

# THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

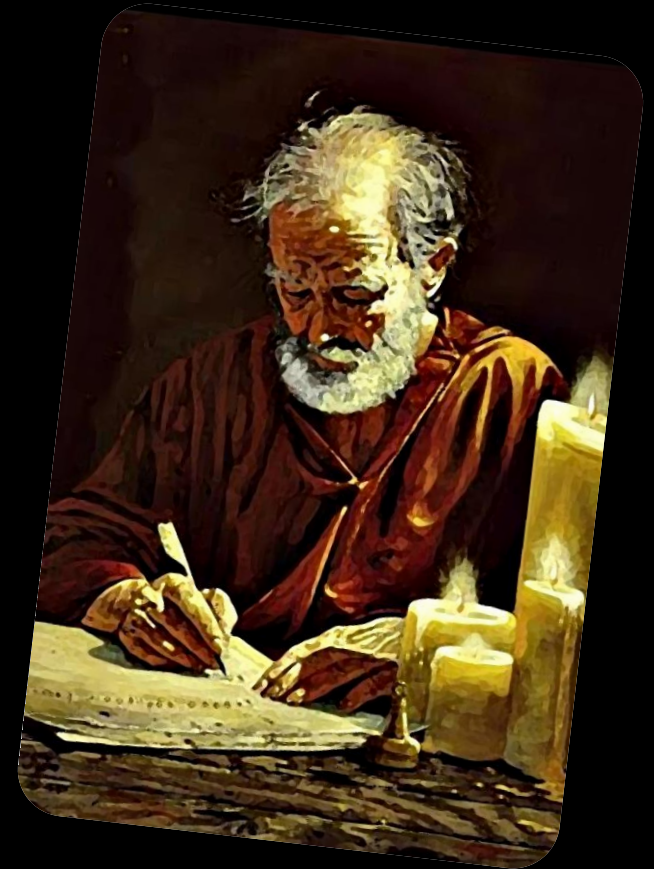
*Salvation by Grace Through Faith*

# PAUL'S MINISTRY—A LOOK BACKSTAGE

In the second half of Romans 15 (vv.14-33), Paul gives us a little window into his life and ministry. Here he tells us:

- **The nature of his ministry**—why he does what he does. (vv.14-22)
- **His plans for the ministry**—what he intends to do next. (vv.23-33)

We see Paul, not as a superman but as a human being trying to fulfill God's will and inviting others to join him.

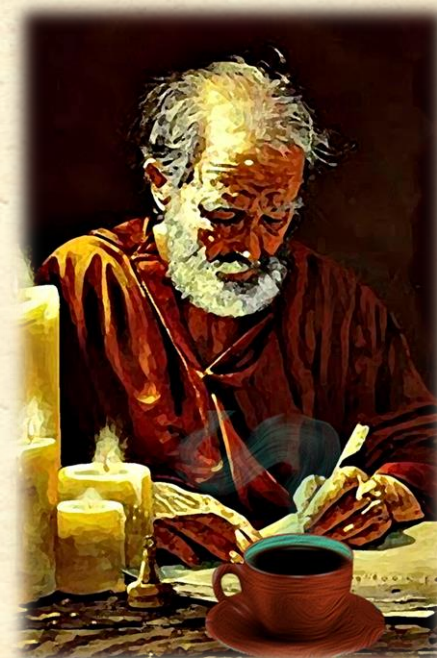


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# Romans

## Romans 15:14-16

<sup>14</sup> I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another. <sup>15</sup> But **on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God** <sup>16</sup> to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

