

THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS

Writer: Tertius (16.22), following the 'methods' of First Century writing practice.

1.1-17 (abb': 1-7/8-12/13-17)

Opening Greetings and Introduction to the Theme:

'The Righteousness of God and the Gospel of Salvation'

Section 1: (64 verses)	1.18-3.20	All are Unrighteous, under the Law or not;
(19) A	1.18-23/ <u>24-32</u> / <u>2.1-4</u>	God's wrath, man has no excuse; man's sins; he has no excuse
(20) B	2.5-10/11-16/17-24	Wrath stored up; God: no favouritism; Jews and Law
(25) B'	2.25-29/ <u>3.1-8</u> / <u>9-20</u>	Circumcision: Law and Spirit; advantage of the Jews; conclusion
Section 2: (80 verses)	3.21-6.23	Righteousness, through Faith and Grace, not the Law
(36) A	3.21-31/ <u>4.1-15</u> / <u>16-25</u>	A righteousness from God; Abraham and blessedness; by faith
(19) B	5.1-5/6-11/12-19	Justified through faith: peace...; Christ died...; Adam and Christ
(25) B'	5.20-21/ <u>6.1-14</u> / <u>15-23</u>	Law and Sin; go on sinning? No; shall we sin? No.
Section C: (64 verses)	7.1-8.39	The Righteous Life, under the Law of the Spirit
(25) A	<u>7.1-3</u> / <u>4-6</u> / <u>7-25</u>	'... <u>brothers</u> ', the law; '... <u>brothers</u> ', died to law; 'What then.. law sin?'
(11) B	8.1-4/5-7/8-11 (aba')	No condemnation: the law of the Spirit; fixed on...; controlled by...
(28) A'	<u>8.12-17</u> / <u>18-30</u> / <u>31-39</u>	'... <u>brothers</u> ', by the Spirit; creation, adopted; 'What then.?' conquerors
Section 2': (90 verses)	9.1-11.36	Israel's Rejection of Righteousness through Faith; pursuing Righteousness still through the Law
(33) A	9.1-13/ <u>14-29</u> / <u>30-33</u>	Sorrow for Israel; but mercy, God chose this for them; Not for Jews? '
(21) B	<u>10.1-4</u> / <u>5-13</u> / <u>14-21</u>	' <u>Brothers</u> ', they did not submit; though they heard
(36) B'	11.1-6/ <u>7-24</u> / <u>25-36</u>	Not rejected; Gentiles grafted; ' <u>Brothers</u> ...', Israel will be saved
Section 1': (91 verses)	12.1-15.33	Righteous Living; Love fulfils the Law
(28) A	<u>12.1-8</u> / <u>9-21</u> / <u>13.1-7</u>	'... <u>brothers</u> ', spiritual response; love and good; submit to authorities
(30) B	13.8-14/14.1-12/13-23	Love, for the day is near, law fulfilled; faith differences; do not judge
(33) B'	15.1-13/ <u>14-21</u> / <u>22-33</u>	Please neighbour; ' <u>brothers</u> ...', Paul's service; Paul's travel plans
16.1-23 (abb': 16.1-10/11-16/ <u>17-23</u>)		Closing Greetings

Notes:

Where 'A' signifies the presence of a lower level ABB'/abb' formation (likewise also B and B'); where ABB' is a three-part progression, where 'A' is introductory, 'B' is the first development and 'B'' is the second and completing development. All the 'parts' (1.1-7,8-12,13-17,18-23...) are abb' formations.

Underlined verse references: these represent significantly repeated openings to parts.

Parsing and rhetorical analysis demonstrate that the text we have is one whole document basically in its original form (compare Second Century, 'shorter'/'shortened' versions): the only exception to this is that 16.25-27 (an abb' piece) appears to have been added later. It is neither supported by structural considerations, nor by the basic textual witnesses.

I write elsewhere that I think it is possible that Paul was influenced, for his choice of structure, by the five-part chiasm of the Pentateuch. This work, then, is his representation of 'the New Law'.