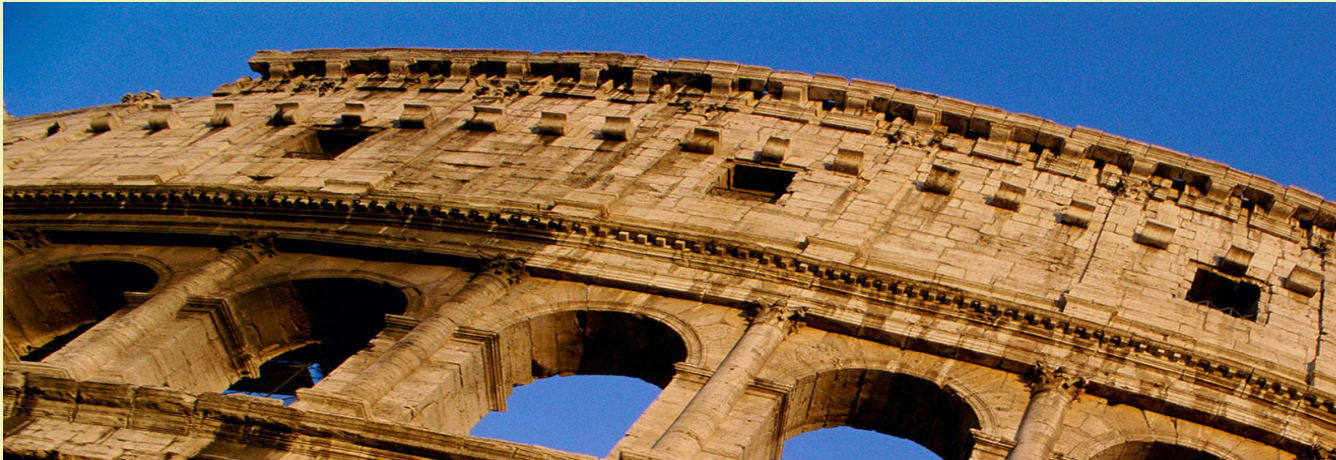




Paul's Epistle to the Romans

- Romans 1
- The Righteousness of God revealed in Wrath

Romans: Burden of Teaching



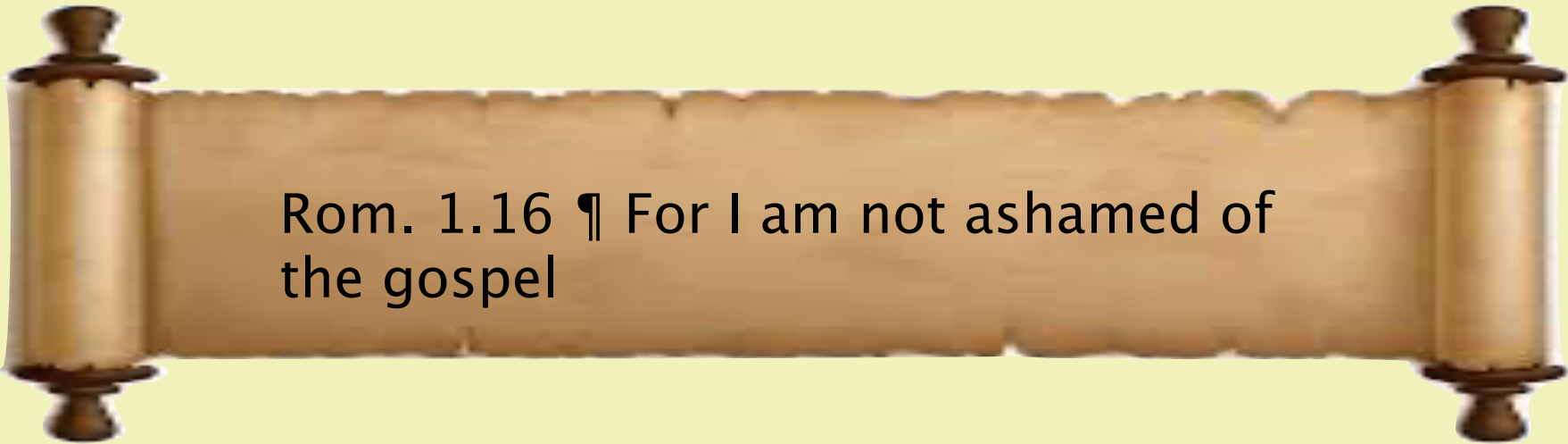
- Three overall burdens are behind Paul's epistle to the Romans
 1. The joining of both Jews and Greeks in one church necessitated defining their salvation "in Christ" in ways transcending both their former Jewish religion and the Gentile's Graeco-Roman culture
 2. Paul used the sharp two-edged sword of the Living Word to separate "soul and spirit" and reveal the deepest spiritual way of holiness as the work of the cross nullifies sinful flesh and builds the inner spirit life
 3. The "mystery" of why the Jews had rejected their Messiah while the Gentiles so abundantly accepted Him must be explained as a part of God's larger predestined plan in Romans 9-11

