

Romans 15:28+29 Do you ever feel like your sure of (47) God's plan in your ministry? You have a conviction of how things will take place? Well, Paul did have just that, and he lets us know that he senses it's Jesus' plan for him but again, he would indeed make the journey to Rome but in chains. God's ways are not our ways, God's time (what I call Godspeed) is also almost never our timing. Perfect example Abraham and the promised son Isaac.

Romans 15:30+31 This verse I took literally about 10 years ago. When I prayed for Paul with the conviction that ① God is timeless, ② That the same Holy Spirit that hears my prayers also heard Paul's prayers and since He (the Holy Spirit) is also timeless, it is a simple matter for Him to accept my prayer in 2013 or 2014 and deliver it on behalf of Paul in 60 A.D. I also know for a fact that my prayer for poor Mary as she stood at the foot of the cross also arrived in a timely manner. This prompted the message "Do not limit God in Prayer" (Somewhere around March 2024??).

Romans 15:32+33 Again, just like we look forward to a vacation, time off, or a retreat when we have been going non stop, Paul too was looking forward to being around his faithful friends.

Romans 16:1+2 Phoebe was a deacon in the church of Cenchreae (The eastern harbor of Corinth and 5 miles east of the city. It was 820 miles north west of Jerusalem). She must of felt called to Rome and so Paul sends her (most likely) with the "Books of Romans" to Rome. Paul also asks his brothers and sisters in Christ to accept her with open arms.

Romans 16:3-15 Is important for several reasons: ① It names fellow believers of Paul's day, ② The list sometimes also adds information about how these brothers and sisters glorified God and ③ how Paul is strengthened and refreshed by just recalling their ministries and their walk in Christ.

Verse 5: Also gives us information on how the early church gathered; in homes. Remember "Church" means "ecclesia" which is, "a gathering of those summoned. By definition we each are part of a church whenever 2 or more are gathered in the name of Jesus Christ. The church is not a building.



See Scriptures printed out in regards to a church, and (48) the gathering of believers.

Romans 16:16 In the first century the "end all" information was given to any one who wanted it. All the loose ends were sewn together and all Scriptures of the Old Testament were made clear and pointed to Jesus being the Christ and that He single handedly reconciled lost man to God and restored what was lost in the Garden. And with that being the atmosphere, one could not but rejoice and love on one another, and greet one another with a holy kiss. It is like when we hug each other when we meet.

- The next sentence: "All the churches of Christ send their greetings" is how we are to act, never judging different believers because their traditions in how they worship Christ are different than how we worship Christ (as described in study notes pages 41+42).

Romans 16:17-19 IS A STRONG WARNING TO CHURCHES AND PEOPLE WHO TWIST GOD'S WORDS TO SUIT THEIR NEED! These people use the same tactics as Satan because they are from Satan. (See how Satan, who knows Scripture, mastered this perversion in the next printout). This applies to prosperity preachers, Ecumenical preachers, Mother Earth worshippers and the Name it and Claim it false teachers. We must always come back to the only way to pray: ① Is my prayer given as an ambassador of Jesus Christ, ② Does my prayer glorify God, and ③ Is my prayer in alignment with God's will. (Perfect example is Jesus' prayer in the Garden which only had 1 of the 3).

Romans 16:20 This is a promise that must give us hope. No matter what we endure, while we are serving Christ in this earthly body, we will win. "Our feet" will actually do the crushing.

Romans 16:21-24 more name dropping (note Timothy is with him).

Romans 16:25-27 is a beautiful closing reaffirming Paul's authority (by God Himself) to reveal the truth that had been hidden for 4,000 years. The truth that Jesus is Lord and that by His finished work on the cross all (Jew AND Gentile) can be reconciled to God by faith plus nothing. And that the price for salvation had cost God everything and is extended to us for the price of "free-ninty nine", or "free-for nothing".