

- (3) Believers and the Synagogue
- (4) Use of dialectic
- (5) Suggestions of a fourth journey

3. Some Summary Notes: loosely delivered

D. Survey Notes on the Pauline Epistles

I have debated how to study these and have finally decided to take them in the order in which they are found in the New Testament and in Mr. Putnam's notes. The other way, obviously, is to take them in the groupings as given earlier in this syllabus and we will probably review that as an excursus when we have finished our series. Some we will put together for time's and convenience sake and others we will treat as individual books.

1. Survey Notes on the Book of Romans:

a. An overview:

Romans is quoted by the Apostolic Fathers (early Christian leaders and authors) soon after the turn of the first century AD, though not by name. It was listed by the Heretic Marcion as part of his canon c. AD 140 and was included in the Muratorian Canon c. AD 180.

The tradition that Paul wrote Romans has never been seriously challenged. Some references within the letter give hints to its date and place of origin. Paul mentions his upcoming trip to Palestine in 15:25-28. Luke says that Paul waited at Corinth for three months for the full amount of the collection to come in; this was the final stay of his third journey. Three months would have given Paul the time that he would have needed for the reflection and careful organization so evident in his presentation of the gospel in chapters 1-8.

If it is true that Romans was written from Corinth near the end of Paul's stay there, then he composed it in the spring of AD 55. A Corinthian origin would explain his commendation of Phoebe in 16:1-2, for she was from Cenchræ, Corinth's port (commendations usually referred to the bearer of the particular letter). It is therefore reasonable to assume that she carried this epistle to Rome from Corinth.

Paul appears to have been writing to a mixed church of both Jews and Gentiles. He speaks specifically to Jews in 2:17-29; 3:21-31; 6:1-7:6; 14:1-15:3 and to Gentiles in 1:1-15; 11-13; 15:5-6, 14-16. The origin of this church has long been a mystery. It was probably begun by some of those Jews and God-fearing Gentiles who had believed after hearing Peter's sermon at