

# ROMANS LESSON 13

## Who was Clement of Rome?

**Clement of Rome** lived in Rome at the close of the apostolic era near the end of the first century. He is primarily known for a letter that he wrote from Rome to the church in Corinth. This letter is referred to as 1 Clement or the First Epistle of Clement and is typically dated to about AD 96, probably before the death of the apostle John. Origen of Alexandria (AD 185–284) and Eusebius of Caesarea (AD 260–340) claimed that Clement of Rome was the same Clement mentioned by the apostle Paul in **Philippians 4:3** (“Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with **Clement** and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.”).

But, to pass from the examples of ancient days, let us come to those champions who lived nearest to our time. Let us set before us the noble examples which belong to our generation. By reason of jealousy and envy the greatest and most righteous pillars of the Church were persecuted, and contended even unto death. Let us set before our eyes the good Apostles. There was Peter who by reason of unrighteous jealousy endured not one nor two but many labours, and thus having borne his testimony went to his appointed place of glory. By reason of jealousy and strife **Paul** by his example pointed out the prize of patient endurance. After that he had been seven times in bonds, had been driven into exile, had been stoned, had preached in the East and in the West, he won the noble renown which was the reward of his faith, having taught righteousness unto the whole world and **having reached the farthest bounds of the West**; and when he had borne his testimony before the rulers, so he departed from the world and went unto the holy place, having been found a notable pattern of patient endurance.

The earliest known reference to the Apostle Paul outside of the New Testament is found in 1 Clement, usually dated to A.D. 95–96.