

Sola Fide

Do some people have more faith?

Read the following passage together – Romans 1:1-17

Get Started

1. What is one place that you have never seen but would like to visit? Why?

About the Passage

1. According to the passage, why does Paul want to visit Rome?
2. Reading between the lines, what do you suspect are some of the challenges facing the church in Rome at that time?
3. Note all the 'I' statements in the passage. What do they reveal about Paul?
4. Paul quotes from the Hebrew Scriptures in verse 17. Where does that quote come from? Do you see any differences between the original occurrence and the way Paul uses it?

Sermon Talking Points

1. Why do you think Martin Luther felt so unworthy? What did he do in his attempt to gain worthiness?
2. How would you define faith?
3. Faith has been attacked and ridiculed for centuries. Mark Twain remarked, "faith is believing in what ain't so." Atheist H. L. Mencken asserted, "faith is an illogical belief in the occurrence of the improbable." Karl Marx termed faith in religion "...the opium of the people." One prominent American businessman has stated that religious faith "is for losers." Many misconceptions also exist today about real faith. One dictionary definition states that faith is "a firm belief in something for which there is no proof". How would you respond to some of these skeptics when it comes to your understanding of faith?
4. Read Matthew 8:5-13. What made the Centurion's faith 'great'? Read Matthew 8:23-17. What made the disciples' faith 'little'?

Apply This

1. Is there a time in your life when you have felt full of faith? What factors contributed to that?
2. What inspires you to greater faith?