

Romans

Romans introduces Paul's gospel to believers in Rome whom he has not yet visited, while preparing for a journey through Jerusalem and then westward.



Interpretive reconstruction. The room and moment are reconstructed; the letter names Tertius as the person who wrote down the message and added his own greeting.

Date · Confidence: Inferred

c. AD 56–57

The letter does not state its writing city. Brown's comparison of chronology systems places the same Corinthian setting slightly earlier or later; nearby Cenchreae enters the evidence through Phoebe and is not independently identified as the place of composition.

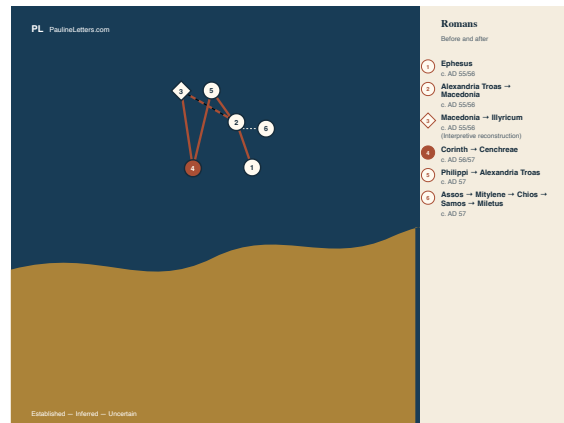
Place · Confidence: Inferred

Corinth

The letter does not state its writing city. Brown's comparison of chronology systems places the same Corinthian setting slightly earlier or later; nearby Cenchreae enters the evidence through Phoebe and is not independently identified as the place of composition.

Before and after

- 1 **c. AD 55/56** The silversmiths riot over Artemis; Paul leaves for Macedonia.
Ephesus · Established
- 2 **c. AD 55/56** A door opens at Troas; on to Macedonia; Titus brings good news; writes 2 Corinthians — defending his ministry against the intruding rivals he brands "false apostles" and ironically calls the "super-apostles", and glorying in weakness.
Alexandria Troas → Macedonia · Established
- 3 **c. AD 55/56** Encourages Macedonia; organizes the collection; ministry as far as Illyricum.
Macedonia → Illyricum · Inferred
- 4 **c. AD 56/57** Three months in Greece; writes Romans; a plot changes his route home.
Corinth → Cenchreae · Established
- 5 **c. AD 57** Sails from Philippi; at Troas, Eutychus falls and is restored.
Philippi → Alexandria Troas · Established
- 6 **c. AD 57** Down the coast, hurrying past Ephesus to reach Jerusalem by Pentecost.
Assos → Mitylene → Chios → Samos → Miletus · Established



What the text establishes

Established

Romans introduces Paul's gospel to believers in Rome whom he has not yet visited, while preparing for a journey through Jerusalem and then westward.

The audience is a mixed network of Jewish and Gentile believers in Rome, addressed across many named relationships and house-church connections.

Leading reconstruction

In the Pauline Letters chronology, Corinth around AD 56–57 is the leading reconstruction, near the close of Paul's Aegean work.

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Other credible readings

Some reconstructions place Romans slightly earlier or later within Paul's Corinthian stay while retaining the pre-Jerusalem setting.

A ten-minute teaching plan

1. Romans introduces Paul's gospel to believers in Rome whom he has not yet visited, while preparing for a journey through Jerusalem and then westward.
2. Romans falls after the Macedonian and Corinthian phases of the collection and before Paul's departure toward Jerusalem and the later Roman custody narrated in Acts.
3. In the Pauline Letters chronology, Corinth around AD 56–57 is the leading reconstruction, near the close of Paul's Aegean work.
4. Some reconstructions place Romans slightly earlier or later within Paul's Corinthian stay while retaining the pre-Jerusalem setting.

Primary texts

Romans through Philemon, World English Bible (public domain).

Acts 7–28, World English Bible (public domain).

Sources

Raymond E. Brown, An Introduction to the New Testament (Doubleday, 1997). — Chapter 24, "Letter to the Romans," "General Analysis of the Message"
Brown surveys Romans' argument and pastoral occasion.

Jerome Murphy-O'Connor, Paul: A Critical Life (Oxford University Press, 1996). — Chapter 1, "The Chronological Framework," "The Evidence from the Pauline Letters" and "The Evidence from the Acts of the Apostles"

Murphy-O'Connor explains why chronology must weigh the letters and Acts without treating either as a complete timetable.

Scripture references only; no protected Scripture body is included.

<https://paulineletters.com/explore/romans>

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