Romans - Paul's Testimony

Paul now begins his epistle by revealing its theme: the righteousness of God in Christ

Rom. 1.16 He starts with a strong statement for which he has received great opposition both by Jews and Greeks: "I am not ashamed of the gospel....

- Why are Christians ashamed of the gospel?
- Why would Timothy be tempted to be ashamed? How can this apply to our lives? (2 Tim 1.8)
- In Mark 8.38, in what specific way would a disciple reveal he is ashamed?



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Romans 1.16: Not Ashamed

For we are ashamed to boast of the kind of wisdom we have, or of our knowledge, or of our cleverness, or of our accomplishments.

For we know that the kind of wisdom we have is foolishness in God's sight, just as the things of the world are foolishness in God's sight.

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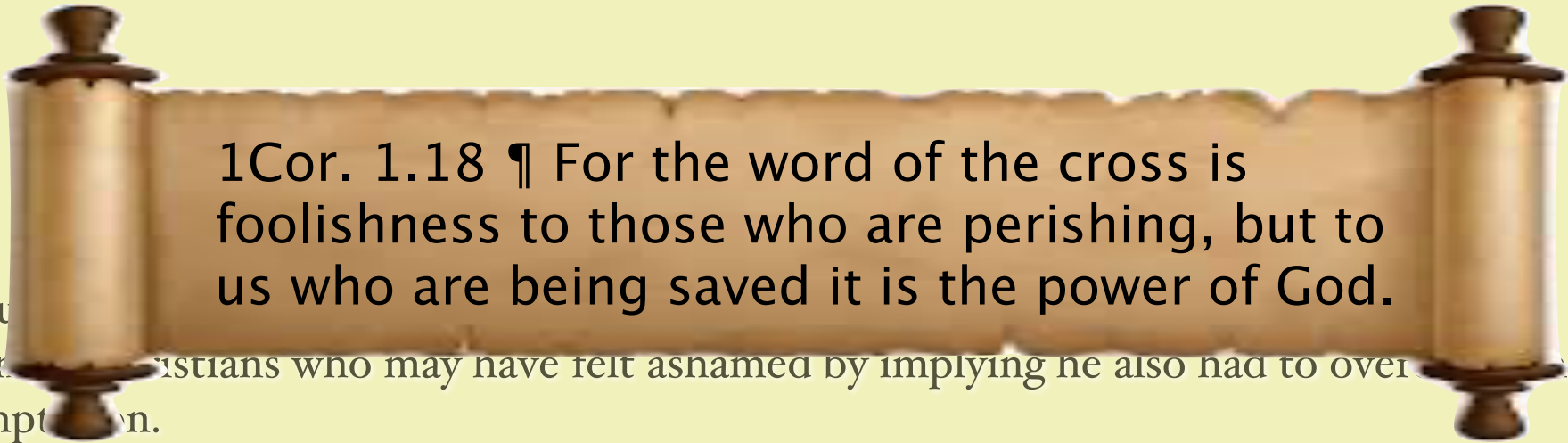
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 6. The gospel offends the sinner because it demands repentance, confession of sin and submission to a “Lord” to save them



1Cor. 1.18 ¶ For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

- Paul wrote this to the Romans who may have felt ashamed by implying he also had to overcome temptation.

