Romans 15:14-33 **Confidence in the Saints at Rome – Plan to visit Rome on the way to Spain**

Confidence in Roman's Spiritual Maturity

14 Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

Purpose for Letter

15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written more boldly to you on some points, as reminding you, because of the grace given to me by God, 16 that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

God's accomplishments through Paul's hands

17 Therefore I have reason to glory in Christ Jesus in the things which pertain to God. 18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient-- 19 in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. 20 And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation, 21 but as it is written:

"To whom He was not announced, they shall see; And those who have not heard shall understand."

Paul's plan to come to Rome after Jerusalem on his way to Spain

- ²² For this reason I also have been much hindered from coming to you. ²³ But now no longer having a place in these parts, and having a great desire these many years to come to you, ²⁴ whenever I journey to Spain, I shall come to you. For I hope to see you on my journey, and to be helped on my way there by you, if first I may enjoy your company for a while.
- 25 But now I am going to Jerusalem to minister to the saints. 26 For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem. 27 It pleased them indeed, and they are their debtors. For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister to them in material things. 28 Therefore, when I have performed this and have sealed to them this fruit, I shall go by way of you to Spain.

Prayer request regarding stop at Jerusalem

²⁹ But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ. ³⁰ Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me, ³¹ that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³² that I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may be refreshed together with you. ³³ Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Confidence in Roman's Spiritual Maturity

Paul expressed his confidence in the Church at Rome with full assurance that they are mature enough to be able to correct one another regarding false doctrine. [Romans 15:14]

Purpose for Letter [Romans 15:15-16]

- The purpose of the letter is to enable Paul to perform his ministry to the Gentiles so they may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit and acceptable to God.
 - ♦ The points Paul shared were to remind the Romans of a common danger of pride, prejudice, and partiality in the Church where Jews and Greeks are brought together.

God's accomplishments through Paul's hands [Romans 15:17-21]

- The Holy Spirit had worked through the hands of Paul in mighty signs and wonders confirming the words of the message to the Gentiles to make the Gentiles obedient to God.
 - ❖ It is in the evidence of the presence and work of the Holy Spirit that Paul finds glory in Christ Jesus.
 - ❖ Paul sees it his ministry to take the Gospel of Christ to people who have not heard lest he build on another's foundation, thus he will fulfill the prophecy as it is written:

"To whom He was not announced, they shall see;

And those who have not heard shall understand." [Isaiah 52:15, 66:19]

Paul's plan to come to Rome after Jerusalem on his way to Spain [Romans 15:22-28]

- Paul expressed his great desire to minister in Rome.
 - ♦ Work in Churches in Asia, and Macedonia have hindered him to this point.
 - ♦ Now his work there is finished, and Paul is on his way to Jerusalem bearing the gifts for the Church in Jerusalem from Macedonia and Achaia, after which his plan is to stop by Rome on his way to Spain. [Acts 11:19, 27-30, Romans 15:25-31]

Prayer request regarding stop at Jerusalem [Romans 15:29-33]

- Paul expects to arrive at Rome freely in the blessings of the Gospel of Christ.
- Paul knows that troubles await him at Jerusalem and requests prayer to be delivered from the unbelieving Jews in Judea.
- Paul wants his service for Jerusalem to be acceptable to the Saints in Jerusalem.
- Paul desires to arrive in Rome with joy by the Will of God, so the meetings will be a mutual refreshing
- Paul closes the letter with a blessing of peace (Shalom).