclaiming the gospel God had promised beforehand?
3. Who is the gospel’s main focus? (3,4) What contrasts about Jesus are in these verses, and what do they mean? How was he “declared to be” God’s Son? (4; cf. Ac13:32,33) What does “in power” mean to us? (16; cf. 6:4) Why does Paul conclude with “Jesus Christ our Lord”? (4b; 10:9)
4. Read verse 5. What is this “grace” that “we received”? (3:24; 11:5,6; Eph2:8,9) In what sense do we all share in this “apostleship”? (2Co5:18–20) What is Paul’s main task? (5b; cf. 15:18; 16:26b; Mt28:20) Why do we all need to express our faith through our obedience? (6:16,17; Jn14:15; Lk6:46) What is Paul’s, and our, ultimate goal? (5b)
5. How does Paul view those to whom he is writing, and what can we learn from him here? (6,7a) How does he bless them? (7b)