

A hand holding a quill pen is the central focus, set against a background of aged parchment. The parchment is covered with faint, ghostly cursive text, likely representing the text of Paul's letter to the Romans. The lighting is warm and directional, highlighting the texture of the parchment and the details of the hand and quill.

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE Romans

Overview - Ch 1

- Greeting - 1:1-7
- Purpose - 1:8-15
- Theme 1: 16-18
- The Failure/Fall 1:19-32

Not ashamed

- Why would someone be ashamed?
 - Romans were not about the crucified!
 - Jews were not looking for crucified.
- Power of God (16)
 - Jew first – not more deserving, promise!
 - Note: “also to the Greek”? Not Roman

The Main Thought 16-18a

- Revelation x2:

- Righteousness of God

- Wrath of God

- Gospel = power of God for salvation

- “mighty arm of God rescuing the world” **G**

Righteousness of God

- What is it? *dikaíosune*

- Attribute – does what He should!

- Reveals His nature, heart

- Integrity, purity of life, correctness

- We are not right, faith opens the way

- ‘from faith to faith’ new way of life!

What is Faith?

- Relationship in God thru Jesus, HS
 - Mental Assent – agreeing with Word
 - Commitment To – dependence
 - Follow Through – the change!
- This is not Law...
- Just *dikaïos* lives by/in faith

Faith's work

- God says: I give you; the heart answers: I accept, such is faith... it brings nothing, but takes what God gives. Godet
- Righteousness = free pardon of sins, regeneration, restoration of life by & because of God's reconciliation. Calvin

The other revelation...

- Paul leaves this thought till 3:21
- Wrath against all sin – present tense!
 - Those not being like God!
 - Wicked, wrong doers, evil...
 - Their state is explored fully with reasons

The Failure

- Suppress the truth – hold back/down
 - What is known of God, evident
 - Creation – invisible attributes, effects!
 - Eternal power, divine nature – clear!
 - Thru His creation; seen understood!
 - No excuse! (20)

Evil response

- They knew! (21)

- No honor or give thanks! No response...

- Futile and foolish (heart and head)

- Darkness - Wise? Fools!(22)

- What has man's wisdom accomplished?

- Exchange? God for birds, animals, bugs...

God gave them over #1

- You reject, God gives you your choice!
 - Lusts of hearts, impurity (24)
 - Bodies dishonored
 - Exchanged truth for lies
 - Worship creature, not Creator...
 - You are going to serve something!