

SALUTATIONS AND BENEDICTIONS

Romans 16:21-27

INTRODUCTION:

A. Paul has called attention of the Roman church to many Christians.

- 1) Some are women who have served faithfully
- 2) Some are men and some are husband and wife
- 3) Some are messengers, some hosts

B. Now those who are with Paul, and Paul himself will send them all a brief personal message.

- 1) We know that Paul was often alone
- 2) As this letter was written he was with friends and in very comfortable surroundings.

I. Those Who Sent Salutations *verse 21 - 23*

A. Timothy, Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater

- 1) Timothy, a "workfellow" = συνεργος = "a working together with, with the same motives and objectives"
- 2) Sosipter
- 3) Tertius, the stenographer
- 4) Gaius, Paul's "host" = ξενοσ = any person in a foreign city, with whom one has a treaty of hospitality for self and heirs confirmed by mutual presents and an appeal to Zeus. Paul, obviously, did not make vows by Zeus, but probably followed this cultural tradition.

III John.

- 5) Erastus, the chamberlain = οικονόμος = a person who manages the domestic affairs of a family, a steward, a manager. He was most likely, city treasurer.

II. The Benedictions *verse 24-27*

A. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

- 1) Grace came by Jesus Christ
- 2) It would continue with Him

B. *"Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ..."*

- 1) *"stablish"* = στηριζω = "to make stable"
- 2) Now unto Him who has power to strengthen and stabilize you, as promised in the good news, and in accordance with the message preached about Jesus Christ."

C. *"...according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began"*

- 1) *"revelation"* = αποκάλυψις = "unveiling"
- 2) *"mystery"* = μυστηριον = "a secret truth"
- 3) "According to the unveiling of the sacred secret" Rhm
- 4) "Which has been kept in silence through times eternal" ASV

D. *"But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations."*

- 1) *"manifest"* = φανερω = "to make apparent"
- 2) "But has now been brought to light" Con
- 3) "And at the command of the eternal God made known through the writings of the prophets to all the heathen." Gspd

E. *"for the obedience of faith:"*

- 1) *"obedience"* = υπακοη = "a hearing attentively", "to obey as the result of hearing"
- 2) "To lead them to obedience and faith" Gspd

F. What is this mystery?

- 1) Not salvation by grace, for this has been revealed to man since Adam.
- 2) *Ephesians 3:1-6* *Colossians 1:25-27*
- 3) It is the truth of the church being the body of Christ, God's institutional servant on earth and of this body being composed of both Jew and Gentile.

G. *"To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever.
Amen."*

- 1) "To the one wise God be glory forever through Jesus
Christ" Amen.
- 2) "To God who alone is wise, through Jesus Christ, be
glory for endless ages! Amen" NEB