

Week 6: Romans 13-16

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1:1 - 1:17	1:18 - 3:20	3:21 - 4:25	5:1 - 8:39	9:1 - 11:36	12:1 - 15:13	15:14 - 16:27
Intro	All have sinned - Prosecution - Divine 'no'	Justification by faith - Defence - Divine 'yes'	Sanctification - New life in Christ	God's plan for Jews and Gentiles	Imperative - Christian relationships	Conclusion

Romans 13-16

- Shotgun blast continues
 - 13:1: Submit yourselves to the governing authorities.
 - 13:3: Do what is right.
 - 13:5: Therefore submit.
 - 13:7: Give everyone their due.
 - 13:8: Love one another.
 - 13:11: Do this, understanding the present time.
 - 13:12: Put aside deeds of darkness, put on the armour of light.
 - 13:13: Behave decently.
 - 13:14: Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 14:1: Accept him whose faith is weak.
 - 14:5: Be fully convinced in your own mind.
 - 14:13: Stop passing judgement. Put no stumbling block in your brother's way.
 - 14:15: Don't destroy your brother.
 - 14:16: Don't allow good to be spoken of as evil.
 - 14:19: Do what leads to peace and edification.
 - 14:20: Don't destroy the work of God for the sake of food.
 - 14:22: Keep what you believe about these things to yourself.
 - 15:1-2: Bear with the weak. Build up your neighbour.
 - 15:7: Accept each other as Christ accepted you.
 - 16:17: Watch out for those who create divisions and obstacles.

Romans 13-16: Main Issues

- ◆ Respect for authority
- ◆ Love for each other
- ◆ Debatable matters of conscience
- ◆ Importance of people

Authority: 13:1-7

- Summary
13:1-7: Submit to governing authorities, not only out of fear of punishment but also as a matter of conscience. All authority has been established by God for our good.
- Principles
 - ◆ Authority established by God, for our good
 - ◆ Submission not based on who is in authority
 - ◆ Give respect and submission 'due'
 - ◆ Authorities have responsibilities too
 - ◆ Conflict between authority and God not addressed here

Loving one another - 13:8-14

- Summary

13:8-14: Love each other. 'Loving your neighbour as yourself' sums up and fulfils the whole law. Loving each other and avoiding evil behaviour are particularly important because our final redemption draws near.

Debatable Matters: 14-15:13

- Summary

14:1-15:13: Don't judge or condemn each other about debatable, non-essential matters. How you yourself proceed on these must be based on faith, but you must accept and not violate your brother's conscience on such matters. God's kingdom is not about these things, but righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Debatable Matters: 14-15:13

- Debatable matters: non-essentials, matters of conscience
- Proceed only on the basis of faith
- Accept each other's judgement and conscience
- To the 'strong in faith':
 - ♦ Don't look down on those who see it otherwise
 - ♦ Don't offend them
 - ♦ Don't tempt them into violating their conscience
 - ♦ Look for ways to love and build them up
- To the 'weak in faith':
 - ♦ Don't judge or condemn those who aren't
 - ♦ Look for ways to love and build them up

Conclusion: 15:14-15:33

- Summary
 - ♦ 15:14-15:33: I plan to take the Gentile churches' donations to Jerusalem for the poor Jewish Christians there, and then to head for Spain. My calling and desire is to proclaim the Messiah, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to such Gentiles that haven't yet heard. I will come via Rome, where we can give and receive much from each other. Pray especially for my Jerusalem trip, which is likely to be contentious.
- Tracks Paul's introductory issues (1:1-1:15)
 - ♦ Himself
 - ♦ His plans
 - ♦ His addressees, the Roman church

Greetings: 16:1 - 16:27

■ Summary

- ♦ 16:1-16:27: Receive Phoebe warmly. Give my greetings to 29-plus people there by name. Watch out for deceivers. Praise the Lord!

■ Issues

- ♦ Relevance of this chapter
- ♦ Importance of women
- ♦ Mix of ethnic and economic backgrounds
- ♦ Importance of people