In the End, It’s about People

Romans 15:22-16:27

May 28, 2017
Romans 1:16–17

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith.”
The Gospel
Good News
Bad News
Great News
Paul concludes the theological masterpiece of Romans by mentioning 35 individual people by name.
In the end, people matter. The Gospel is God’s love story to His people passed on by His people. Paul gives an example of how to live out the Gospel in our friendships.
The Final Words

- Plans to Visit Rome (Romans 15:23-29)
- Prayer Request (Romans 15:30-33)
- Commending Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2)
- Greeting Friends (Romans 16:3-15)
- Instruction and Warning (Romans 16:16-20)
- Greetings from Paul’s Team (Romans 16:21-23)
- Final Blessing (Romans 16:25-27)
Romans 15:30–33

I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, so that by God’s will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed. The God of peace be with you all. Amen.
I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me.
Greeting Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus. They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. Greet also the church that meets at their house. Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia.
Greeting Friends

Romans 16:6–9

Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you. Greet Andronicus and Junias, my relatives who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was. Greet Ampliatus, whom I love in the Lord. Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and my dear friend Stachys.
Greeting Friends

Romans 16:10–12

Greeting Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too. Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the brothers with them. Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the saints with them.
Instructions and Warnings

Romans 16:16–18

Greet one another with a holy kiss.
All the churches of Christ send greetings. I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.
Instructions and Warnings

Romans 16:19–20

Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I am full of joy over you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
Romans 16:21–24
Timothy, my fellow worker, sends his greetings to you, as do Lucius, Jason and Sosipater, my relatives. I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord. Gaius, whose hospitality I and the whole church here enjoy, sends you his greetings. Erastus, who is the city’s director of public works, and our brother Quartus send you their greetings.
Romans 16:25–27

Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him— to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.
Living Out the Gospel In Friendships

- Make Time for One Another (Romans 15:23-29)
- Ask For Prayer (Romans 15:30-33)
- Commend Each Other (Romans 16:1-2)
- Greet One Another with a Holy Kiss (Romans 16:3-16)
- Give Sound Advice (Romans 16:16-20)
- Be a Part of a Team (Romans 16:21-23)
- Give Glory to God (Romans 16:25-27)
The Gospel is spoken through the lives of people. What is your life saying?