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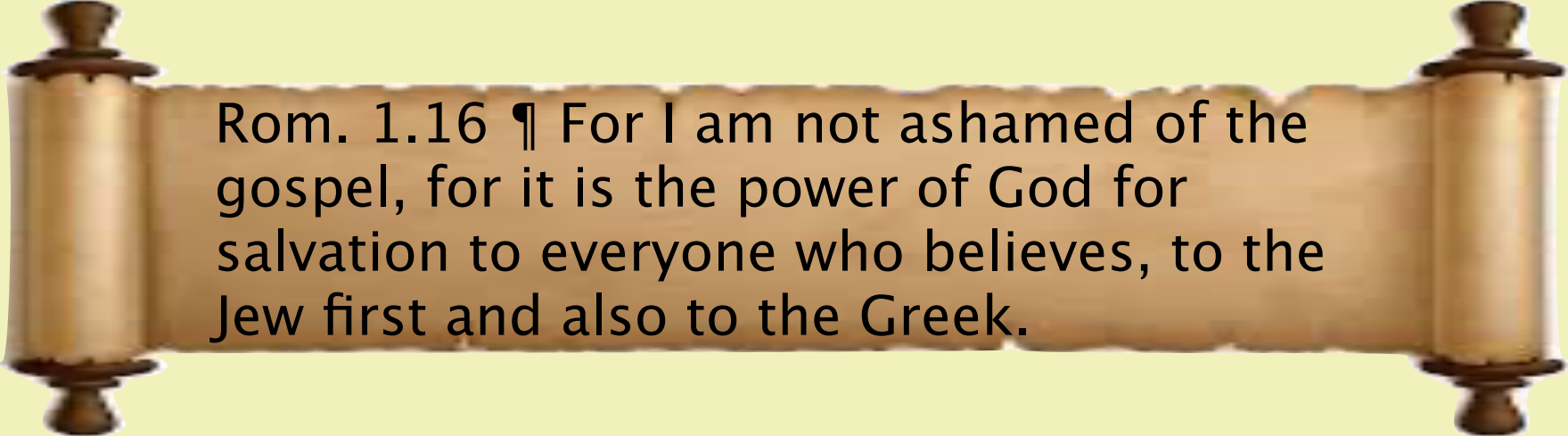
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1Cor. 1.22 For indeed Jews ask for signs and
Greeks search for wisdom;

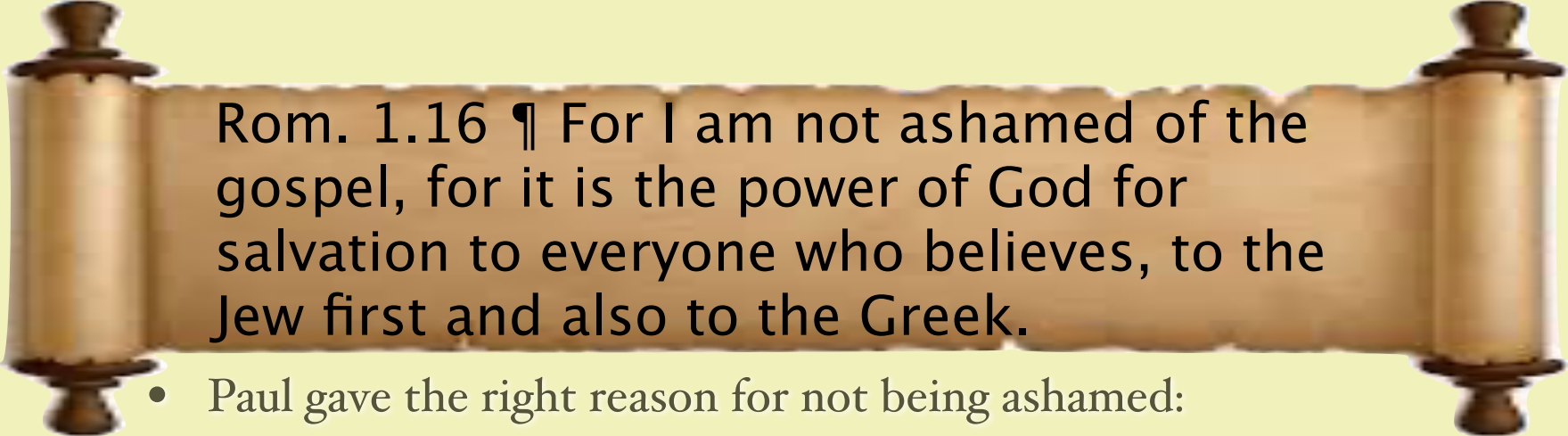
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Rom
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Romans 1.16-17 The Gospel

