

# ROMANS



# **Romans 16:1-23**

**Paul's Greetings and Warnings**



# **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 16:1-23

<sup>1</sup> I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae,  
<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

# Romans 16:1-23

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in Asia. <sup>6</sup> Greet Mary, who has worked hard for you.

# Romans 16:1-23

**<sup>7</sup> Greet Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners. They are well known to the apostles, and they were in Christ before me. <sup>8</sup> Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord. <sup>9</sup> Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys. <sup>10</sup> Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ.**

# Romans 16:1-23

**Greet those who belong to the family of Aristobulus. <sup>11</sup> Greet my kinsman Herodion. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of Narcissus.**

**<sup>12</sup> Greet those workers in the Lord, Tryphaena and Tryphosa. Greet the beloved Persis, who has worked hard in the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord;**

# Romans 16:1-23

also his mother, who has been a mother to me as well. <sup>14</sup> Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers who are with them. <sup>15</sup> Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. <sup>16</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.



# Romans 16:1-23

**<sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.**

# Romans 16:1-23

**<sup>19</sup> For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil. <sup>20</sup> The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.**

# Romans 16:1-23

**<sup>21</sup> Timothy, my fellow worker, greets you; so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen.**

**<sup>22</sup> I Tertius, who wrote this letter, greet you in the Lord.**

**<sup>23</sup> Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus, greet you.**

# Preview

- **1-16 & 21-23 – Paul’s greetings**
  - **Who to honor and draw near to**
- **17-19 – Paul’s warning – false teachers**
  - **Who to avoid**
    - **Know what is good, not evil**
- **20 – The Lord’s coming victory**
  - **Satan’s past, present, and future loss**
- **Applications**
  - **Who to draw near to and who to avoid**

# Romans 16:1-16 & 21-23

What is Paul doing in this section?

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- **Greeting People**
  - 24 people by name
  - 3-5 gatherings (5, 14-15 & 10b & 11b)
- **Honoring People (“in Christ”)**
  - Supporters – Phoebe
  - Risk-taking missionaries
  - Workers

# Romans 16:1-16 & 21-23

## What do we learn?

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- **Women on Mission**
  - **Phoebe, Prisca, Junia, Mary, Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis, Julia, the mother of Rufus, and the sister of Nereus**
- **It is good to honor and draw attention to trustworthy workers for Christ.**

# Romans 16:1-16 & 21-23

What do we do?

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**Tyler and Andrea, Gen and Keith, Dave,  
Teresa Chapman, Jarrett and Emma  
along with their team, Ostranders,  
Cartwrights, Rolstens, Wallaces,  
Snyders, Joel, The Carpenters, The  
Richardsons, Jo, Aubrey, Payton and so  
many other worship leaders, The  
Harmons, Morrises, Vosses, Kittecks,  
Padillas, Gerigs, Coopers, Gammages**



# 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.**

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**It is not good to cause division, yet sometimes we avoid people...**

# Romans 16:17

**14:1 As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.**

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**God**

**Humanity (in relation to God)**

**Jesus – life**

**Jesus – death**

**Jesus – resurrection**

**The Gospel**

# Romans 16:17

**<sup>18</sup> For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.**

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## **False Teachers**

- **Motivation: their appetites (stomach)**
- **Speech: “Smooth talk and flattery”**
- **Result: Deceive the naive**

# Romans 16:18

**<sup>19</sup> For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.**

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**The way to safeguard against false teachers is to know the truth in a growing measure.**

**Know too that there is evil, but don't set your mind to go after it.**

# Romans 16:20

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

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**We need not busy ourselves with evil, because God will defeat Satan for us.**

**Past (Colossians 2:13-15), Present (Matthew 16:18), Future (Rev. 20:7-15)**

# Application

**We've shown honor and pointed out people to engage with.**

**What about who we should avoid?  
How do we think about that?**

# Application

## Orthodox Open

Believe core  
Christian  
doctrine.

Openly  
teach and  
preach the  
Scripture.

## Orthodox Closed

Believe core  
Christian  
doctrine.

Don't  
Openly  
teach and  
preach the  
Scripture.

## Non- Orthodox Closed

Don't  
Believe core  
Christian  
doctrine.

Don't  
Openly  
teach and  
preach their  
beliefs.

## Non- Orthodox Open

Don't  
Believe core  
Christian  
doctrine.

Openly  
teach and  
preach their  
beliefs.

# 5, 10, & 20 Years In?

## Orthodox Open

Grow in  
knowledge  
of Truth

Strong faith

Open and  
share faith

## Orthodox Closed

Minimal  
growth in  
knowledge  
of Truth

Weak faith

Susceptible  
to culture

## Non- Orthodox Closed

Minimal  
adoption of  
false claims

Weak or  
absent faith

Susceptible  
to culture.

## Non- Orthodox Open

Adoption of  
false  
teaching

No saving  
faith

You are the  
culture



# How to Know?

## Statement of Faith:

- Do they have one?
- Consider the 5 points
  - Position of Humanity
- View of Scripture

## Preaching or Content:

- How do they get to truth?
- Is God or Man central?
- Is the Gospel preached

# For the rest of us

**What is true about churches is true about other sources of influence.**

- **Mentors**
- **Friends**
- **Authors**
- **Podcasts**
- **Music, Movies, & News**

# Questions

- **Who do you think are the top three or four influencers in your life?**
  - **Are those people that you chose or are they in the place of influence on accident?**
  - **If you chose them; how did you choose them? If you didn't' choose them; are they the kind of people you want influencing you?**
- **If you had to place yourself in one of those four categories of Orthodox Open, Orthodox Closed, Non-Orthodox Closed, Non- Orthodox open; what would it be?**
- **Who are the people in your life that you think you have the most influence on? What will happen to them after 10+ years in your care?**
- **Paul points the Church to a number of people. Can you think of people that you've pointed others towards? Are they Godly leaders or did you suggest them for other reasons?**
- **Paul says to avoid the people with certain beliefs who claim to be teachers in the faith. Are there topics in your beliefs that, when someone disagrees with you, you no longer feel like you fit well in community with them?**