

The Book of Romans

VII. Paul *Dictates* Closing **Personal Comments** and **Greetings** to the **Roman Believers** (15:13-16:27)

A. He *Expresses* **Personal Comments** concerning **His Calling** and **Ministry** (15:14-33)

B. He *Extends* **Personal Greetings** to some **Specific Believers** there (16:1-16)

C. He *Ends* the **Roman Letter** with **Final Exhortations**, **Greetings**, and **Praise** (16:17-27)

1. *Cautioning them* against **those** who would do **Evil** and **Harm** to **Believers** and the **Ministry** (16:17-19)

¹⁷ Now I urge you, brethren,
keep your eye on **those** who cause **dissensions** and **hindrances**
contrary to the **teaching** which **you learned**,
and **turn away** from them.

¹⁸ For such men are **slaves**,
not of our **Lord Messiah** but of their **own appetites**;
and by their **smooth** and **flattering speech** they
deceive the **hearts** of the **unsuspecting**.

¹⁹ For the report of **your obedience** has reached to **all**;
therefore I am **rejoicing** over you, but I want you to be
wise in what is **good** and **innocent** in what is **evil**.

2. *Confidently affirming* their eventual **Triumph** over **Satan** (16:20)

²⁰ The **God of peace** will soon **crush Satan** under **your feet**.

The **grace** of our **Lord Jesus** be with you

3. *Conveying* **Greetings** from **those** who were **with Paul** (16:21-24)

²¹ **Timothy** my **fellow worker** greets you,
and so do **Lucius** and **Jason** and **Sosipater**, my **kinsmen**.

²² I, **Tertius**, who write this **letter**, greet you **in the Lord**.
²³ **Gaius**, *host* to me and to the **whole church**, greets you.
Erastus, the *city treasurer* greets you, and **Quartus**, the brother.

²⁴ [The **grace** of our **Lord Jesus Christ** be with you all. Amen.]

4. *Closing* His **Letter** with a **Proclamation of Praise** (16:25-27)

²⁵ Now to **Him** who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of **Jesus the Messiah**, according to the *revelation* of the mystery which has been **kept secret** for **long ages past**,

²⁶ but now is **manifested**, and by the Scriptures of the **prophets**, according to the **commandment** of the **eternal God**, has been **made known** to all the *nations*, *leading to obedience of faith*;

²⁷ to the **only wise God**, *through Jesus the Messiah*, be the **glory forever**. Amen.

Personal Application

Paul's *Closing Exhortations* to the Roman Believers, are Exhortations to Us as well

1. **Paul *Cautions* the Roman believers, and us, about *those* who would cause **disunity** and place “**obstacles**” to their **faith** and **ministry**. (16:17-19).
 - a. **Warning them** of **those** who cause dissensions and hindrances through contrary teaching (16:17)
 - b. **Warning them** of **those** who are **self-serving**, and who deceive with their “**smooth and flattering speech**” (16:18)
 - c. **Warning them** of **those** who would do “**evil**” to their **commendable testimony** of obedience (16:19)
 - 1) A *Testimony* that has **Paul rejoicing** (16:19a)
 - 2) A *Testimony* that requires “**wise**” **choices** regarding what is **good** and **innocent**, and not evil (16:19b)**
2. **Paul *Conveys* to the Roman believers, and to us, a **strong prediction** regarding *our* inevitable triumph over Satan (16:20)**

The **God of peace** will soon **crush Satan** *under your feet*. (16:20)

3. As **Rabbi Paul Closes** with **praise**, I believe he **establishes** again the **main theme** of his **letter** to the **Roman believers**, and to **us** →

→ To be *established* according to the **gospel** and the **preaching** of **Jesus the Messiah** (16:25a),

→ To be *established* in the **revelation** of “the *mystery*, which has been kept **secret** for long ages past (16:25b),” note→
The *mystery* of **God**, is **God’s** plan of **salvation through Jesus the Messiah**.

a. The *mystery* that is *now* “**manifested**” (16:26a)

b. The *mystery* that has been *now* made **known** to the **nations** (16:26)

1) through the **Scriptures** of the **prophets** (16:26b)

2) according to the “**commandment** of the **eternal God** (16:26c),”

3) resulting in their **obedience** to the **faith** (16:26d)

c. The *mystery*, to which the **Brit Chadasha (New Testament)** expands on further in **other scriptures**:

Now to **Him** who is able to **establish you** according to **my gospel** and the **preaching** of **Jesus the Messiah**, according to the **revelation** of the **mystery** which has been **kept secret** for long ages past,.. (16:25)

As to this **salvation (in Messiah)**, the **prophets** who **prophesied** of the **grace** that *would come* to you made careful **searches** and **inquiries**, seeking to know what **person** or **time** the **Spirit of Messiah** within them was **indicating** as **He predicted** the **sufferings** of **Messiah** and the **glories** to follow.

It was **revealed** to them that they were **not** serving themselves, **but you**, in **these things** which now have been **announced to you** through **those** who **preached the gospel** to you by the **Holy Spirit sent** from **heaven**—**things** into which **angels** long to look. (1 Peter 1:10-12)

--if indeed you have heard of the **stewardship of God’s grace** which was **given to me** (Paul) for you; that by **revelation** there was **made known** to me the **mystery**, as I wrote before in brief.

By referring to this, when you read you can **understand my insight** into the **mystery of Messiah**, which in other **generations** was **not made known** to the sons of men, as it has **now** been **revealed** to His holy apostles and prophets in the **Spirit**;

to be specific, that the **Gentiles** are ***fellow heirs*** and ***fellow members*** of the **body**, and ***fellow partakers*** of the **promise** in **Messiah Jesus** through the **gospel**,..

To **me** (Paul), the very **least** of **all saints**, this **grace** was given, to **preach** to the **Gentiles** the unfathomable ***riches of Messiah***,

and to **bring to light** what is the **administration** of the **mystery** which for ages has been ***hidden in God*** who **created all things**;

This was in accordance with the **eternal purpose** which **He** **carried out in Messiah Jesus our Lord**,..(Ephesians 3:2-6, 8-9,11)

...I was made a **minister** according to the ***stewardship*** from **God** bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might **fully carry out** the ***preaching of the word of God***, *that is*, the **mystery** which has been ***hidden*** from the ***past ages*** and **generations**,

but has now been **manifested to His saints**, to whom **God willed** to **make known** what is the ***riches*** of the **glory** of this **mystery** among the **Gentiles**, which is **Messiah in you**, the **hope of glory**.

We proclaim Him, ***admonishing*** every man and ***teaching*** every man with **all wisdom**, so that we may **present** every man **complete in Messiah**. (Colossians 1:25-28)

d. The ***mystery***, along with other ***mysteries***, to which **we now** have been given **stewardship**

Let a man **regard us** in this manner, as **servants of Messiah** and **stewards** of the **mysteries of God**. (I Corinthians 4:1)

And even if our **gospel is veiled**, it is ***veiled*** to those who are **perishing**, in whose case the **god of this world** has **blinded the minds** of the **unbelieving** so that they might **not see** the **light of the gospel** of the **glory of Messiah**, who is the ***image of God***. (II Corinthians 4:3-4)

Closing Comment