

ROMANS 16: 17-27 – AVOID DEVISIVE PERSONS; GREETINGS FROM PAUL’S FRIENDS; BENEDICTION

OBSERVATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column.

Avoid Divisive Persons

17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions (opposite of unity) and offenses (scandal, snare), contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.

18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

19 For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.

20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

Greetings from Paul’s Friend, acknowledging those who have been a blessing:

21 Timothy, my fellow worker, and Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, my countrymen, greet you.

INTERPRETATION

I appeal to you, with deep concern, brethren, (Rom. 12:1, 15:30) to be on your guard. Mark them, concerning those who create dissensions and difficulties and cause divisions, in opposition or contrary to the one or single doctrine, the teaching, which you have been taught. I warn you to turn aside from them, to avoid them. 2 Thess. 3:14-15; Titus 3:9-11; Eph. 4:1-3; Rom. 9:33,

For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ but their own appetites and base desires, and by ingratiating and flattering speech, they beguile the hearts of the unsuspecting and simpleminded people. Phil. 3:17-19; 2 Cor. 11:3-4; Col. 2:4-8;

For while your loyalty and obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, I would have you well versed and wise as to what is good and innocent and guileless as to what is evil. Mt. 10:16; Phil 4:8

And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. (Rev. 2:27, 22:7) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah be with you. Rom. 15:33; 2 Cor. 13:11; Luke 10:17-20

Timothy, my fellow worker, (Acts 16:1) wishes to be remembered to you, as do Lucius (Acts 13:1) and Jason (Acts 17:5-9) and Sosipater (Acts 20:4), my tribal kinsmen.

APPLICATION

We need note and mark them to avoid those who are responsible for divisions, which is opposite of unity, and offenses, scandals, in the church. We need to endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit

We must not be setting our mind, our motivations, on earthly, material things. We need to also be aware of our methods-not to use smooth, flattering words, which can deceive the hearts of others. Who are we, am I, trying to impress?

The purpose of obedience is that you be wise in what is good and simple regarding evil.

We need to note the promise that the God of peace will crush Satan, who is behind it all.

Acknowledge those, show thanksgiving and appreciation to those who have helped!

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22 I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, greet you in the Lord.

I, Tertius, the writer, professional scribe, of this letter, greet you in the Lord. Gal. 6:11; 2 Cor. 12

Remembering those who have really helped us!

23 Gaius, my host and the host of the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus, a brother.

Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church here, greets you. So do Erastus, the city treasurer, who had come to know the Lord, and our brother Quartus. 1 Cor. 1:14

We need to remember to be hospitable!.

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah, be with you all. Amen - so be it!

Oh the wonderful gift of grace!

Benediction: A summary of Romans!

25 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began

Now to Him Who is able to strengthen (Luke 22:32) you in the faith which is in accordance with my Gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, according to the revelation, the unveiling, of the mystery of the plan of redemption which was kept in silence and secret for long ages,

We need to lean or rely on the power of God to establish us!

26 but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—

But is now disclosed and through the prophetic Scriptures is made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to win them to obedience to the faith, Rom. 1:5;

We need **to recognize the means by which God accomplishes this in our lives and to remember the purpose** of it.

27 to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

To the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ the Anointed One! Amen ..

Above all, we need to give all glory to God!

In the **earthly realm**: The Book of Romans – “The glory, holiness and righteousness of the infinite, eternal God; the awful guilt and helplessness of man; the story of the astonishing intervention of a Grace that not only pardoned and justified, but made believing sinners partakers on Christ of the very glory of God Himself; the absolute consistency of all this with God’s promises to His earthly nation, Israel; the openness of all Heaven now to all nations, and that on the simplest possible condition-Faith alone!” (William R.Newell)

The **heavenly realm**: 1 Cor. 15:51-53; 2 Cor. 3:18; Eph 1:18-19, 3:14-21; Col. 1:27; Phil. 3:20-21; Titus 2:13; 1 John 3:3

John 17: 20-26