

ROMANS

The Heart of the Matter

Romans: the Heart of the Matter

Overview

“A Simple Letter”

Lamplighters Women’s Bible Study
Sept. 9, 2015



Welcome

Welcome back and welcome home!

Small groups—next week

Register—see Shannon

www.lamplightersbiblestudy.com

Introductions: Shannon Knisely, Lynn Adams,

Julie Ann Hartman, Deborah Robertson

AND

JON WASSON



Lecture Outline

General Comments

The Importance of Romans

Who?

What?

Where, When, and to Whom?

Historical Context

Why?

Outline of the Letter



General Comments

1. It's a letter—meant to be read out loud



General Comments

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Attention spans:

2000 12 seconds

2014 8 seconds

. . .



Readability Table

Sentence Length

Ease of Reading

11

easy

14

fairly easy

17

standard

21

fairly difficult

25

difficult

29+

very difficult

. . .



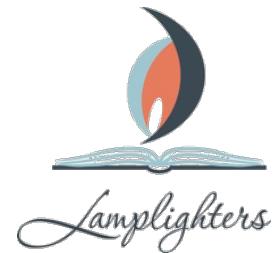
Paul has a sentence of

256 words!



General Comments

1. It's a letter—meant to be read out loud
2. God's Glory and Grace—the heart of the matter



Importance

St. Augustine

Martin Luther

John Wesley

“God’s Word is performative.”



Reporter Questions

Who? Paul, the apostle



Reporter Questions

Who? Paul, the apostle

What? A letter



Reporter Questions

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| Who? | Paul, the apostle |
| What? | A letter |
| Where? | Corinth |
| When? | Spring of A.D. 57 |
| To whom? | The Christians in Rome |



Why?

Paul's purpose was:

theological

missional

deeply personal

“Paul believed that the gospel of Jesus Christ held the ultimate solution to the problems of the world because it had provided the solution to the problems in his own life.”



Outline of the Letter to the Romans

- | | |
|--------------------|------------|
| 1. What to Believe | Rom. 1-11 |
| 2. How to Behave | Rom. 12-16 |

