



NOT ASHAMED

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF ROMANS

ROMANS 15:22-33

...²⁰ and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation,²¹ but as it is written, "Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand."

²² This is the reason why I have so often been hindered from coming to you. ²³ But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, ²⁴ I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. ²⁵ At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. ²⁶ For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. ²⁷ For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings. ²⁸ When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you. ²⁹ I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

³⁰ I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, ³¹ that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. ³³ May the God of peace be with you all. Amen. (Romans 15:22-33)

Introduction

- An Outline of Romans
 - 1:1-17 – _____ and _____
 - 1:18-3:20 – _____
 - 3:21-5:21 – _____ by _____
 - 6:1-8:39 – _____ and _____
 - 9:1-11:36 – The _____ and the _____
 - 12:1-16:27 – The _____
 - 12:1-15:13 – Direct Application
 - 15:14-16:27 – Personal Correspondence

Four Lessons about the Christian Life

- Christians _____ in God's providence (Romans 15:22-24, 28-29 ... Proverbs 16:9, James 4:11-17).
- Christians _____ cheerfully, both to the poor and for missions (Romans 15:25-29 ... Acts 11:27-28, 2 Corinthians 8-9, Philippians 1:5, 4:15).
- Christians _____ for each other, and this is a great struggle (Romans 15:30-33 ... Romans 1:9-10, Colossians 4:12, Ephesians 6:10-20).
- Christians _____ the gospel with those who are lost (Romans 15:22-33).

"We [Christians] are but of yesterday, and we have filled every place among you – cities, islands, fortresses, towns, market-places, the very camp, tribes, companies, palace, senate, forum – we have left nothing to you but the temples of your gods." (Tertullian, *The Apology*, 198 AD)

"It became the most sacred duty of a new convert to diffuse among his friends and relations the inestimable blessing which he had received." (Edward Gibbon, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, 1776)