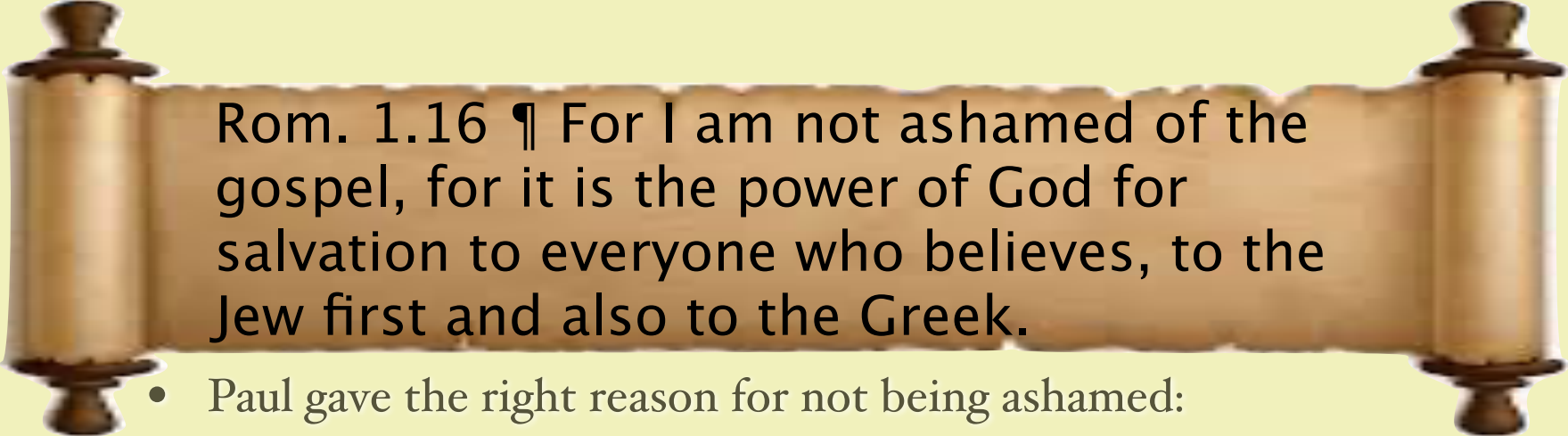
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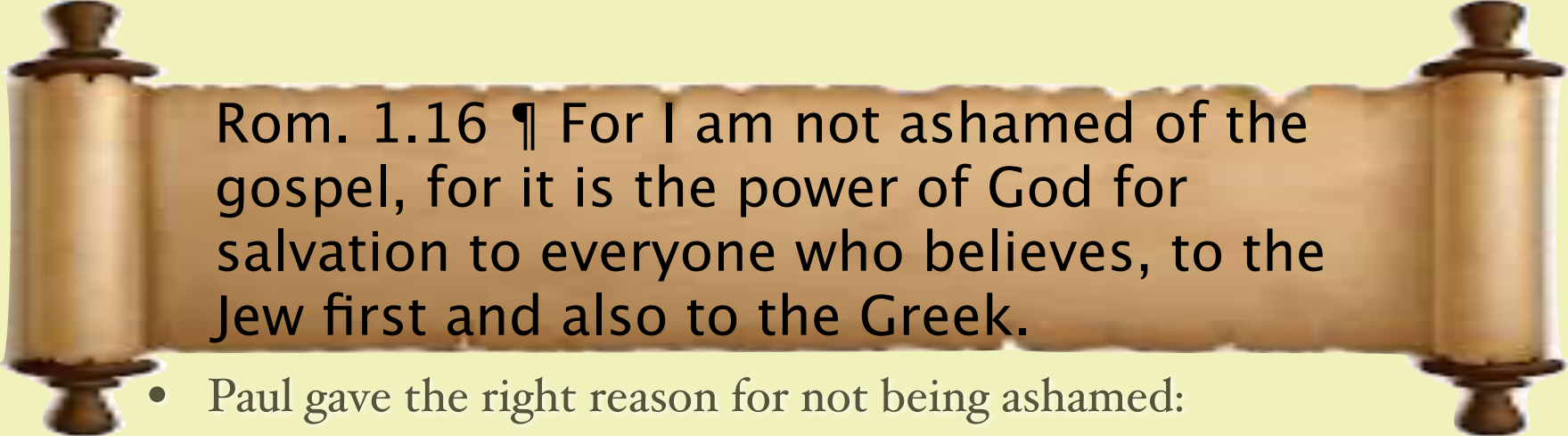
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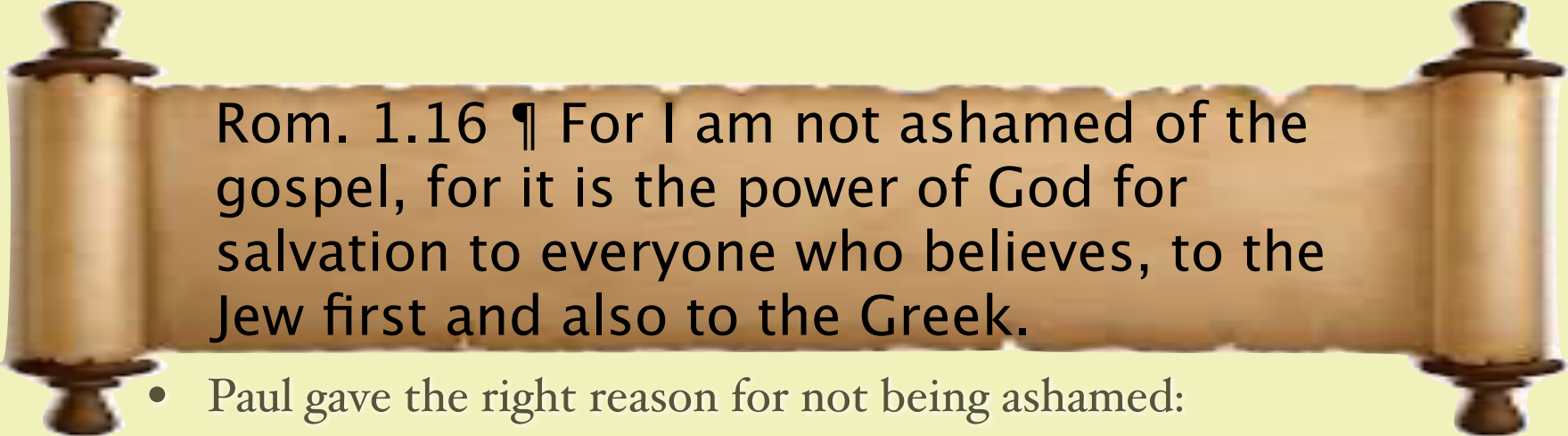
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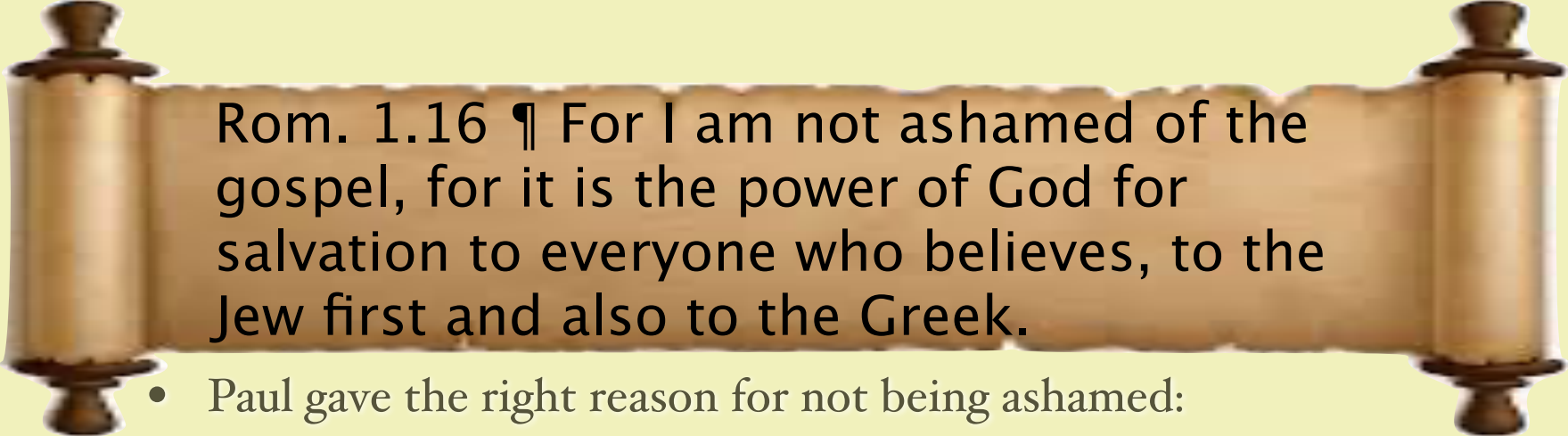