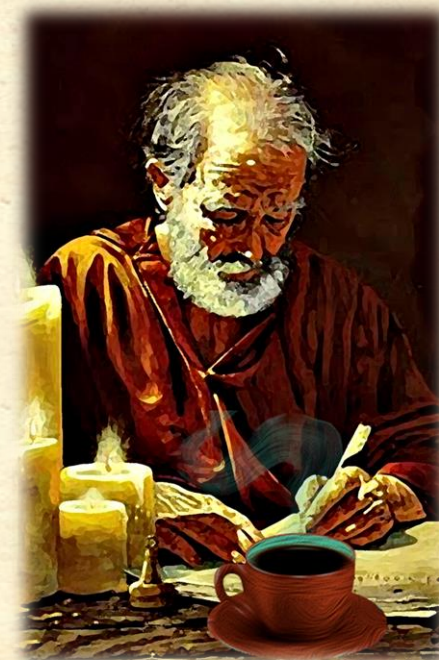


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# Romans

## Romans 15:17-19

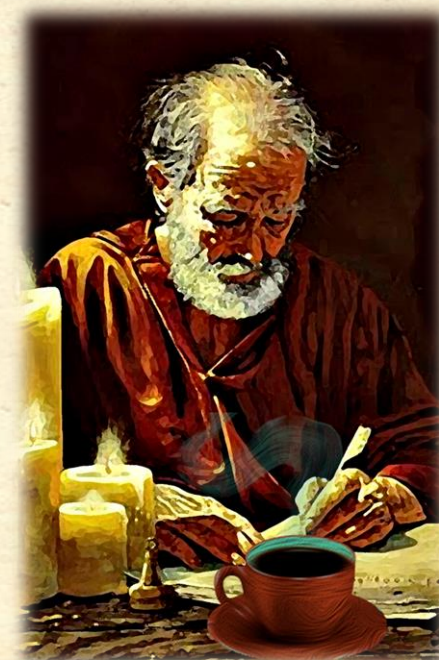
<sup>17</sup> In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to be proud of my work for God. <sup>18</sup> For I will not venture to speak of anything except what **Christ has accomplished through me** to bring the Gentiles to obedience—**by word and deed, <sup>19</sup> by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God**—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;



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## Romans 15:20-21

<sup>20</sup> and thus **I make it my ambition to preach the gospel**, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation, <sup>21</sup> but as it is written, "Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand."



# A PASSION FOR THE UNSAVED

For Paul, preaching the gospel and displaying the power of the Holy Spirit was a passion!

By words, actions, and miracles, Paul wanted to bring people to Christ!

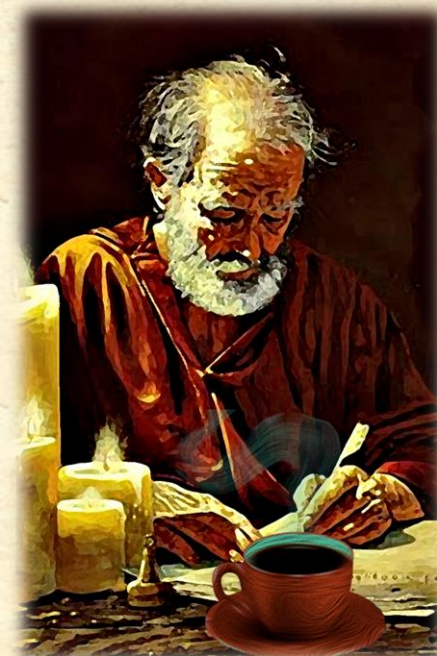


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## Romans 15:22-25

<sup>22</sup> This is the reason why I have so often been hindered from coming to you. <sup>23</sup> But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, <sup>24</sup> **I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you,** once I have enjoyed your company for a while. <sup>25</sup> **At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints.**



# HELPFUL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## When did Paul write Romans?

- ❖ When he was coming to the **end of his 3<sup>rd</sup> Missionary Trip** (~56 AD). By now he had been saved for over 20 yrs and had been founding churches and writing epistles for 10 yrs.

## Where did Paul write Romans from?

- ❖ Likely from **Corinth**. Paul mentions the gift of the Macedonians, with whom he was wintering, to the saints in Jerusalem. (see Rm.15:25-28 and Acts 20:2-3)

# Paul's Plans In the Context of Romans



“But now that there is no more place for me to work in these regions, and since I have been longing for many years to visit you, I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to see you while passing through and to have you assist me on my journey there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while.”

