

NOTES ON OBEDIENCE OF FAITH  
Robert Stapleton

Introduction:

1. Estimated population of Rome at Paul's writing two million.
2. Family life, authority and respect had become despised.
3. Book written from Corinth prior to Paul's last visit to Jerusalem.
4. Church at Rome composed of Jews and Gentiles.
5. Beginning of church at Rome unknown to history.
  - A. Could have come from Pentecost gathering - Acts 2:10.

Chapter One:

1. Servant - bondservant or slave.
2. "Men today, though citizens of the kingdom of heaven are neither apostles, nor ambassadors, nor messengers with the message."
  - A. Only the apostles were so.
3. Prophet - does not refer to foretelling the future.
  - A. Meant to reveal God's will and future events.
4. Scriptures - i.e. inspired writings.
5. Sonship of Jesus recognized following the conception and birth.
6. Saint - the noun form of the word sanctify.
7. Gospel - formed from two words, God & spell.
  - A. Literally meaning "good news."
  - B. We get the words evangelist and evangelism from the same original word.
  - C. Welch has a good point at the bottom of page 34 and the top of page 35 on the "frivolous treatment" of the word gospel.

Chapter two:

1. No comments or notes.

Chapter three:

1. Oracles - comes from the Greek and Latin mythology and idolatry.
  - A. Indicated a place where specific utterances came from their gods.
    1. The places were called "oracles."
  - B. Likewise those who brought the message were called "oracles."
2. Welch's comments on "law of faith" are good.
  - A. As said, it is a foolish notion which advocates that we are not under law today.

Chapter four:

1. His comments on page 68 relative to the teaching of the N.T. being given only to those in the covenant is good.

Chapter five:

1. Steadfastness - synonymous with patience.
2. Faithfulness - indicates a life of patience.
3. I believe his remarks on the indwelling of the Holy Spirit hit exactly on center.
4. I like what he says here, "This sounds very much as if there is much expected of us of **denying**, **living**, and **working** in order to share in God's grace and its provisions.", p. 84.

Chapter six:

1. No comments or notes.

Chapter seven:

1. Covet - word translated as either covet or lust throughout the N.T.

Chapter eight:

1. Five Biblical Laws:
  - A. Law of Moses
  - B. Law of Sin
  - C. Law of Death
  - D. Law of Nature
  - E. Law of Spirit of Life
2. Once again his perspective on the Holy Spirit is well taken.
3. Hope - two basic elements, i.e. desire and expectation.
4. Sees Romans 8:28 as speaking of God's purposes, plans, grace, provisions.

Chapter nine:

1. Israel - combination of three or four words and Hebrew names.
2. Remnant - discusses remnants of the Bible:
  - A. Noah - 2 Pet. 2:5
  - B. Jacob and Caleb
  - C. Gideon's call

Chapter ten:

1. No comments or notes.

Chapter eleven:

1. No comments or notes

Chapter twelve

1. Christians are not to conform to the world.
  - A. Discusses dress style, good point!
2. Church - an assembly.
  - A. The body - an organism.
  - B. The kingdom - an organization.

Chapter thirteen:

1. No comments or notes.

Chapter fourteen:

1. Gets off a little on his "antism" on page 184.

Chapter fifteen:

1. Gets off a little more on his "antism" on page 200.
  - A. "Forgot" to mention Gal. 6:10 and the need to "do good unto all men."

Chapter sixteen:

1. His discussion of the word servant in chapter sixteen is good.
  - A. Too many people today are looking for an office (i.e. a title), instead of a work.

Conclusion:

1. Overall the commentary, although brief, was good.
  - A. Welch badly needs to find another printer though.
    1. Many misspelled words, pages out of context, etc.