



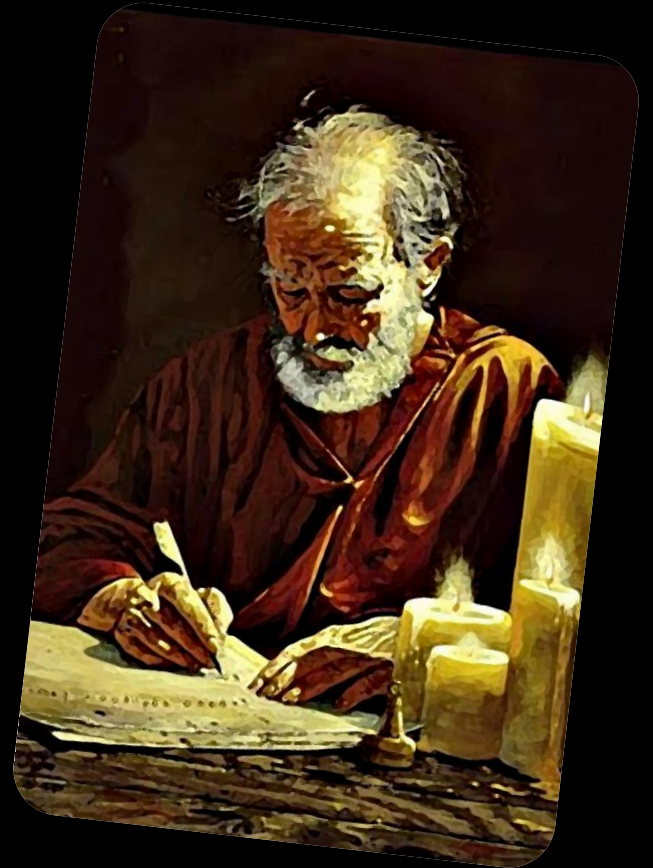
THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

Salvation by Grace Through Faith

INSIGHTS FROM A FAREWELL

In Romans 16, Paul says concludes the letter to the church in Rome with a personal farewell.

Besides showing Pauls' acquaintance and tender affection for several people, this farewell is also full of useful insights about the early church

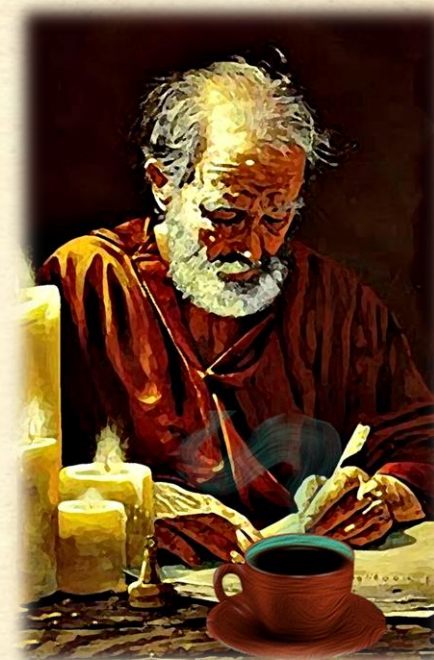


Paul's Letter to the

Romans 16:1-16

Romans

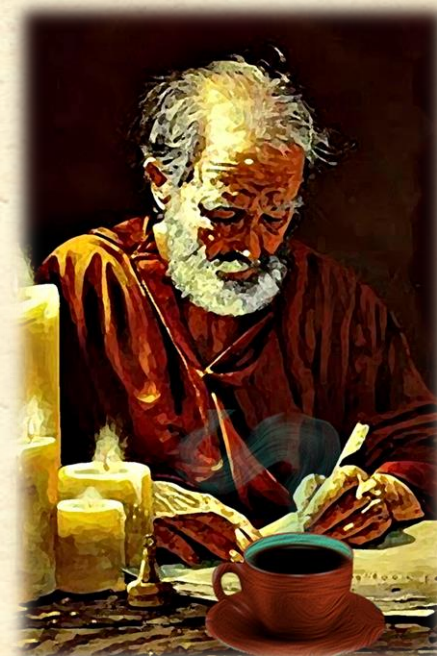
¹ I commend to you our sister **Phoebe**, a servant of the church at Cenchreae, ² that you may welcome her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints, and help her in whatever she may need from you, for she has been a patron of many and of myself as well. ³ Greet **Prisca** and **Aquila**, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, ⁴ who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well.



