

Romans Chapter 16 Continued

Romans 16:17 "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them."

This is speaking of doctrinal falsehood and unrighteous practices.

Galatians 1:7-9 "Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed." "As we said before, so say I now again, If any [man] preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."

We can see from this Scripture, that Paul says not to fellowship with those who would cause divisions in the church.

We are not to accept any other doctrine than that which has been established in our church.

Romans 16:18 "For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

Anyone who mars the unity or harmony of the local church does not serve the Lord Jesus Christ, regardless of his claim.

He puts his interest above the welfare and interest of the local church.

Some are driven by self-interest and self-gratification, often seen in their pretentious, extravagant and immoral lifestyles.

Proverbs 14:15 "The simple believeth every word: but the prudent [man] looketh well to his going."

We see in this that some simple people believe whatever is said to them.

The simple will fall for anything.

Be wise, don't listen to gossip and be sure to test the spirits.

Matthew 7:15: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves."

Romans 16:19 "For your obedience is come abroad unto all [men]. I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil."

1 Kings 3:9 "Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?"

It takes great understanding to be able to run a church.

1 Corinthians 14:20 "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men."

This is the way to keep from being deceived by a talebearer.

Ephesians 1:15-17 "Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints," "Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;" "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:"

Do not listen to talebearers, but check out all things with the word of God.

Romans 16:20 "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [be] with you. Amen."

This prayer of Paul's is the same one preachers should pray for their people.

Satan is out to destroy the church.

We have no power over Satan, but the name of Jesus has power over him, and we have been authorized to use Jesus' name.

Since the third chapter of Genesis, we have been enemies of Satan.

Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Hebrews 2:14-15 "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;" "And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

“Shall bruise Satan under your feet “Shortly”:

The underlying imagery is found (in Gen. 3:15).

In freeing themselves from those who were causing division and marring the unity of the church, they would be experiencing what Jesus will ultimately experience when He finally defeats Satan for all eternity.

Romans 16:21 "Timothy my workfellow, and Lucius, and Jason, and Sosipater, my kinsmen, salute you."

Timothy is so close to Paul that Paul calls him his son.

He is not his son in the flesh, but in the spirit.

Acts 13:1 "Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simian that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul."

We see here the connection between Paul (Saul), and Lucius.

Lucius was a native of Cyrene, one of the prophets and teachers in Antioch who participated in Paul and Barnabas' commissioning.

Acts 13:1-3 "Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul." "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." "And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid [their] hands on them, they sent [them] away."

"Jason":

Means "healing".

He was from Thessalonica and was one of the first converts there.

He evidently let Paul stay in his home for a short time before Paul and Silas were sent to Berea.

"Sosipater":

Sosipater means "saved of his father".

He was a Berean who had joined other believers in meeting Paul at Troas after the apostle had left Ephesus.

Romans 16:22 "I Tertius, who wrote [this] epistle, salute you in the Lord."

This does not mean that he was the author of this letter.

He was Paul's secretary, who wrote this letter as Paul dictated it, who inserts a personal greeting.

Romans 16:23 "Gaius mine host, and of the whole church, saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother."

“Gaius”:

He was a Macedonian who went with Paul on some of his ministering journeys.

He was a convert at Corinth.

His full name was most likely “Gaius Titius Justus.

He was arrested in Ephesus.

“Erastus”:

This Erastus was from Corinth and was probably the city treasurer (chamberlain).

His name means "beloved".

Erastus went to Ephesus with Paul and was sent by Paul with Timothy to Macedonia.

His usual place to live was Corinth and was there when Paul wrote this.

“Quartus”:

Quartus may have been a physical brother of Erastus, but more likely just the final brother in Christ listed here.

Quartus means a "fourth".

Romans 16:24 "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ [be] with you all. Amen."

This is a benediction used by many churches even today.

This is about the best blessing that could be spoken on you.

Many manuscripts omit this verse.

It is not found in the earliest Greek manuscripts of Romans which is understandable in view of the longer, more explicit benediction that follows.

Verses 25-27

This letter concludes with a beautiful doxology that praises God for His work through Jesus Christ and thereby summarizes the major themes in Romans.

Romans 16:25 "Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,"

Preaching of Jesus Christ was synonymous with the gospel; it was Paul's supreme life commitment.

"Mystery":

The "mystery" refers to something hidden in former times but now made known.

Colossians 1:26-27 "[Even] the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:" "To whom God would make known what [is] the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:"

In the Old Testament, the veil was covering the things of God.

Jesus opened the way for us to the Father when He died on the cross.

It is as if He removed the scales from our eyes, and the Holy Spirit of God has revealed to us the salvation story.

We could hear it all day long, but until the Holy Spirit reveals the meaning to us, we are still without understanding.

Praise God Jesus sent the comforter who is our teacher and guide, as well.

Romans 16:26 "But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:"

God had told Israel that He would not only call her to righteousness, but appoint her as a light (of the gospel), to the nations.

Manifest means to render "apparent".

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God.

Luke 24:44-47 "And he said unto them, These [are] the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and [in] the prophets, and [in] the psalms, concerning me." "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures," "And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:" "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Jesus spoke in parables when He taught so that the world would not understand.

We see in the Scriptures above that He had to open our understanding for us to understand.

Romans 16:27 "To God only wise, [be] glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen."

Psalms 147:5 "Great [is] our Lord, and of great power: his understanding [is] infinite."

This just about says it all.

God is Wisdom.

He is Power.

He is Infinite.

It was through the Father that the gospel was ultimately revealed; therefore, He deserves all the credit, praise and worship.

Romans Chapter 16 Continued Questions

1. Paul said mark them who do what 2 things and avoid them?
2. Galatians 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let them be _____.
3. Romans 16:18, says that people who do this do not serve Jesus, but their own _____.
4. By what 2 things are the simple deceived?
5. The simple believeth every word, but the _____ looketh well to his going.
6. What are we warned to beware of in Matthew 7:15?
7. I would have you wise unto that which is _____.
8. Give thy servant an understanding heart to _____ the _____.
9. In 1 Corinthians 14:20 we are told not to be children in what?
10. Do not listen to talebearers, but check all things by what?
11. Who shall bruise Satan for us?
12. We have no power over Satan ourselves, but what can we use to help us fight him?
13. What is the first place in the Bible that tells us that Satan is our enemy?

14. Who defeated Satan?
15. Who is this Timothy in Romans 16:21?
16. What does Jason mean?
17. What does Sosipater mean?
18. What is probably intended by the statement of Tertius?
19. What area was Gaius from?
20. What office did Erastus hold in his city?
21. Quartus means what?
22. What is the mystery among the Gentiles in Colossians 1:27?
23. Who has God given the believers who is our teacher and guide?
24. What does manifest mean?
25. How does faith come?
26. Why did Jesus teach in parables?
27. Great is our Lord and of great power; his understanding is _____.