

PAUL AND THE CHURCH AT ROME
Romans 1:8-15

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Paul is writing to the saints at Rome
 - 1) They are among the "called" ones
 - 2) They are "beloved of God"

- B. What is Paul's relationship to them?
 - 1) He is an Apostle
 - 2) He had heard of them vs. 8
 - 3) He longed to see them vs. 11

- I. Paul Thanked God For Them vs. 8
 - A. "First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all"
 - 1) heucharisteeo = "to show oneself grateful"
 - 2) Paul made prayer through Christ

 - B. "that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world"
 - 1) pistis = "conviction based upon one's hearing"
 - 2) "spoken" = kataggelo = "to bring the word down",
"to proclaim, announce, publicly"
 - 3) It was their faith that was proclaimed throughout the Roman world. Not their Sunday School attendance, offerings, buildings, influence, membership. They were not gauged by any of these things, but by their faith. Were these people successful? Why?

- II. Paul Prayed For Them vs. 9-12
 - A. God had witnessed his praying
 - 1) martus = one who remembers, one who has information or knowledge. Who besides God knows whether we pray or talk to ourselves?
 - 2) "to whom I render holy service in my spirit"
 - 3) "without ceasing" = hadialeiptos = "continually", "constantly"
 - 4) mention = mneia = "recollection", "memory"
 - 5) Paul remembered them as he prayed

 - B. Paul's specific prayer vs. 10-11
 - 1) That he might come to them.
"Prosperous" = heuodoo = "to make one succeed", "that somehow by God's will I may now succeed in coming to you"
RSV
 - 2) That they would have all of the "spirituals" How many?
I Corinthians 12:8-11; Romans 12:6-8
 - 3) "impart" = metadidomi = "to share in association with anyone"

- 4) "established" = sterizo = "to set fast", "to fix firmly", "make fast", "to make you strong"
- 5) "long" = epipotheo = "to desire upon", "to desire earnestly"

C. Their mutual benefit vs. 12

- 1) "I mean when I am with you I'll be greatly encouraged by your faith and you will be greatly encouraged by mine."
- 2) "comforted" = sumparakaleo = "to call for or invite with, at the same time"
- 3) "mutual" = en hallelon = "in each other"
- 4) Again that which is emphasized is "faith"

III. Paul Desired To Have Fruit Among Them vs. 13

A. Paul had often purposed to come to them

- 1) "purposed" = protithemi = "to set before one's self", "propose to one's self"
- 2) He had been hindered

B. "that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles"

- 1) "fruit" = karpos = "that which is dry and ripe", "produce", "result", "in order that I may reap some harvest among you"
- 2) Paul had a great desire to come to Rome and preach the gospel. He wanted to see men respond to truth and serve God.

IV. Paul Wanted To Preach To Them

A. "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians" Both to the wise and to the unwise"

- 1) "debtor" = hopheilletes = "he who owes anything or is under obligation on any account"
- 2) What made Paul a debtor?
 - a. Matthew 28:18-20
 - b. Acts 13:46-47
 - c. Acts 9:15-16
 - d. Romans 1:5
- 3) "wise" = sophos = "wise", "clever", "skilled"

B. "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also."

- 1) "so, to the very best of my ability"
- 2) "ready" = prothumos = "willing", "eager", "zealous", "predisposed"

V. Some Things of Profit

A. People may know of a church's faith

- 1)
- 2)

B. We should pray for one another

- 1)
- 2)

C. Christians mutually benefit one another

- 1)
- 2)

D. The teaching of the Bible makes us debtors

- 1)
- 2)

E. Fruit bearing glorifies God

- 1)
- 2)