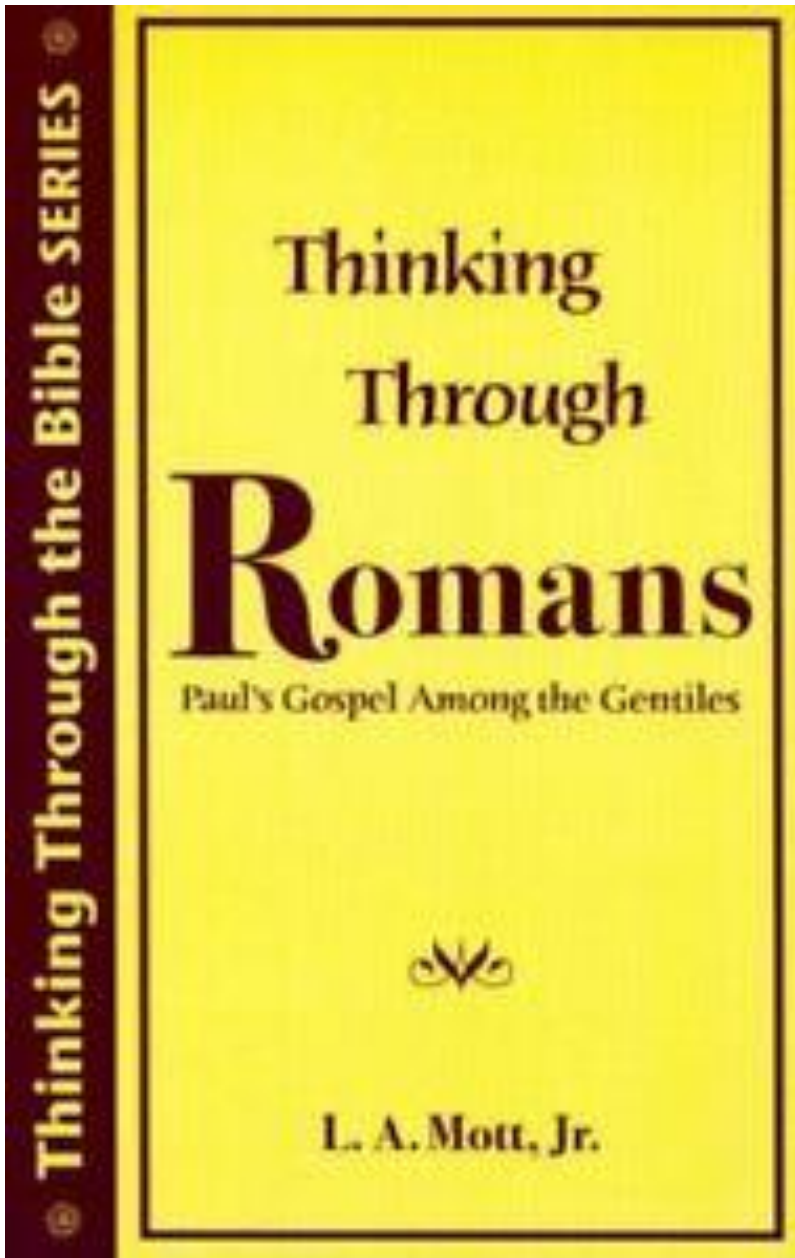


ISBN 978097648739

- Additional information

- Lecture notes also available
- Audible
- Paperback
- Hardback
- Kindle



# Romans

Background Information

# Background information

- a. Date of writing and setting
- b. The congregations in Rome
- c. Paul's intent regarding the Roman saints

# Date of writing and setting

- Written in the mid- to late 50's
- Setting
  - Romans 1:8-15
  - Romans 15:14-33
  - In general,
    - Paul has completed his 3-year ministry in Ephesus
    - On his way to Jerusalem carrying relief to the saints but ultimately planning to go to Rome and Spain, 15:22-29
    - Passed through Macedonia, he spent 3 months in Corinth in Greece (Acts 20:1-3) where he wrote Romans (Cf. Romans 16 for evidence)



# Date of writing and setting

- Paul has intended to go to Rome for a long time (1:8-15; 15:14-33; Acts 19:21)
  - While in Corinth, he had worked with Aquila and Priscilla who were refugees from Rome (Acts 18:2f)
  - They had returned to Rome before Romans was written (16:3-5)
  - They would have prepared the Romans for Paul's arrival
- Paul has never been to Rome at this point

# The congregations at Rome

- Not established through the known work of any apostle, but by converts (cf. Acts 2:10)
- Though Paul hasn't been there, he knows many of them from other places, 16:1-6
- Travel was easy throughout the Roman empire
- Christian travelers would have found each other in Rome, associated, though perhaps in multiple groups mentioned in 16:5 and 16:14

# The congregations at Rome

- Probably largely Gentile
  - Paul counted them as a part of his work among the Gentiles (1:5-7)
  - Paul desires to have some fruit among them as among the Gentiles generally 1:13-15
  - Paul justifies his bold writing on the ground of his commission to the Gentiles, 1:14-16



# Paul's intent regarding the Roman saints

- Why does Paul write the fullest explanation of the gospel to congregations he had never visited, nor planted?
  - He needed a new base of operations, 15:24
    - He has been misrepresented by opponents, 3:7
    - As his base, they would need a full understanding of his teaching
    - As he had laid out the gospel he taught to Jerusalem, Galatians 2:22, so now in Rome
  - Perhaps we will discover a broader purpose as we read