Romans

Pastor Lawson Perdue

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Lesson 1: Introduction

Author: Paul, the apostle.

Time: About 56 AD.

Theme: The righteousness of God by faith (justification, law, and grace).

About this book: Commonly considered the greatest exposition of the Christian doctrine anywhere in the Bible.

Introduction: Romans 1:1–17

I. A Servant, an Apostle, Separated to the Gospel—Romans 1:1

A. First a servant of Christ.

B. Called to be an apostle. Sent one. Foundational Apostle. Seen Christ.

Author of scripture

1. Jesus Christ—The chief apostle.

2. The twelve apostles of the Lamb.

3. Twenty-four New Testament named apostles.

4. Those who carry on the ministry of the apostle (**Ephesians 4:11–12** and **1 Corinthians 12:28**).

C. Separated to the Gospel. Moving into the things that God has made known through the Gospel.

II. Jesus Christ: Savior, Lord, and King—Romans 1:3–5

A. Made of the seed of David according to the flesh. Came as a man to save us from sin.

B. Declared to be the Son of God with power by His resurrection. Lord over death and hell.

C. By whom we received grace and apostleship. King of kings. Our coming King.

III. Purpose of Life—Romans 1:11–15

A. *I long to see you to impart to you some spiritual gift so that you might be established* (**Romans 1:11**).

B. Three decisions that ruled Paul's life.

1. I am debtor.

2. I am ready.

3. I am not ashamed.

IV. The Revelation of Righteousness—Romans 1:16–17

A. What is the Gospel? The Gospel is the good news of what God has done for us through the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The Gospel is the good news of grace.

B. It is the power of God. Power: *Dunamis*—"Energy, power, might, great force, great ability, strength".

C. Unto salvation: *Soteria*—"Forgiveness, healing, deliverance, protection, and provision." (Deliverance, preservation, soundness, prosperity, happiness, rescue, general well-being.) This word is used in both a material (temporal), and a spiritual sense. Wholeness. Completeness.

D. To everyone who believes: Jews and Gentiles. The Gospel empowers God to work salvation in the lives of those who believe it. IF we want to experience the benefits of the Gospel, then we must believe the Gospel. The Gospel is for everyone.

E. What makes the Gospel work? The Gospel reveals the righteousness of God. If we have no understanding of righteousness, then we have no understanding of the Gospel. The Gospel is the revelation of righteousness. It works for Jews and Gentiles, when they believe.

Conclusion: The Gospel is the revelation of righteousness!

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Lesson 2: Man's Need for Righteousness and God's Provision for Righteousness

Romans 1:18–3:31

The answer is the Gospel: God's provision of righteousness in Christ.

The problem is that even though God has provided righteousness, men have rejected it.

I. The Gentile Need for Righteousness—Romans 1:18–32

A. Everyone knows there is a God (**Romans 1:18–20**).

B. **Verse 21**: Even though everyone knows there is a God, they still want to do their own thing.

1. Philosophy: Professing to be wise they became fools (**Romans 1:22**).

2. Idolatry: Changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image (**Romans 1:23**).

3. Lust: Lusts of their own bodies (**Romans 1:24**).

C. Genuine ungodliness (**Romans 1:25-32**).

II. The Jewish Need for Righteousness—Romans 2:1–29

A. Religious people judge others; God is the true judge (**Romans 2:1-3**).

B. The goodness of God leads to repentance (**Romans 2:4**).

C. Sin will be judged and righteousness will be rewarded (**Romans 2:5-10**).

D. God doesn't respect people. He respects faith (**Romans 2:11**).

E. What people have done with the Gospel is the focus of judgment (**Romans 2:16**).

F. Legalism is self-confident and foolish (**Romans 2:17-23**).

1. **Romans 2:23**, "Thou that makest thy *boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?"*

