

ROMANS



Romans 16:25-27

Paul's doxology



Our 3 Questions

1. What does the text say?

- **Authorial intent to the intended audience.**

2. What does the text mean?

- **The timeless theological truth.**

3. How does this apply today?

- **What we ought to do with/because of this truth.**

Romans 16:25-27

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

Romans 16:25-27

**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.**

Preview

- **25a & 27 – To God be the glory**
- **25b & 26b – God strengthens us**
- **25c – The gospel of Jesus Christ**
 - **Chapters 1-3**
- **25d-26a – In accord with God's revelation**
 - **Chapter 4-5 & 9-11**
- **26b – The obedience of faith**
 - **Chapters 6-8 & 12-15**

Preview

**God be glorified forever,
because of the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
what God accomplishes through it for
us and in us, and the wisdom of God
that we get to witness in its unfolding
in history.**

Romans 16:25a & 27

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.

Romans 16:25a & 27

Now to him ...

**To the only wise God be glory
forevermore through Jesus Christ!**

Amen

This is a doxology

**It is a closing statement in the letter,
praising God**

Romans 16:25b

Now to him who is able to strengthen
you ...

God is able to and does “strengthen” us

What does Paul mean by “strengthen”?

1 Timothy 4:7-8

⁷ Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; ⁸ for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

Romans 16:25b

Now to him who is able to strengthen you ...

¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—

¹² that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine.

Romans 16:25a & 27

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.

Romans 16:25c

Now to him who is able to strengthen
you according to my gospel and the
preaching of Jesus Christ ...

What does Paul mean by “my gospel”

What is the connection between Jesus
Christ and Gospel?

Romans 1:1 & 3-4

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

³ *concerning his Son*, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be the *Son of God* in power according to the Spirit of holiness **by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord**

Romans 1:16-17

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith

Romans 1

²¹ For although they knew God, they **did not honor him** as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the **glory** of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Romans 2

6 He will render to each one according to his works...

17 But if you call yourself a Jew and rely on the law and boast in God ¹⁸ and know his will and approve what is excellent, because you are instructed from the law...

23 You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law.

Romans 3

⁹ What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin...

²⁰ For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Romans 3

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:

Romans 3

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the **glory of God**, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

Romans 16:25d-26a

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

Romans 16:25d-26a

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Romans 1:1-2

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,

Romans 3:21

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it

Romans 4

In response to the Jewish, antagonistic, dialogue partner:

Question: “Righteousness through faith alone?”

Answer: “Yes, just like Abraham”

Romans 5

In response to the Jewish, antagonistic, dialogue partner:

Question: “So we are ‘in Christ’ and therefore righteous and justified?”

Answer: “Yes, just like being in Adam and therefore guilty and condemned.”

Romans 9-11

In response to the Jewish, antagonistic, dialogue partner:

Question:

“If God finishes what He starts, why is it that most of Israel does not believe in Jesus? Has God’s word failed?”

Romans 9-11

Answer in chapter 9:

God is sovereign and does not fail.

⁶ But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷ and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”

Romans 9-11

Answer in chapter 10:

- **Israel has largely fallen away, due to their unbelief.**
- **Verse 18: God sent preachers of the gospel. They heard it.**
- **Verse 19: They had every chance to understand it. Verse 19**
- **Verse 21: Israel failed to believe out of their own disobedience.**

Romans 9-11

Answer in chapter 11:

- **God is not done with Israel.**
- **There is a remnant (including Paul)**
- **God has a plan for the inclusion of Israel, upon the fullness of time.**
- **God's mysterious plan revealed**

Romans 16:26b

according to the command of the
eternal God, to bring about the
obedience of faith

1:5 through whom we have received
grace and apostleship to bring about
the obedience of faith

Romans 6-8

In response to the Jewish, antagonistic, dialogue partner:

Question:

If righteousness is received as a gift by faith, why not go on in sinning?

Since grace is good, won't more sin just mean more good grace?

Romans 6

Answer:

No, we who put our faith in Jesus participate in His death and resurrection. We died to sin with Him.

Jesus is both Savior AND Lord, so we actively submit to Him.

Romans 7

Answer:

In fact, prior to Jesus, we are not properly empowered to produce righteousness, because of our slavery to sin.

Jesus saves us from sin's consequence AND sin's power.

Romans 8

Answer:

In Christ, we are indwelled by the Spirit who helps us in many ways.

- **Pursuit of Righteousness**
- **Affection with the Father in adoption**
- **Intercession in prayer**
- **Confidence of our hope of glory**

Romans 12-15

Obedience of Faith continued

Romans 12:1-2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 12-15

Obedience of Faith continued

Romans 12:3-8 – As the Church

Romans 12:9-21 – In the Church

Romans 13:1-7 – In the world

Romans 13:8-14 – With the world

Romans 14-15:13 – A plea for unity

Romans 16:27

**²⁷ to the only wise God be glory
forevermore through Jesus Christ!
Amen.**

**It all rolls up into the glory of God.
The Scriptures point to Jesus and the
gospel of salvation, leading to lives of
worshipful obedience, all resulting in
the glory of God through Jesus Christ.**

Application

Praise God

- **That He has revealed Himself**
- **His word is trustworthy**
- **That God finishes what He starts**
- **Jesus came to save us**

Application

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Application

May every delight of our life that is worthy of our appreciation roll forward into the glory of God through Christ Jesus.

May the gospel be at the top of our list.

Questions

- Did anything jump out to you from the text or the sermon?
- After working through Romans, how do you feel about your understanding of the book? Is there anything you understand better about the Christian faith after working through Paul's letter?

Paul concludes his letter with a declaration of the glory of God.

- When you think about your prayer life, what role does praise play? Are your prayers filled with appreciation and praises or do you find that you complain more than you praise?
- Can you think of anything in your life that makes you want to burst with delight? Maybe you don't have anything right now, but maybe you can think of a time in your life when that was true. Maybe a person you like just told you that they liked you back? Maybe you are eating your favorite meal or you just watched your favorite movie for the first time?
 - When you feel that way, where is the expression of that delight aimed? Do you aim it at the Lord in gratitude or does it go somewhere else?
 - Do you ever feel that way about the Lord? What would it look like to pursue the kind of joy in the Lord that is bursting into praises?