

# PAULINE EPISTLE

- Paul Continued His Third Missionary Journey
- The Book of Romans
- Sincere Questions From Bibles Students
- The Origin Of Chapter And Verse Division Of The Bible
- The History Of The Origin To Where We Are Today
- Importance Of Chapters And Verses
- Why Are The Books Of The Bible Placed In A Particular Order Or Sequence?
- School Of Thought For The Placements
- The Arrangement Of Pauline Epistles
- The Book Of Romans

# THE BOOK OF ROMANS

## SINCERE QUESTIONS FROM BIBLE STUDENTS

- From our understanding so far, the book of Romans is the Sixth epistle of Paul, why was it placed first in our English version of the bible?
  - ❖ The Galatians was written 17 Years After His Conversion
  - ❖ 1Thessalonians was Written About 19 Years After His Conversion
  - ❖ 2 Thessalonians was Written 19years Plus after his conversion
  - ❖ 1 Corinthians was written 22 years after his conversion
  - ❖ 2 Corinthians was written 22 years plus after his conversion
  - ❖ Romans was written 24 years after his conversion
- What brought about the English version arrangement as we have today?
- Was Paul's original epistles written in Chapters and Verses as we have today?

# THE ORIGIN OF CHAPTER AND VERSE DIVISION OF THE BIBLE

In the Original text of the books of the Bible, there are no such things as chapters and verses division

The Greek manuscript  
Of the book of Romans



The English Edition  
of the book of Romans



- Each book of the bible was written without any break from the beginning to the end.
- It was divided into Chapters and Verses as we can see for convenience

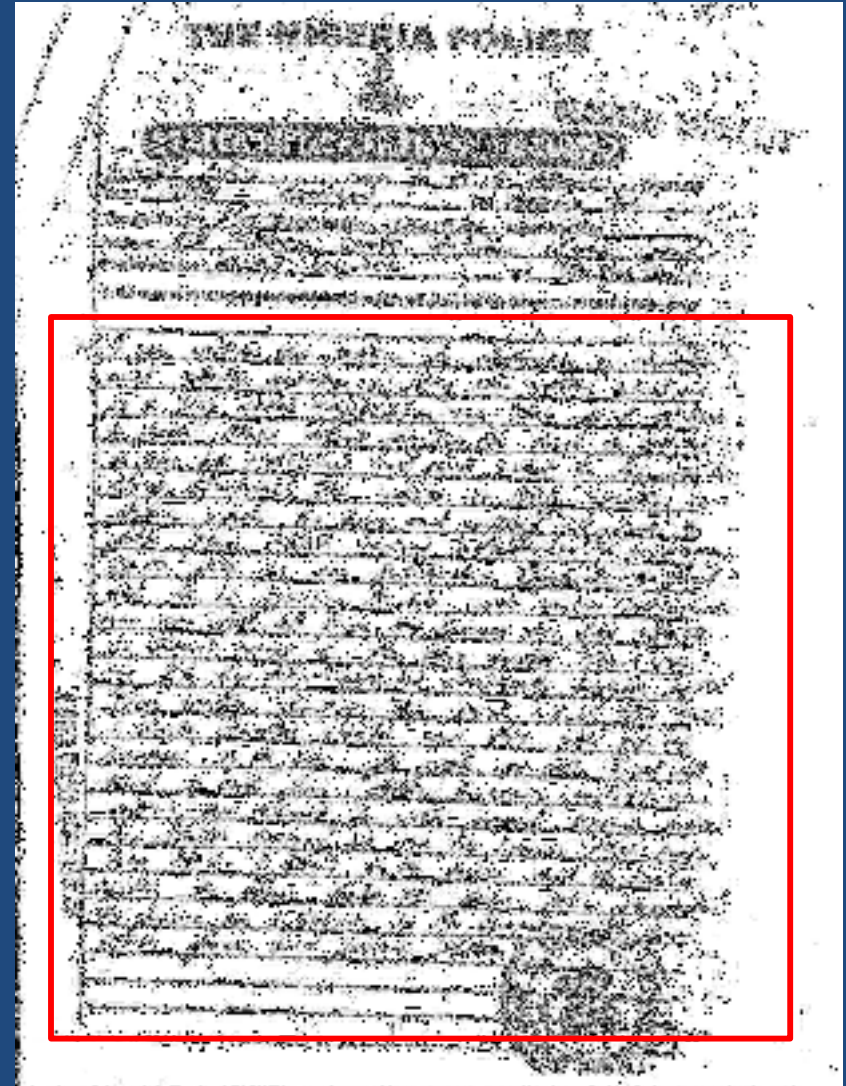


# COMPARING THE GREEK MANUSCRIPT WITH THE NIGERIAN POLICE STATEMENT

The Greek manuscript  
Of the book of Romans



Nigerian Police Statement



## THE HISTORY TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY

- In the fifth century, the biblical translator Jerome of Stridon who translated the Old Testament into Latin divided the Scriptures into short portions, or passages called Pericope
- In the year A.D 1227 Stephen Langton divided the Bible into CHAPTERS. At that time he was a professor in the university of Paris. Later he became the Archbishop of Canterbury
- The Wycliff English Bible of 1382 was the first Bible to use CHAPTER PATTERN
- In A.D 1448, the Jewish Rabbi Nathan divided the Old Testament into VERSES
- Robert Stephanus a French printer was the first to divide the New Testament of the Bible into VERSES using the work of Nathan for a direction
- The first English Bible to have both CHAPTERS and VERSES division was the Geneva Bible published around 1560

# WHY ARE THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE PLACED IN A PARTICULAR ORDER OR SEQUENCE?

## ➤ OLD TESTAMENT:

- ❖ The Thirty-Nine books of the Old Testament are not placed in the order in which they were written.
- ❖ According to the protestant order, the books of the Old Testament are divided along a TOPICAL arrangement. They are divided into five sections. And this is for the sake of convenience and proper understanding.

