

God Is Wise and Can Make You Wise (Romans 16:17-27)

Pastor Deric

(17) I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. (18) For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

(19) For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.

(20) The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

(21) Timothy, my fellow worker, greets you; so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my kinsmen.

(22) I Tertius, who wrote this letter, greet you in the Lord. (23) Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus, greet you. (24)

(25) Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages (26) but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith--

(27) to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Practical Application

Christian...

1. God is wise and He can make you wise.
2. God wants us to live in unity, love, and peace in our lives, marriages, families, churches, community, nation, and world.
3. Watch out for those who cause sinful divisions, hate, and conflict in lives, marriages, families, churches, communities, nations, and in the world.
4. Watch out for those who put barriers between people, and especially between people and God.
5. Learn your Bible and the truths of the Christian faith well in order to not be deceived and led astray.
6. Sound Theology and doctrine is the most important thing for you to study and know of all the subjects and disciplines of study. This is the most important thing to be educated on.
7. Sound teaching (doctrine) leads to sound lives, families, churches, and nations. False doctrine leads to unhealthy lives, families, churches, and nations.
8. Avoid false and deceptive teachers completely.
9. False and deceptive people and teachers are not serving God, but themselves. They are not serving Jesus Christ, but their own desires, cravings, and appetites.
10. Be wise and discerning. Do not be led astray by smooth and cunning words. Do not let sinful and selfish words of flattery deceive you.
11. Guard your heart from error, deception, and all evil.
12. Don't be naive, gullible, and easily led astray.
13. Realize that not everyone around you is good, loving, and truthful.
14. Love, trust, and obey God with all your heart. Be known for these things and you will be safe and secure.

15. Rejoice in and celebrate what is good, and hate what is evil.
16. Learn what is good, meditate on it, study it, and live it. Be knowledgeable and wise about truth, goodness, and beauty.
17. Stay completely and totally away from what is erroneous, bad (immoral), and ugly (evil/dark).
18. Walk in God's peace (shalom) all the days of your life.
19. Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, has crushed Satan under His feet through His perfect life, death, and resurrection.
20. God will also crush Satan under your feet because of your union with Christ. You already have a position of victory.
21. Live in God's presence, power, and protection.
22. Walk in God's grace, love, and hope.
23. Work hard for the Lord and put yourself around others who work hard for the Lord.
24. Greet people warmly, graciously, and personally. Especially your brothers and sisters in Christ.
25. Use all the gifts, relationships, time, possessions, money, and all you have for God, His glory, and the advancement of His Kingdom.
26. Remember that you are a chosen member of a global family. You are uniquely called and gifted to contribute to God's work in a special way.
27. God is able to do for you whatever you need done. There is nothing that is too hard for the Lord.
28. God will strengthen you today and forever. Rest in His power. Be filled with His power.
29. The gospel gives you and others strength. Share it with others as much as you can.
30. Good Christ-centered preaching gives you and others strength. Get it and give it to others as much as you can. Invite others to hear it each week.
31. We all need God's revelation. We all need the gospel. We all need God's Word (the Bible).
32. God loves the world and His truth is for all people. Let's tell the world the best news there is!
33. God is eternal and His character is eternal. Therefore, God's truth is eternal and His law is eternal. It is unchanging and absolute.
34. Sincere faith always results in some level of obedience to Jesus Christ. Our faithful obedience to God should be progressing, growing, maturing, and increasing over our lifetime. Grow in obedience.
35. God is perfect in wisdom. Therefore, we should look to Him and ask Him for wisdom each day. Understanding the book of Romans can make you wise.
36. As we have learned from the book of Romans, we are to live for God's glory above everything else. Seek to glorify Him in every area of your life and every day of your life. All while you rest in the gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ. Gospel living is wise living.
37. God is wise and can make you wise. Be wise as God is wise.

Announcements

- August 25, New Member class: Interested in becoming a member at Hope Mountain? Be sure to let Pastor Deric know. This event happens immediately after morning worship and lunch is provided with your reservation.
- Fall Kickoff and Back to School Party: Sunday, August 18th at 10:30am. With lunch and games to after worship.
- Wednesday Night Kids Ministry Awana will start back on August 28.
- Our Youth Group is having special events all Summer. See David Barrero for more info.
- All of our Small Groups meet weekly. See our small group guide to find one that is best for you. New Small groups will be starting in August.