



Ministry Identified

ROMANS 15: 14 – 22

22 MARCH 2020 P.M.

SERIES: ROMANS: THE ROAD TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

Romans 15: 14 - 17

¹⁴ And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another. ¹⁵ But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God, ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that *my* offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁷ Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God.

Romans 15: 18 - 22

¹⁸ For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed, ¹⁹ in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. ²⁰ And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was *already* named, so that I would not build on another man's foundation; ²¹ but as it is written, "They who had no news of Him shall see, And they who have not heard shall understand."
²² For this reason I have often been prevented from coming to you;

Commendations. Vv. 14 - 15

- ▶ Paul acknowledged the spiritual maturity in the Roman Church.
 - ▶ Remember Paul didn't plant and hadn't visited.
 - ▶ Full of goodness as in high moral character and living.
 - ▶ Filled with knowledge of God's truth in the gospel
 - ▶ Fully capable of admonishing or counselling each other.
- ▶ Still Paul had written very boldly on some things.
 - ▶ There are no rebukes or reprimands in this Book
 - ▶ His purpose was to remind them again of what they already knew the same purpose for preaching today.

Priestly Boasting. Vv. 16 – 19a

- ▶ Paul identifies himself as a temple priest.
 - ▶ A priest of the gospel offering up Gentile souls.
 - ▶ Through Christ they have been made acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Paul does not boast in himself or his ministry.
 - ▶ Paul's reason for boasting was in Christ.
 - ▶ He would only speak of what Christ accomplished.
 - ▶ Christ had accomplished through Paul obedience of Gentiles in word and deed.
 - ▶ As an apostle his word was validated by signs and wonders.

Five Features of a Faithful Preacher

Vv. 17 – 19.

- ▶ Takes no credit for himself in ministry.
- ▶ Emphasizes obedience to the Lord.
- ▶ Personal integrity.
- ▶ Divine affirmation of his ministry.
- ▶ His work is thorough.

Church Planting Ministry.

Vv. 19b - 22

- ▶ Paul fully preached by faithfully ministering everywhere the Lord sent him.
 - ▶ From his words you can draw an arc from Jerusalem to what is now Croatia.
- ▶ Paul was called to plant churches.
 - ▶ There is nothing wrong on building on another's ministry.
 - ▶ God calls church planters and Pastor-teachers.
 - ▶ Quote from Isaiah 52: 15 as Paul is part of the Messiah's ministry.
 - ▶ Since the Roman church was already planted, God had not sent Paul there yet.

Conclusion



- ▶ The mature church with high moral character and living, and full of Biblical knowledge is responsible to teach and admonish itself.
- ▶ We constantly need reminders of God's word and so the pastor is responsible to preach even when we already know what the word says.
- ▶ God calls some pastors in church planting ministry and others in church building ministries, but we are all called to evangelize and reach the lost.