Romans 16:1-16

Paul's Letter to the
Romans

⁵ Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved **Epaenetus**, who was the first convert to Christ in Asia. ⁶ Greet **Mary**, who has worked hard for you. ⁷ Greet **Andronicus** and **Junia**, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners. They are well known to the apostles, and they were in Christ before me. ⁸ Greet **Ampliatius**, my beloved in the Lord. ⁹ Greet **Urbanus**, our fellow worker in Christ, and my beloved **Stachys**.

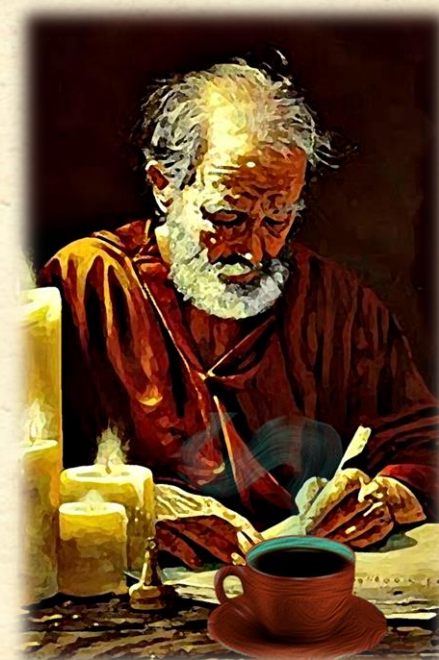


Paul's Letter to the

Romans 16:1-16

Romans

¹⁰ Greet **Apelles**, who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the family of **Aristobulus**. ¹¹ Greet my kinsman **Herodion**. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of **Narcissus**. ¹² Greet those workers in the Lord, **Tryphaena** and **Tryphosa**. Greet the beloved **Persis**, who has worked hard in the Lord. ¹³ Greet **Rufus**, chosen in the Lord; also **his mother**, who has been a mother to me as well.



Romans 16:1-16

Paul's Letter to the **Romans**

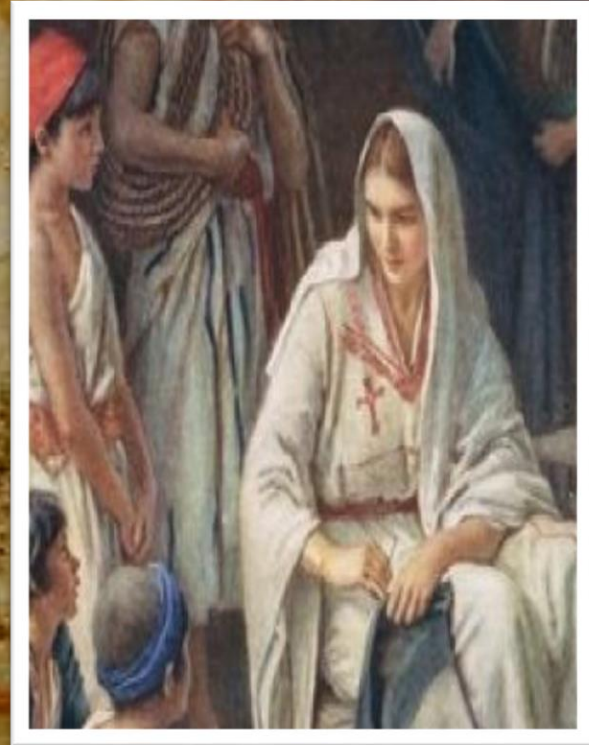
¹⁴ Greet **Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas**, and the brothers who are with them. ¹⁵ Greet **Philologus, Julia, Nereus** and **his sister**, and **Olympas**, and all the saints who are with them. ¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.