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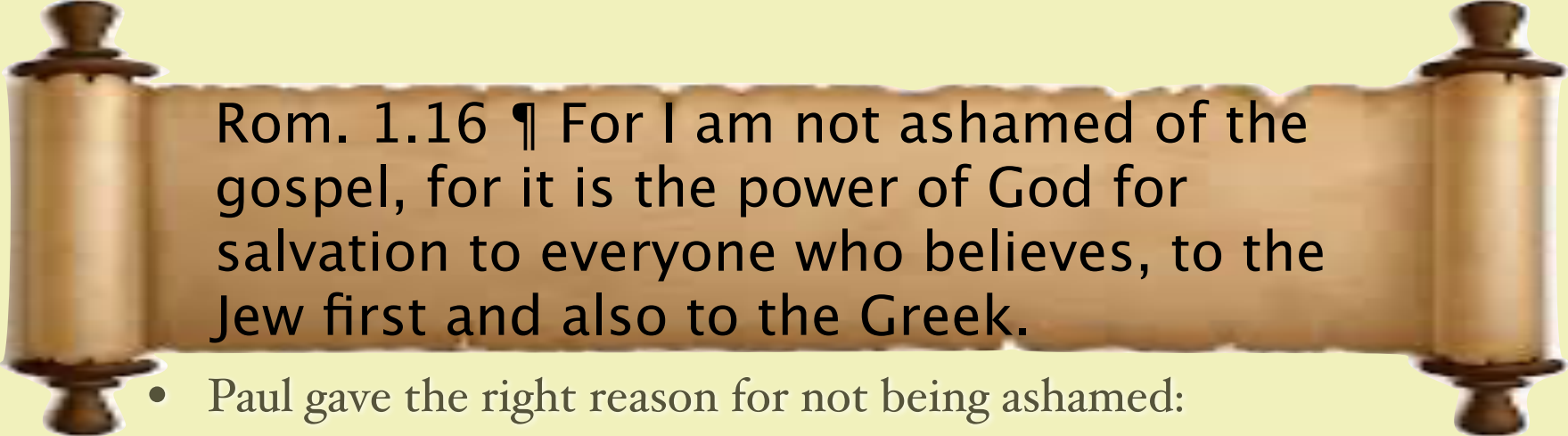
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 5. Paul has seen that “everyone who believes” includes all kinds of people one would never expect: rich and poor; small or great; wise or foolish; slave or free



