

Romans 16

Paul mentions 35 people in this chapter- the importance of relationships to the health of the church and to the Great Commission

v.1 Phoebe is probably the one who carried this letter to the church in Rome

- commend- setting one person with another, introduce someone- recommend, commendation

- servant- deaconess- in the early church there were women who held this office, their duties included caring for the sick and poor, ministering to the saints in prison, instructing catechumens (those preparing for baptism) in the essentials of the faith, assisting in the baptism of women, supervising female church members.

- receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints- **What would be a manner worthy of the saints?**

- assist her in whatever she has need of

v.3 Priscilla and Aquila *Acts 18*, with Paul in Ephesus- fellow workers

- risked necks- literally put themselves in danger of getting their heads chopped for to assist Paul

v.5 Church in their house- church is not the building but the people

v.7 Andronicus and Junia (female name) of note among the apostles- are they among the apostles or of good report with them

- kinsmen- blood relatives but can also mean same nationality

Read through verse 16

NOTE THE WORDS PAUL USES FOR THESE PEOPLE- BELOVED, APPROVED

Recount that this is our ministry- you make this possible, you are invaluable to me.

v.17 There will always be those who seek to cause division and offenses- avoid them

- divisions- dichostasia, dee-khos-tas-ee'-ah; disunion, i.e. (fig.) dissension:-division, sedition.

- offenses- kandalon, skan'-dal-on ("scandal"); a trap-stick (bent sapling), i.e. snare (fig. cause of displeasure or sin):--occasion to fall (of stumbling), offence, thing that offends, stumbling-block.

v.18 They are evident in that they serve themselves

- they use smooth words- nice phrases and slogans- under the spout where the glory comes out; be the best you that you can be

(Phil 3:17-21 [ESV2011])

Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

- flattering speech- tell you what you want to hear
- deceive the hearts- our hearts are so easily deceived

v.19 Be wise or learned in the things that are of God

- simple- innocent in evil- we don't need to know all about evil to avoid it
- do we need to smell the garbage to know its garbage, “does this smell ok”

v.20 The God of peace will crush Satan under our feet- notice the seeming contrast here

v.25 Establish- built up upon

- gospel- the thing Romans is all about- justification by faith, sanctification by the cross
- revelation of mystery- revealing what has been hidden -*Heb 1:1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,*
- manifest- made real to us
- prophetic Scriptures- not certain prophecies but all of Scripture which shows us Jesus
- Everlasting God
- obedience to the faith

(Rom 10:17 NKJV) So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

(Rom 12:2 NKJV) And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

(Rom 5:1-2 NKJV) Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, {2} through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

All have been given a knowledge of God

We can choose to ignore or pursue that knowledge

All have sinned and come short

Wages of sin is death

BUT the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus

If we confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in our heart that God has raised Him from the dead, we will be saved

We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice

The Book of Romans is about

GRACE GRACE GRACE GRACE GRACE GRACE GRACE GRACE

Receive grace--- give grace--- walk in grace