

"Gospel People"
Romans 16:1-16

Paul's Salutations. Rom 16:1-16

1. Our sister **Phoebe**. A faithful serving woman. Vs 1-2.
 - ♦ Carried the letter of Romans to Rome
 - ♦ Saved out of pagan religion. *Phoibos* fem. of Greek god Apollo.
 - ♦ Served (diakonos) in *Cenchrea* (Eastern port of Corinth). *Helped many*, including Paul
2. **Prisca and Aquila**. A dedicated couple. Vs 3-5a.
 - ♦ Cf. Acts 18:2-26; I Cor 16:19; II Tim 4:19. *Priscilla* = term of affection, diminutive.
 - ♦ Both served the Lord (she may be the chief spokesperson)
 - ♦ Exercised Hospitality & discipleship, *risked lives* (Ephesus?) Not bound to this world
3. **Epaenetus**. A persevering saint. Vs 5b. The *first convert to Christ from Asia*
4. **Mary**. A hard-working servant Vs 6.. Lit. Mary the toiler
5. **Andronicus and Junias**. Elder Christians. Vs 7.
 - ♦ My *kinsmen* (Jews) & *fellow prisoners* (at some time in prison)
 - ♦ *Outstanding* (marked out) *among the apostles*. They had seen the risen Savior.
 - ♦ *In Christ before me*. Veterans in the faith
6. **Ampliatius**. The Effective Nobody. Vs 8.
 - ♦ Slave name. Found in elaborate tomb in early Roman cemetery of *Domatilla*
 - ♦ Flavius Clemens & Domatilla (H&W) Roman aristocrats condemned for faith in 95 AD.
 - ♦ Is this the individual who brought the Gospel to this famous family?
 - ♦ *Loved in the Lord*. Greatly valued by God.
7. **Urbanus**. A team-playing servant. Vs 9a.
 - ♦ *Our fellow worker*. He served many
8. **Stachys**. A friend. Vs 9b.
 - ♦ Paul's dear *friend*. Prov 17:17
9. **Apelles**. A persevering sufferer. Vs 10a.
 - ♦ Approved. Tested. Underwent trials & came through
10. **Household of Ampliatius**. Ironie converttee. Vs 10b.
 - ♦ The grandson of Herod the Great. His grandfather tried to kill baby Jesus.
 - ♦ Now *beloved* of God, Christ, and Paul.
11. **Herodion**. A one-time enemy now friend. Vs 11.
 - ♦ Herodians were the political left. Pharisees the far-right. In Christ they're now *kinsmen*
12. **Household of Narcissus**. From self-love to Christ-love. Vs 11
 - ♦ Named after the self-lover in mythology. The beautiful people. A Socialite.
 - ♦ This well-known wealthy Roman was put to death by Nero for His commitment to Christ.
13. **Tryphaena** (delicate) and **Tryphosa** (dainty). Unspectacular significance. Vs 12a.
 - ♦ *Workers in the Lord*. Their slight frames didn't keep them from serving where they could
14. **Persis**. The invaluable old matron. Vs 12b.
 - ♦ *Has worked hard in the Lord* (past tense). She had served well and is remembered.
15. **Rufus**. The providential appointee & his mother. Vs 13.
 - ♦ The son of Simon the Cyrene. Mk 15:21. Brother of Alexander. Acts 19:33.
 - ♦ His father had come to Jerusalem for the Passover & was pressed into the reality.
 - ♦ Simon's wife also believed. She was a surrogate mother to Paul.
16. **Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas & brethren**.. A small-group. Vs 14
17. **Philologus & Julia, Nereus & his sister, and Olympas, & all the saints**. More. Vs 15!
18. Greet **one another** with a holy kiss. Vs 16. Greet all with holy affection

Application

1. Notice God's love & regard for every individual Christian.
2. Notice God's standard for significance -- notice what is *not* here.