LESSONS FROM A LIST OF NAMES

In this list of 29 names in these verses...

- **19 are men and 10 are women**
- Phoebe, a woman, is mentioned first, is called a deacon, and is given high praise and great discretion.
- Priscila is mentioned before her husband, Aquila (4 out of 6 x in the NT)
- 7 of the 10 women are described in terms of their ministry (Phoebe, Prisca, Mary, Junia, Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis)

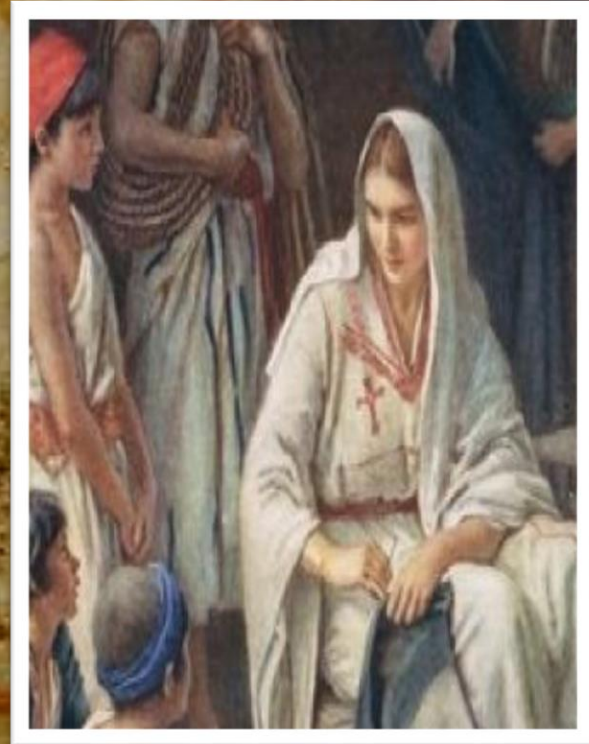


LESSONS FROM A LIST OF NAMES

In this list of 29 names in these verses...

- only three men are described in terms of their ministry (Aquila, Andronicus, Urbanus), and two of these men are ministering alongside a female partner (Aquila with Prisca, Andronicus with Junia)

From these verses it is clear that women had an important role in the early church, often in leadership!

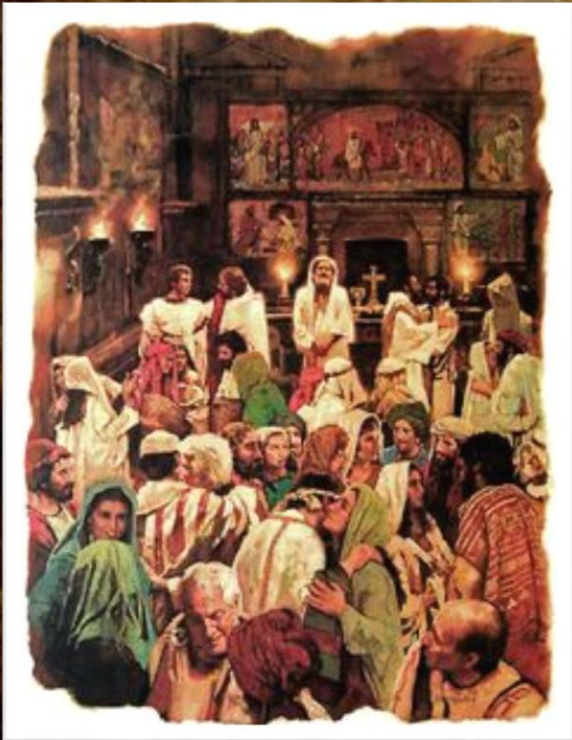


LESSONS FROM A LIST OF NAMES

In this list of 29 names in these verses, 7 were common to slaves (Herodian, Persis, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, Julia)

1 Corinthians 1:26

²⁶ My dear friends, remember what you were when God chose you. The people of this world didn't think that many of you were wise. Only a few of you were in places of power, and not many of you came from important families.