G. The problem with law keeping (**Romans 2:25**)—Everyone breaks it.

III. The World's Need for Righteousness—Romans 3:1–20

A. Do the Jews have an advantage? Yes: they have the Word (**Romans 3:1-2**).

B. Don't blame anyone else for your lack of faith (**Romans 3:3**).

C. Everyone has sinned, therefore everyone needs righteousness (**Romans 3:9-18** and **Psalm 14:1–4**).

D. The law reveals man's need for righteousness (**Romans 3:19-20**).

1. The purpose of the law. Every mouth may be stopped; no excuses. All the world may become guilty before God.

2. By the law is the knowledge of sin. Law does not reveal righteousness, but sin to show us our need for righteousness.

IV. God's Provision of Righteousness through Christ—Romans 3:21–31

A. In Christ. Without (apart from) the law, and witnessed by the law and the prophets.

B. Whoever believes on Christ is made righteous. Jew or Gentile (**Romans 3:22** and **1:17**).

C. Just like sin was upon all. Redemption has been provided for all (**Romans 3:23-26**).

1. Jesus was the payment for our sins.

2. We are declared righteous when we believe on Christ.

D. No one can boast in their performance (**Romans 3:27-30**).

E. Purpose of the law has been established: To drive humanity to faith in Christ (**Romans 3:31**).

Conclusion: Everyone needs righteousness. We have all sinned; Jews and Gentiles; churchgoers and heathens. God provided righteousness in Christ. Man is made righteous through faith in Christ, apart (separate) from his performance.

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Lesson 3: The Way to Righteousness

Romans 4:1–25

Man needed righteousness. God provided righteousness. How do we receive it? Abraham: The father of our faith. Our example.

I. Faith is Accounted for Righteousness—Romans 4:1–12

A. Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him for righteousness. *Counted*: *Logizomai*—"To reckon, count, compute, calculate, count over".

1. Take into account, to make an account of, to impute.

2. To reckon or account, to consider.

B. *Logizomai*: **verses 3** and **5**: Counted; **verses 6** and **8**: Impute; **verse 9**: Reckon.

C. Abraham was accounted righteous.

D. God placed Abraham in the account of the righteous.

E. Righteousness was placed on Abraham's account.

F. Circumcision was a sign of the righteousness that Abraham already had (**Romans 4:11**).

G. Righteousness is imputed to those who believe, even though not circumcised.

II. Faith Brings Us into What Grace Has Already Provided—Romans 4:13-16

A. Heir of the world. Adam lost dominion. The promise brings us back into dominion.

B. If law keeping brought us into the promises, faith is void and the promise ineffective.

C. Law brings judgment, not victory. Brings judgment because of transgression.

D. This leads us to this conclusion: The promise is of faith, that it might be by grace…

(By grace through faith—**Ephesians 2:8**); So that it might be sure (secure) to all of the seed (both Jews and Gentiles, who seek God by faith).

III. How Faith Works—Romans 4:17–25

A. Take salvation for instance: Salvation is not about helping ourselves. Salvation is about a radical intervention in an impossible situation. It was impossible for us to be saved by our works, and that is exactly why God sent Jesus.

B. It takes faith to enter into what God has provided by grace, so let's see how it works.

1. God spoke a "Word" into an impossible situation (**Romans 4:17**).

   God by His Word called things that be not as though they were.

2. Abraham chose to believe the "Word" that God spoke (**Romans 4:18**). "…So shall thy seed be".

3. Abraham did not consider circumstances that were contrary to the promise.

   a. You can look into the mirror of the Word.

      Or,

   b. You can look into the mirror of circumstances (**James 1:5–9** and **22–25**).

4. Abraham did not waver; He believed that God was able to do what He promised.

5. Abraham was made righteous and received the promise by faith.

C. It works the same way for us (**Romans 4:23-24**).

Conclusion: Now that our sins have been paid for we can live like justified men. We have been set free from sin, to serve God (**Romans 4:25).**

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Lesson 4: Living in the Light of Grace

Romans 5:1–21, verse 17, "*For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ".*

We've been brought from the reign of sin and death, and now we live under the reign of grace through righteousness.

