

Romans: The Power of the Gospel (The Gospel Unites)

What Makes a Great Church?

June 7, 2017; Romans 15:14-33

The doctrinal part of Romans is now over. In chapters 15 and 16 Paul now relates personal information along with greetings to the Roman believers

The church at Rome now about 25 years old

A Good (Reputation)

Romans 15:14

I myself am convinced, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with knowledge and competent to instruct one another.

They are full of (goodness) – Like Barnabas, a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith

They are complete in (knowledge) – of Jesus, of the scriptures

They are competent to (instruct) one another – their maturity kept them from being dependent on just one leader

They care about the (whole world)

Apostles are ones sent forth to break ground in new areas.

Romans 15:16

to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

diakonos—servant, or deacon.

leitourgos - those who were involved in priestly service

Romans 15:20

20 It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

(Settler) Mentality Vs. (Pioneer) Mentality

Our task is to see where His heart is leading us, and to follow Him. And to be interested and concerned about where He's leading others.

They pray (passionately)

Romans 15:30-33

- 30 I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me.
- 31 Pray that I may be kept safe from the unbelievers in Judea and that the contribution I take to Jerusalem may be favorably received by the Lord's people there,
- 32 so that I may come to you with joy, by God's will, and in your company be refreshed.
- 33 The God of peace be with you all. Amen.

The word which he uses for prayer means to agonize