Romans 1:5-17 What's so special about the gospel?

Paul, ⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. ⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. ⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world.⁹ God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you

¹⁰ in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you. ¹¹ I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—¹² that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith.

¹³ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

¹⁴ I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. ¹⁵ That is why I am so eager to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome. ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: Romans: Life through faith in Jesus

first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. ¹⁷ For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

"What's so special about the gospel?"

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1. The gospel causes us to respond with faith and obedience. (1:5)

<u>Luke 7:9</u>

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel."

<u>Hebrews 11:6</u>

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

<u>(NLT) John 14:15, 21</u>

¹⁵ "If you love me, obey my commandments.... ²¹ Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them."

2. We are called by Grace. (1:5-7)

Ephesians 2:6-9

⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:6-9

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

3. The gospel is given to both the wise and the foolish. (1:14 - 16)

<u>John 9:30-34</u>

³⁰ The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. ³² Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." Romans: Life through faith in Jesus

<u>John 9:30-34</u>

³⁴ To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

<u>Gal. 3:28</u>

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

4. We are made righteous through faith. (1:17)

<u>Matt.5:20</u>

For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

<u>ls. 64:6</u>

[Isaiah said,] All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;

5. We don't have to be ashamed of the gospel. (1:16)

<u>Mark 8:38</u>

[Jesus said,] "If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."