ROMANS 1:16

"I am not ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes:

first for the Jew, then for the Gentile."

UNASHAMED: OUR DESPERATE NEED

Rom. 1:18-3:20

THE IMMORAL PAGAN NEED 1:18FF

- 1:18-20 Wrath of God is coming against man's wickedness. What may be known about God is plain to them. Men are w/o excuse
- 1:24, 26, 28 "God gave them over" meaning 'handed over for sentencing' God's passive wrath No uncertain terms re: natural and unnatural Further wickedness described in 28-32

Note what appears to be a downward progression which is often evident: first sexual impurity, then shameful lusts and finally depraved minds)

See also Ps. 1; James 1:13-15

Vs. 32 How much do we contribute to the sin problem (and inviting God's wrath) by our approval of that which God's calls rebellion?

THE MORALIST'S NEED 2:1-16

1-2 Man's judgment is suspect; God's judgment is based on truth.

Vs. 5 Man's stubbornness and unrepentant heart is 'storing up wrath' against himself

9 "There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil," Jew and Gentile alike

THE JEWS' NEED 2:17 – 3:8

Vss. 17-24 Practice what you preach! "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you" (See also Matt. 18:5-7)

Vss. 25-29 Paul condemns outward adherence to the Law that is not undergirded by a circumcision of the heart. (Matt 23) "A man is a Jew if he is one inwardly." Circumcised hearts receives God's praise. (Matt. 25:23)

3:1-8

There is no room for doing evil that good may result.

Paul will address this further in Chapter 6 and we will take it up then

The need is universal. A clear view of the heart of man apart from Christ (vss. 10-18)

Vs. 19 "...and the whole world held accountable to God."

Vs. 23 "...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"

Have you agreed with God that 'all' means you too?

Have you acknowledged your deep need for a Savior?

Have you surrendered to Christ, our only Hope?