I. The Process of Victory—Romans 5:1–5

A. We are at peace with God through Christ.

B. Through faith we have access to Grace (What God did for us in Christ).

C. We rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

D. While we have positive expectations, we also learn how to deal with trouble.

1. Patience (**Hebrews 6:12).**

2. Experience.

3. Hope.

4. Love.

E. God is faithful.

II. God's love for us delivers us from judgment and gives us hope—Romans 5:6–11

A. One qualification to become a candidate for salvation: UNGODLY.

B. Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. Making all the wrong choices and doing all the wrong things.

C. Since God loved us while we were sinners, it only makes sense that He would love us now. We are being saved from wrath (determined, lasting anger; judgment) through Him.

D. We are being saved by His life. **Romans 4:**25, "Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised for our justification". Live free through His life in us.

E. We are at one with God through the payment that Christ made on the cross. Atonement: *Katallage*.

1. Exchange: Of the business of money changers, exchanging equivalent values.

2. Adjustment of a difference, reconciliation, restoration to favor. In the New Testament of the restoration of the favor of God to sinners that repent and put their trust in the expiatory death of Christ.

III. What God Did for Us by Grace—Romans 5:12–21

A. **Romans 5:12**: Born in sin. **Psalm 51:5**—*Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*

B. **Romans 5:13**: The law brought the knowledge of sin (**Romans 3:20**). What does grace bring?

C. **Romans 5:14–16**: Sin brought a reign of death. Adam's sin brought all into sin and death. What does Christ's death bring to us? Righteousness, grace, life, justification.

D. **Romans 5:17**: We are to reign in life through the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness. Reign: *Basileuo*:

1. To be king, to exercise kingly power, to reign. Govern, rule, reign.

2. To exercise the highest influence, to control.

3. We lost dominion through sin.

4. Regained dominion through forgiveness (**Colossians 2:13–15**).

E. Grace brought: justification, life, and righteousness (**Romans 5:18-19**).

F. Grace is greater than all of our sin (**Romans 5:20**).

G. Just like sin reigned to death; grace now reigns through righteousness and leads to life eternal.

Conclusion: Thank God for Jesus. Thank God for the grace of God. Thank God for righteousness. Live in the light of who we are in Christ.

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Lesson 5: Dead to Sin and Delivered from the Law and Life in the Spirit

Romans 6:1–8:39

How do we live the victorious Christian life? Through our identification with Christ; through our new life in Christ, not through legalism.

Paul identifies the Gentile and Jewish need for righteousness in **Chapters 1–3**. He identifies the source of their victory in **Chapters 6–8**.

I. Living the Victorious Christian Life through Our Identification with Christ— Romans 6

A. The question that the true Gospel fosters: Shall we continue in sin? **Verses 1–2**, God forbid.

B. So how do we walk out this new life? **Romans 6:3–5**, our new identity in Christ.

1. Know it (**Romans 6:6-10**).

2. Reckon it (*logizomai*). Count it done (**Romans 6:11**).

3. Take dominion over our body (**Romans 6:12**).

4. Surrender to the Spirit of God inside (**Romans 6:13–14**).

C. Don't be deceived. A tree is known by its fruit (**Romans 6:15-22**).

D. Sin produces death. Grace produces righteousness and leads to eternal life.

II. Living the Victorious Christian Life through Deliverance from the Law—Romans 7

A. The power of the law (**Romans 7:1–3**) (As long as he lives).

B. Dead to the law (**Romans 7:4**).

C. The law produces fruit (**Romans 7:5**).

D. Delivered from the law (**Romans 7:6**).

E. The real problem; **verses 7–21, verse 14**, "*For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin"*. **verse 18**, "*For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not".* **verse 20**, "*Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me"*. Defining a man living in the flesh, trying to please God through law keeping, legalism.