LESSONS FROM A LIST OF NAMES

In v.13, Paul mentions “**Rufus**, chosen in the Lord; also **his mother**, who has been a mother to me as well.”

This is probably the Rufus of **Mark 15**.

²¹ Simon from Cyrene happened to be coming in from a farm, and they forced him to carry Jesus' cross. Simon was the father of Alexander and Rufus.



A Warning

Romans 16:17

¹⁷ I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.

Paul tells us to protect our unity and purity by avoiding people intent on causing division. In Proverbs, Solomon also warns against “one who sows discord among brothers (Pr. 6:19).

A Promise

Romans 16:20

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

The word *soon* (Gk., *tachos*) can mean shortly or swiftly, quickly. In either case, this is a promise of ultimate victory against the enemy!

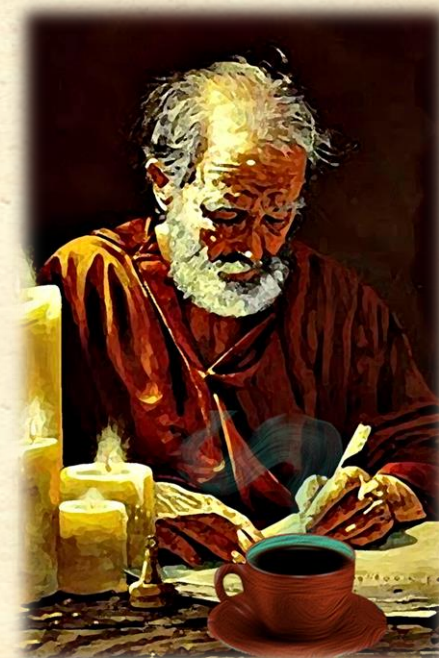
Paul's Letter to the

Romans

Romans 16:21-23

²¹ **Timothy**, my fellow worker, greets you; so do **Lucius** and **Jason** and **Sosipater**, my kinsmen. ²² I **Tertius**, who wrote this letter, greet you in the Lord. ²³ **Gaius**, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. **Erastus**, the city treasurer, and our brother **Quartus**, greet you.

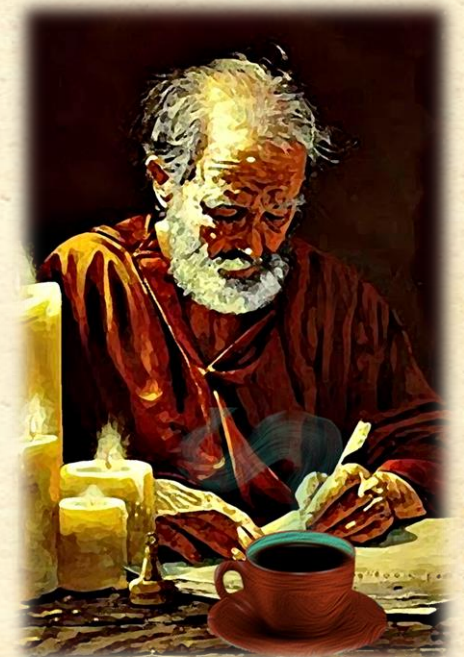
This was Paul's ministry team, at the time!



Romans 16:25-27

Paul's Letter to the **Romans**

²⁵ **Now to him who is able to strengthen you** according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶ but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷ **to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.**



End With Praise!

Paul closes Romans with a declaration of praise to God!

It is God who will crush the enemy's head (v.20). It is God who is able to strengthen the church (v.25). It is God alone who is wise (v.27). So to Him "be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen." (v.27)

