

SUNDAY - July 26, 2026

UNASHAMED - Romans 1:2-7 - Of First Importance

SERMON SUMMARY:

Romans 1:2-7 presents Jesus as the central focus of all Scripture and the fulfillment of God's promises. The Old Testament is revealed as a unified story that points to Christ through prophecy, symbolic figures, and God's redemptive plan. Jesus alone fulfills what Adam, Abraham, Moses, David, the priesthood, the sacrificial system, and Israel itself could not. As both fully God and fully man, His divine identity is ultimately confirmed by His resurrection, which validates God's promises, affirms the authority of Scripture, and gives believers confident hope.

Paul concludes that the gospel produces the "obedience of faith," a transformed life that flows from genuine trust in Christ rather than fear, legalism, or outward rule-keeping. True faith reshapes the heart so that obedience becomes the natural fruit of love for God. The result is a people increasingly conformed to Christ, marked by peace, joy, sacrificial love, and the assurance that they are fully accepted by God's grace.

SCRIPTURE:

Romans 1:2-7, Ephesians 1:10, Genesis 6, Psalm 16, Psalm 22, Genesis 1, Colossians 1, Hebrews 1, Romans 5, Isaiah 42:1, Luke 9:35, John 10:30, Matthew 12, 1 Corinthians 15, Matthew 27, Romans 10:9, Matthew 28:19-20

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. According to these verses, what two key aspects of Jesus' identity are highlighted?
2. What is the stated result or purpose of receiving grace and apostleship?
3. How are the recipients of this letter described in verse 7?
4. What Old Testament figure is specifically mentioned in relation to Jesus' human lineage?
5. The phrase "obedience of faith" seems to combine two ideas that are sometimes seen as separate. What might this phrase mean, and how do faith and obedience work together?
6. The resurrection is given as the declaration or proof of Jesus' Sonship. Why is the resurrection such a pivotal event for validating everything else about Jesus?
7. The Old Testament is described as being about God's promises beforehand through His prophets. What does it mean for the entire Old Testament to be pointing toward Jesus, rather than just being a collection of laws and stories?
8. If Jesus is both the Son of God and a descendant of David, what does this combination of divinity and humanity mean for His role as a Savior?
9. Obedience that comes from faith is described as a natural outflow from a changed heart, not a forced rule. Is there an area of your life where your obedience feels more like a burdensome rule you follow out of duty rather than a joyful response? What would it look for that obedience to be fueled by love and trust instead?
10. The resurrection is presented as the historical proof that anchors our faith. When you face doubt or difficulty, how does remembering the reality of the resurrection specifically change your perspective or provide hope?
11. Reading the Old Testament can sometimes feel confusing or disconnected. How could looking for how each story, person, or law points to Jesus change the way you read the Bible this week?
12. The gospel has the power to bring about the "obedience of faith" among all the nations. Who is one person in your life who does not yet know this gospel? What is a simple step you can take this week to engage them in a conversation about Jesus?
13. We are called to belong to Jesus Christ. What does it mean on a daily basis to live as someone who belongs to Him, rather than belonging to yourself or the world's expectations?

14. The sermon described a transformation where our core "wanter" is changed. What is one desire in your heart that you know is not from God, and what is one practical way you can rely on His grace to reshape that desire this week?