1. One who is not born again: Saul of Tarsus.

2. One who is born again, who is still trying to please God through keeping the law, produces the same fruit.

F. Our spirit delights in the Word. However, legalism produces death (**Romans 7:22**).

G. Law drives us to ask this question: Who shall deliver me (**Romans 7:24-25**)?

III. Life in the Spirit, the Cure for What Ails Us—Romans 8

A. While the Holy Spirit and His work in us is only mentioned four times in **Chapters 1–7**, He and His work in us is mentioned over 20 times in **Chapter 8**. “Romans 8 church”.

B. **Romans 8:1–4**, The legality of the new creation.

1. No condemnation. No judgment against.

2. Two kinds of flesh.

C. **Romans 8:5–6**, The mentality of the new creation.

D. **Romans 8:7–11**, The reality of the new creation.

E. **Romans 8:12–17**, The Spirit produces: freedom, sonship, promises.

F. **Romans 8:18–25**, The Spirit produces hope. Hope: The vision of faith.

G. **Romans 8:26–27**, The Spirit helps in our weakness. Gk—Takes hold together with us against our infirmities. The value of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

H. **Romans 8:28–31**, The goal: To be conformed to the image of Jesus. Predestined, called, justified, glorified. God's plan for us is good.

I. **Romans 8:32–39**, God is eternally for us. He has given us every good thing in Christ.

1. Justified, not condemned.

2. Loved unconditionally.

Conclusion: Set free from sin and set free from the law to serve God through the Spirit. Let the Spirit of Christ in us live the life of Christ through us, and walk in His victory.

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Lesson 6: God's Plan for the Jews and the Gentiles

Romans 9:1–11:36

Romans 1–3—Reveals both the need of Gentiles and Jews for righteousness.

Romans 9–11—Reveals God's provision and plan for righteousness to the Jews and the Gentiles.

Romans 9:1–5, verse 3, "For *I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:".*

Romans 10:1, "*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved".*

Romans 11:1, "*I say then, Hath God cast away His People? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin".*

God has a plan for the Jews and the Gentiles. Righteousness through the faith of Jesus Christ.

I. All of God's Promises Are True

A. **Romans 9:25–26**—God's promise in **Hosea 1:10.**

B. **Romans 9:27**—God's promise in **Isaiah 10:22.**

C. His promises to the Jews, and His promises to the Gentiles.

II. Righteousness Is by Faith—Romans 9:30–10:5

A. **Romans 9:30–31**—Gentiles who were not following after righteousness found righteousness through faith. However, the Jews (Israel) who were following the law trying to attain righteousness through their performance did not receive it. They could not perform it.

B. **Romans 9:32–33**—The Jews as a whole stumbled at Christ, because they were trying to perform. Righteousness cannot be attained by performance.

C. **Romans 10:3**—The problem with performance. Ignorant of God's righteousness in Christ. Trying to establish their own righteousness. Not submitting to the righteousness of God.

D. **Romans 10:4**—Christ is the end of performance for righteousness (**John 19:30** and **1:29).**

E. **Romans 10:5**—The failure of performance.

III. Righteousness Is through Christ's Work—Romans 10:6–7

A. Faith speaks this way: We don't need to go to heaven to bring God down. We don't need to go to the grave to bring man up. God came down in the person of Christ Jesus. Man was raised through the person of Jesus Christ.