Paul's Epistle to the Romans

- Rom 1.18ff
- Righteousness revealed in wrath

Romans 1.18-32 The Wrath of God



Rom. 1.18 ¶ For the wrath of God is revealed
from heaven...



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- Introduction: why talk about the ‘wrath of God’?

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- (2nd - righteousness of the Law reveals rules of measure)
- C. Paul’s argument is that man cannot attain righteousness by either of these and therefore is under the wrath of God

Romans 1.18-32 The Wrath of God

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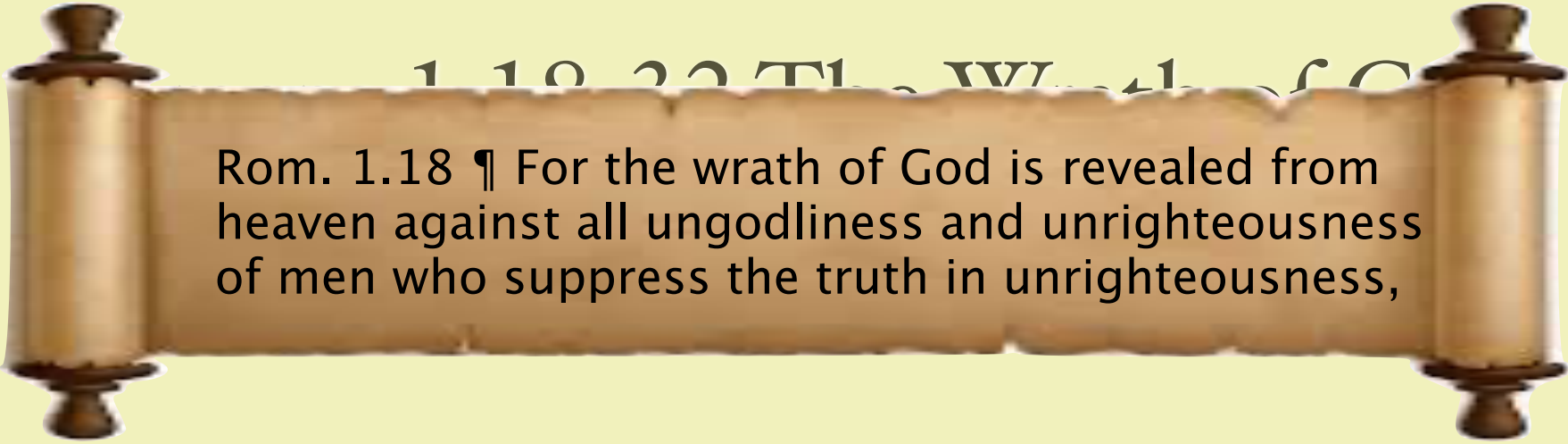
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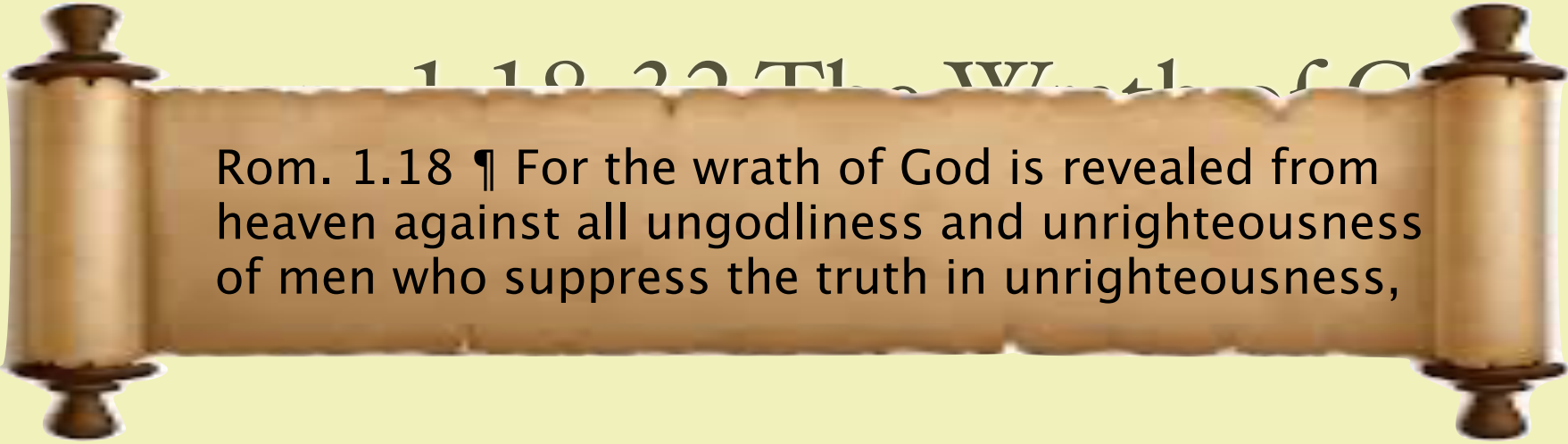


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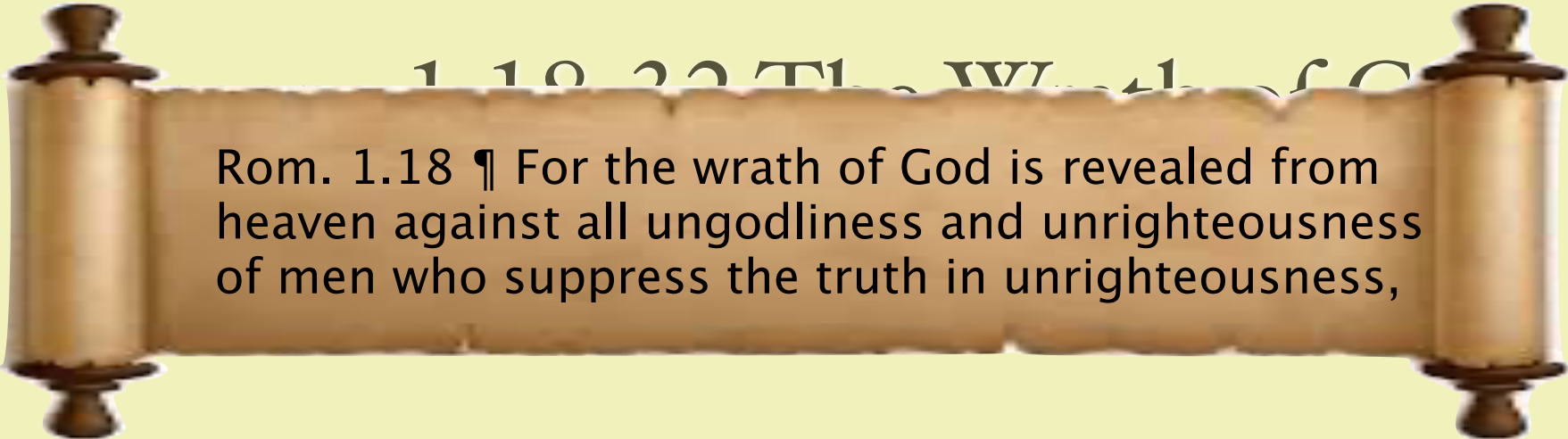