Rom. 15:23,24

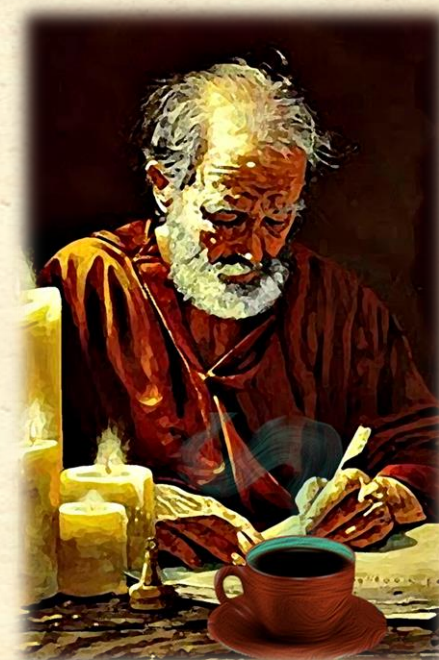
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## Romans 15:26-27



<sup>26</sup> For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. <sup>27</sup> For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to **share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings.**



# KINGDOM PARTNERSHIP

Paul teaches the church in Rome an important Kingdom principle—the principle of **spiritual partnership**.

## Philippians 4:14-20

<sup>14</sup> Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. <sup>15</sup> And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, **no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving**, except you only. <sup>16</sup> Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. <sup>17</sup> Not that I seek the gift, but I **seek the fruit that increases to your credit**.

# KINGDOM PARTNERSHIP

## Philippians 4:14-20

<sup>18</sup> I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus **the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.** <sup>19</sup> And **my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.** <sup>20</sup> To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

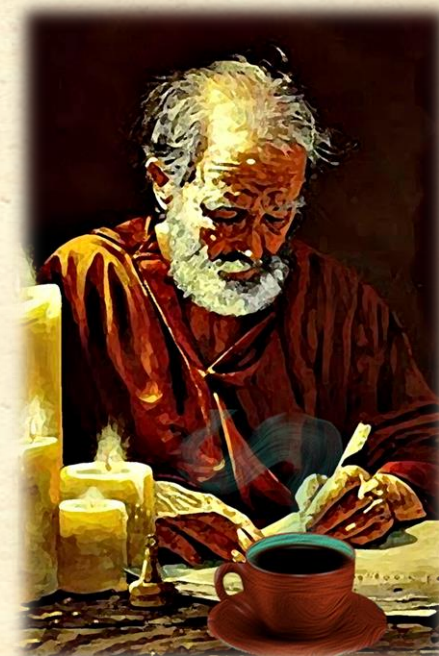


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## Romans 15:30-33

<sup>30</sup> I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to **strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,** <sup>31</sup> **that I may be delivered** from the unbelievers in Judea, and **that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable** to the saints, <sup>32</sup> **so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company.** <sup>33</sup> May the God of peace be with you all. Amen.



# PLANNING AND PRAYING

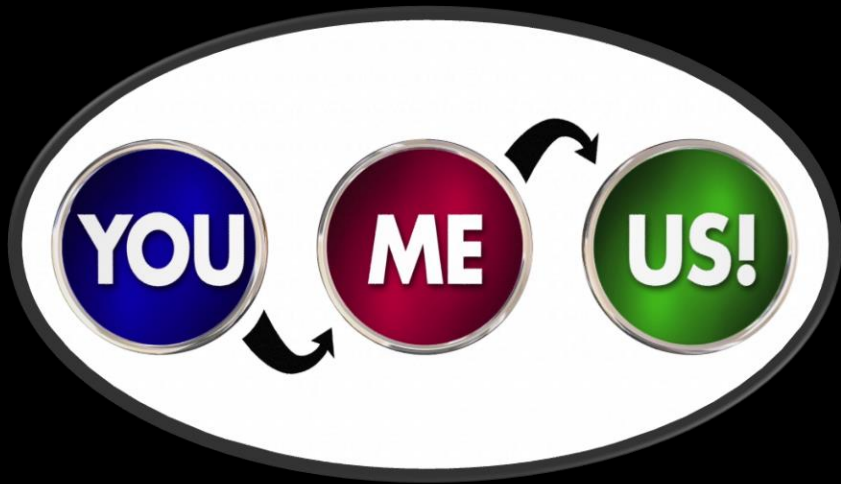
Paul made plans for his future, but he subjected them to prayer!

He also invited others to partner with him in prayer.

**Paul understood that the success of any endeavor depended on God!**



# *Living* TRUTH



Like Paul, we are called  
to share the Gospel with others  
by word, deed and power,  
and to be in spiritual partnership  
with others who are engaged in  
the spread of the Gospel!

THE LETTERS OF PAUL