B. The work is finished. The work is done. Simply believe and receive what Christ has already accomplished.

C. Righteousness through Christ's work is received by faith (**Romans 10:8–10**).

D. Righteousness is equally available to Jews and Gentiles through faith (**Romans 10:11–13**).

IV. Righteousness Makes All of the Promises of God a Reality—Romans 10:14–17

A. Gospel of peace. Peace with God through Christ.

B. Bring glad tidings (good news, Gospel) of good things (plural).

C. Believing the Gospel is obeying the Gospel (**Romans 10:16**).

D. Faith comes by declaration and declaration by the mouth of God (**Romans 10:17**).

E. The Word will work for whoever hears and believes (**Romans 10:18-20**).

V. Salvation Is by Grace—Romans 11:4–7

A. In the days of Elijah there was a remnant who believed.

B. Today there is a remnant who believes.

C. Everyone who is saved is saved by grace: Then and now.

VI. God Has a Plan for Jews and Gentiles Alike—Romans 11:11–24

A. Through the fall of the Jews, the Gentiles entered in (**Romans 11:11–12** and **John 1:11–12**).

B. The casting away of the Jews meant the reconciling of the world (**Romans 11:15**).

Matthew 10:5–6, "*These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:* **6** *But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*

Matthew 15:24, "But he answered and said, *I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*

Matthew 28:19, "*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:".*

Mark 16:15, " And He said unto them, *Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."*

C. Why were some outcast? Because of their unbelief (**Romans 11:20**).

D. God can bring them back if they will believe (**Romans 11:23**).

VII. God's Covenant Is Good: With Israel and with All Who Believe— Romans 11:25–32

A. Israel hardened their heart.

B. Salvation came to the Gentiles.

C. Israel will be saved. How? By faith in Christ (**Zechariah 12:10** and **13:1).**

D. God's Word is good. He is not an "Indian giver".

E. Everyone was in sin, and everyone has the opportunity to receive righteousness (**Romans 11:32**).

Conclusion: It all works for the glory of God and the salvation of man. If you want to receive salvation, you can. Why? Because Christ made it available to all, and God has given every man equal opportunity to faith (**Romans 11:33–36**).

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Lesson 7: The Value of the Renewed Mind and How It Works in Life

Romans 12:1–13:14

Romans 12:2, "And *be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God".*

Even though we are righteous through Christ's work, we must learn to walk it out. Transformation comes as we renew our mind in the Word.

I. Prove Out God's Good Will in Your Life—Romans 12:1–2

A. Present your bodies a living sacrifice.

B. Don't be conformed to the world.

C. Walking out the will of God is a process.

II. Use Your God-Given Gifts—Romans 12:3–9

A. Different offices. Different operations.

B. Different gifts. Different manifestations.

C. Motivational gifts: Given by God the Father. **1 Corinthians 12:4–6** (Gifts of the Spirit. Nine Manifestations, given by the Holy Spirit. Five Ministry Gifts, given by Jesus Christ). Seven Motivational gifts, given by God the Father (**1 Corinthians 12:6** and **Romans 12:6–8).**

1. Prophecy.

2. Ministry (Serving).

3. Teaching.

4. Exhortation.

5. Giving.

6. Ruling (Administration).

7. Mercy.

III. Let Love Rule—Romans 12:9–21

A. Let the love of God flow.

1. Hate the evil, and cleave to the good.

2. Be kind and prefer one another. **Philippians 2:4**—*Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.*

3. Don't be lazy; work and serve the Lord.

4. Keep hope alive: be patient and continue to pray.

5. Bless and do not curse.

6. Celebrate with those who rejoice, and comfort those who mourn.

7. Treat all men equally. Don't despise the poor and honor the rich.

8. Don't repay evil. Live honest and peaceable. Don't take justice in your own hands; let the Lord deal with it.

9. Don't let evil overcome you. You overcome evil with good. Life is stronger than death; love is stronger than hatred; light is stronger that darkness. Realize who lives in you. Let Him live through you.

IV. Honor Godly Government—Romans 13:1–7

A. **Romans 13:3**—Rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. (You are good; do good.)

B. **Romans 13:4**—Godly government administrates good. You should only fear if you live evil.

C. **Romans 13:6–7**—Pay tax for the purpose of maintaining peace and godliness.

D. **Romans 13:8–10**—Love fulfills God's law.

1. You cannot love your neighbor and sin against him.

2. Respect your relationship with God. Respect who God says you are. Love others.

3. The supreme law is the law of love.

V. Live Like Christ Is Coming—Romans 13:11–14

A. Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

B. Cast off the works of darkness. Put on the armor of light. Who? You.

C. Don't go rioting, get drunk, have flesh tangents, or shack up.

D. Do not make provision for the flesh. Gk—*Pronia*—Foresight, forethought, plans.

E. Put on Christ.

Conclusion: Christ lives in you; let Him live through you.