## SECTIONS:

- Law → Genesis through Deuteronomy
  - History → Joshua through Esther
  - Poetry → Job through Songs of Solomon
  - Major Prophets
  - Minor Prophets
- Isaiah through Malachi

- Take note that the terms, “Major Prophets” and “Minor Prophets” are derived from the size of their writings and has nothing to do with their importance. The Major prophets has longer writings than the Minor Prophet.

# IMPORTANCE OF CHAPTERS AND VERSES

- Convenient for reference and quotation
- Easy to find certain statements and accounts

## Example:

It is much easier to find “**John chapter 3 verse 16**”  
than it is to find “**for God so loved the world.....**”

**Example 2:** In the Nigeria Law, the court always cites the Nigeria Constitution which is made easy to be referenced using the sections and subsection for a particular law to be enforced

If the sections and subsections were not divided, it won't be easy to locate where a particular law was stated

# THE NEW TESTAMENT

- Also, the Twenty-seven books of the New Testament are not placed in the order in which they were written.
- When the books were written on individual scrolls, their sequence did not matter. Those scrolls were kept in a capsa.(box) When the book form of things was invented in the second century A.D., the order or sequence became important.

## SECTION:

- Gospel
- Acts
- Pauline Epistles
- Universal letters
- Revelation



# SCHOOL OF THOUGHT FOR THE PLACEMENTS

## ➤ THE GOSPELS: **Matthew**, Mark, **Luke** and **John**.

- This Traditional order of placement is based upon the way they are found in the majority of manuscripts of the New Testament and they believed this was the order it was written.
  - In some manuscripts, the order is Matthew, John, Mark and Luke. Reasons being that the first two are the Apostles among the four gospel writer
- **Note:** There is no “divine” order to the placement of the four gospel. You can print your own Bible and make Luke or John gospel the first, you have not sinned.

# SCHOOL OF THOUGHT FOR THE PLACEMENTS

- **THE BOOK OF ACTS:** Traditionally, the book of Acts is the transitional book from the gospel to the New Testament letters.
- The Codex Sinaiticus and the Codex Fuldensis one of the oldest Greek manuscript of the New Testament places the book of Acts after the letters of Paul.
- It all shows that there is no divine order or sequence. It was done for proper and easy understanding.

# THE ARRANGEMENT OF PAULINE EPISTTTLES

- The present arrangement of the Pauline epistles is not based upon when they were written. It is seemingly based on their size outside the book of Hebrew
- The book of Romans is the longest letter Paul wrote to the churches, while Thessalonians is the shortest
- **Note:** The only exception to this school of thought is that the book of Ephesians is slightly longer in verse than Galatians but they are both Six chapters.
- The book of Timothy is the longest letter Paul wrote to an individual, while Philemon is the shortest

# THE ARRANGEMENT OF PAULINE EPISTTTLES

## LETTER TO THE CHURCHES

Romans:	Sixteen Chapters	
1corinthians:	Sixteen Chapters	
2 Corinthians:	Thirteen Chapters	
Galatians:	Six Chapters	—————→ 149 verses
Ephesians:	Six Chapters	—————→ 155 Verses
Philippians:	Four Chapters	
Colossians :	Four Chapters	
1 Thessalonians:	Five Chapters	
2 Thessalonians:	Three Chapters	



## LETTER TO INDIVIDUALS

1 Timothy: Six Chapters

2 Timothy : Four Chapters

Titus: Three Chapters

Philemon: One Chapter

**Note:** From the above evidence, we can conclude that the books of the Bible, as found in our printed English version, are not arranged in a Divine order or in the year it was written, but rather placed or arranged in a LOGICAL order for better understanding.

The book of Genesis and Revelation, should be in their present position. Genesis must be the first book because it records the beginning of all created things. Also, the book of Revelation should stand as last because it gives the end of all things.

# THE BOOK OF ROMANS

- Paul wrote the book of Romans. Rom. 1:1
  - In all his epistles, he has an introductory pattern which scholars sees as his signature.
  - Example: 1 Cor. 1:1 , Philippians 1:1
  
- Paul was presently in Corinth when he wrote the Book of Romans and gave them his itinerary
  - Whensoever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you Rom. 15:24
  - Now I go to Jerusalem to minister unto the saints Rom 15:25-26
  - I have desired to visit you “these many years” Rom 15:23

# THE BOOK OF ROMANS

- Take note that Paul had never visited Rome by the time he was written to them
  - This shows he wasn't the one who planted this Church
- The book of Romans is different from other epistles we have studied in that those other letters were written to settle issues.
  - The book of Galatians: Firstly Doctrinal Issues
  - The book Thessalonians: Firstly, answering questions about the return of Christ
  - The book of Corinthians: Firstly, division among the brethren

**WE CONTINUE NEXT WEEK**