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B. In rom 1.18 orgé is used and the picture is like a dam with waters of judgment building up behind

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 - 2. They refused to 'thank Him for life'

Romans 1.18-32 The Wrath of God

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- A. 1st level 1.21-24 Man's heart is darkened as he denies a Supreme God and speculates about gods made in man's image
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 - 2. God 'lets go' and man's nobility and spiritual nature give way to his lower animal drives, lusts and gratification

Romans 1.18-32 The Wrath of God



Rom. 1.18 ¶ For the wrath of God is revealed
from heaven...

A horizontal scroll with a light brown, parchment-like texture. It is held by two dark brown, cylindrical rollers at each end. The text is written in a black, serif font.

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IV. The three-fold downward spiral of mankind's 'devolution' 1.18-21



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2. 1.27 Homosexual behavior is just another step downward as man degrades his image, identity and spiritual life

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1. 28-31 Man's depraved mind pursues defiant and self-centered agenda that create anarchy and crude behavior



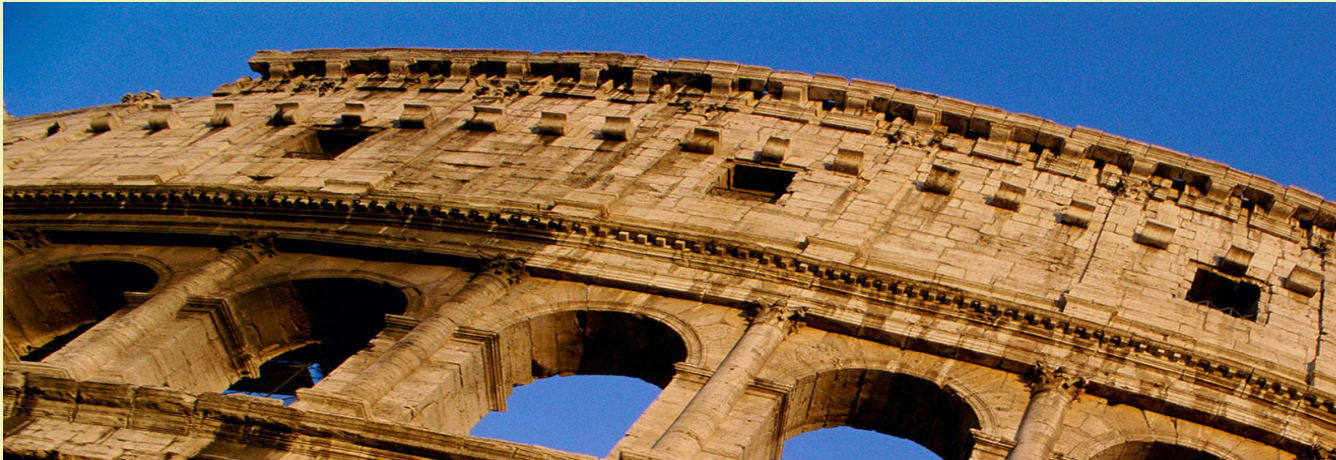
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1. 1. 28-31 Man's depraved mind pursues defiant and self-centered agenda that create anarchy and crude behavior
2. 1.32 As more social restraints and conventions are abandoned, men boast of their vile actions and make heroes of those most immoral and destructive

Romans: Burden of Teaching



- Look over the list of 21 descriptions of corrupt society (1.29-31). Do you see the USA in this devolving pattern?
- Do you think the runaway lusts and excesses of a sexually preoccupied society are linked in some way to homosexual passions and practices?
- What would you say are the three restraining forces that are lifted off mankind as ‘God gives them up’?



Paul's Epistle to the Romans

- next time: Rom 2
- Righteousness revealed in Law