

R O M A N S
Our Message to the World
AMEN Bible Study 2015-2016

The Christian's Great Ambition

Romans 15:14-33

April 28, 2016

:14-22 **I. The Christian mission is God's mission.**

:14-15 A. through God's people

¹⁴I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another. ¹⁵But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God ...

We are:

- ◆ competent in Christ cf. I Corinthians 1:4-9; I John 2:27
- ◆ in need of reminders cf. II Peter 1:12-15

:16 B. for God's pleasure

... ¹⁶to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

We are:

- ◆ ministers of Christ cf. Colossians 1:7, 23, 25; 4:7
- ◆ priests of the gospel cf. Romans 12:1; I Peter 2:9

:17-22 C. by God's power

¹⁷In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to be proud of my work for God. ¹⁸For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, ¹⁹by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ; ²⁰and 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, ²¹but as it is written, "Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand." ²²This is the reason why I have so often been hindered from coming to you.

We must:

- ◆ boast solely of Christ cf. Jer. 9:23, 24; Gal. 6:14; I Cor. 1:31; II Cor. 12:8-10
- ◆ stay on mission cf. Matthew 6:33; Acts 20:24; 21:13; II Timothy 2:1-7

:23-33 **II. The Christian mission is our mission.**

:23-27 A. Our provisions

²³But 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, ²⁴I 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. ²⁵At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. ²⁶For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. ²⁷For 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..

- ◆ our encouragement cf. Hebrews 10:24-25

◆ our hospitality

cf. Hebrews 13:1-3

◆ our finances

cf. Philippians 4:14-20

:28-29

B. Our plans

²⁸When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you. ²⁹I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

cf. Acts 16:6-10; 27; 28

:30-32

C. Our prayers

³⁰I 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, ³¹that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³²so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company.

◆ for deliverance

cf. II Thessalonians 3:2

◆ for faithfulness

cf. Eph. 6:19-20; Col. 4:2-4

:33

D. His peace.

³³May the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

cf. Num. 6:24-26; Phil. 4:7