

Pastor Scott Archer 04.012.2020* Central Congregational Church "For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors" www.ccclamesa.com

> God's Good News! Romans 1:1-7 Easter Sunday

Central Passage

Romans 1:1–7 (NLT) — **1** This letter is from Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News. **2** God promised this Good News long ago through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. **3** The Good News is about his Son. In his earthly life he was born into King David's family line, **4** and he was shown to be the Son of God when he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit. He is Jesus Christ our Lord. **5** Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority as apostles to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name. **6** And you are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ. **7** I am writing to all of you in Rome who are loved by God and are called to be his own holy people. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

Central Thought: Easter is the celebration of the Good News of God's sin forgiving, evil evicting, creation restoring plan that was conceived before creation, cultivated through the history of the Jewish people, announced by Jesus and actualized and made available to all by his resurrected life!

God's Good News Is...

✤ Not plan "B."

1 Peter 1:20 (NIV) — **20** He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

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- ✤ About the authenticity and authority of Jesus.
 - Son of Man: A real person of royal, Jewish lineage who lived a sinless (truly human) life and is worthy of our trust.

Hebrews 4:15 (*NLT*) — 15 *This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.*

• Son of God: The true God-Man, demonstrated by his physical resurrection, who is worthy of our allegiance.

John 1:14 (NIV) — 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Hebrews 7:16 (*NLT*) — 16 *Jesus became a priest, not by meeting the physical requirement of belonging to the tribe of Levi, but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed.*

✤ A Call to faith and obedience toward a new humanity.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT) — 17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Matthew 5:16 (NLT) — *16* In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

✤ Good News - For Everyone!

Romans 1:16 (NLT) — 16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.

John 3:16–17 (NLT) — 16 "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. 17 God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

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