

All Saints

Petersham

*All Sinners, All Forgiven, All Saints*

# *Romans*

Study 2

“The Gospel of the Righteousness  
of God”

*Romans 1: 8-18*

7. Where is the place to turn to see God's righteousness, when people call God's character into question?

## Romans Study 2

### Romans 1:8-18

### “The Gospel of the Righteousness of God”

1. For what things in this world do people call God's character into question? How do people justify their doubt of God righteousness?

This section of Romans contains the theme verses of the letter, namely verses 16 & 17. Here Paul declares that his gospel reveals (at last) God's righteousness. Before we get to this point, let us see how Paul leads up to this point.

2. Note repeated ideas or phrases in 1:8-15 that are already contained in 1:1-7?
3. Paul thanks God for the Romans. What are the specifics of this prayer?  
(How does this contrast with the common idea that one's faith is a private matter?)

4. Why does Paul want to visit the Romans? See also 15:23f
- a) What does verse 12 imply as to what our own intentions can be when we meet with others Christians at church or Bible study etc...?
  - b) Why does Paul want to preach the gospel to them?
  - c) What does he mean, verse 13, by 'I want to have a harvest among you'?

5. Why would Paul have cause to be ashamed of the Gospel (16)?

Read Habakkuk 1:2-2:4

- a) What was the substance of Habakkuk's complaint to God (Hab 1:2-4)? How does his complaint call God's righteousness into question?
- b) What is God's reply (Hab 1:5-11)?

c) Does this satisfy Habakkuk (Hab 1:12-2:1)?

d) What is God's second reply to Habakkuk and what is said about faith and righteousness (Hab 2:2-4f)?

6. How does the gospel reveal God's righteousness (the answer is filled out in the rest of Romans)?

[Note recent New Testament studies have preferred to understand verse 17 to speak of the righteousness *of* God (ie: God's own righteousness), rather than a righteousness *from* God. This is the case since the original Greek expression '*the righteousness of God*' can be understood to either way, and the Habakkuk context fits the latter understanding better.]