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Lesson 8: Living Out the Righteous Life

Romans 14:1–16:27

Living in a good conscience. Caring for others. Honoring Relationships.

I. Keep a Good Conscience before God and Men—Romans 14:1–11

A. **Romans 14:5**—…*Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.*

Romans 14:6—…*Regard it to the Lord*… **Keep a good conscience before God.**

B. **Romans 14:7**—*For no man lives to himself or dies to himself.* For none of us is an island. Realize that our life affects others. Keep a good conscience before men.

C. **Romans 14:10–11**—Ultimately Christ is the judge of believers. We will be judged at His judgment seat. Live for Christ.

II. Live Out of Our Recreated Spirit in Christ—Romans 14:12–23

A. **Romans 14:13–16**—Refuse to set yourself up as judge. Walk in love and consider your brother.

B. **Romans 14:17**—The kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. Let Christ live His righteous life through you. Be at peace with God, and walk in joy. Joy and condemnation do not go hand in hand.

C. **Romans 14:18**—This is acceptable to God and approved of man.

D. **Romans 14:19**—Seek to build up and not to tear down.

E. **Romans 14:22–23**—Live by faith.

III. Be Considerate of Others—Romans 15:1–13

A. **Romans 15:1**—Those who are strong should bear the infirmities of the weak (**Galatians 6:1**).

B. **Romans 15:2–3**—Please our neighbor for their good and edification. Christ pleased not himself.

Philippians 2:4—*Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.*

C. **Romans 15:7**—*Wherefore receive one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.*

D. **Romans 15:13**—*Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.*

IV. Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles Commended by the Spirit—Romans 15:14-22

A. **Romans 15:16**—*That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the Gospel of God…*

B. **Romans 15:19**, "*Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the Gospel of Christ".*

1. From Jerusalem to Illyricum. From the East to the West of the Roman Empire.

2. Through mighty signs and wonders. We haven't fully preached until there is a demonstration of our proclamation. (**1 Corinthians 2:4**).

V. Paul's Desire for the Gospel to Go Forth—Romans 15:23–33

A. **Romans 15:23** and **25**—*I have a great desire these many years to come to you…***25** *But now I go to Jerusalem to minister to the saints.*

B. **Romans 15:32–33**—*That I may come to you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed…The God of peace be with you all.*

VI. Honor Godly Relationships—Romans 16:1–23

A. Paul's personal relationship with the people of the church.

Phebe—A servant.

Priscilla and Aquila—My helpers.

Epaenetus—First of believers at Achaia.

Mary—Labored for us.

Andronicus and Junia—Family members and apostles (Knew Christ before me).

Amplias—Beloved.

Urbane—Helper.

Stachys—My beloved.

Apelles—Approved.

Aristobulus—Family.

Herodion—My family.

Narcissus—In the Lord.

Tryphena and Tryphosa—Workers.

Persis—Diligent worker.

Rufus—Chosen, his mother and mine.

The brothers with them: Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes Philologus, and Julia;

Nereus and his sister.

Olympas—Saints.

B. **Romans 16:17**—Beware of strife. Mark those who cause division and offence to the doctrine you have learned and avoid them.

C. **Romans 16:19**—…*Be wise concerning good and simple concerning evil.*

D. **Romans 16:21–24**—My friends and coworkers salute you. Timothy, Lucius, Jason, Sosipater, Tertius, Gaius, Erastus, and Quartus. Grace be with you all.

VII. To God Be the Glory—Romans 16:25–27

A. Get established in the Gospel.

B. Remember Christ is in you (The mystery, **Colossians 1:27**).

C. Live for the glory of God.