

Romans 15:13-19

Minister to the Gentiles

1. 15:13-14 – The Fulness of God

- a. *"God of hope fill you"* – God fills us up after/beyond our comprehension – Eph 3:16-19
- b. *"joy and peace in believing"* – The joy and peace come from belief of truth (not feelings)
- c. *"abound in hope"* – A result of the joy and peace = trusting for the good to come.
- d. *"through the power of the Holy Ghost"* – a witness of hope to all: Jew and Gentile
 - i. (The Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost all three as one in this passage.)
- e. *"able also"* – in addition to hope, with the goodness and the knowledge of God.
- f. *"admonish one another"* – as brothers, in one Body, one voice – Rom 15:5-7, Col 3:16
- g. What comes out in your admonishment, teaching, singing? A: What you are filled with.
- h. Paul is persuaded that with what they have they can – see also 2 Tim 3:16-17

2. 15:15-16 – Grace Given to Me

- a. *"Nevertheless"* – They may be able to admonish, but Paul has written to them anyway.
- b. *"the more boldly unto you"* – Having no invitation, but Rom 1:5, 7-15, Eph 6:19, Phi 1:20
- c. *"because...grace given to me"* – Acts 9:15, 1Tim 1:12-16, 1Cor 3:10,15:10, Gal 2:9, Rom 12:3
- d. *"I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles"* – In contrast (not conflict) w/15:8
- e. Jesus Christ gave Paul a unique ministry of grace to Gentiles – Eph 3:2, 7-8
- f. Paul's authority in every epistle is based on this ministry – Rom 11:13, 1Tim 2:7, 2 Tim 1:11
- g. *"gospel of God"* – his ministry to Gentiles also seen in v19, Paul had one gospel – 1Cor 9:17
- h. Translation diff: 'a minister' vs. 'the minister'; also 'priestly service' vs. 'ministering'
- i. *"offering up of the Gentiles"* Not priestly, but perfection – Rom 12:1, Phi 2:17,4:18, 2Ti 4:6
- j. Only Paul explained how Gentiles could be acceptable – Col 1:25-28, Eph 1:6, 2:16

3. 15:17-19 – God's Work by Paul

- a. *"I have..."* – Paul was given special authority from God – 2 Cor 10:8, 11:5, 12:1
- b. *"I may glory"* – Paul glories in what was a shame in MMLJ and Pentecost – Gal 6:14
- c. *"those things which pertain to God"* – Revelation, not himself, his flesh, his works, etc.
- d. *"not dare to speak"* – Paul did not go outside his measure – 2 Cor 10:12-18
- e. *"any of those things... Christ hath not wrought by me"* – law, Israel, kingdom, circumcision.
- f. He never wrote narratives of the earthly ministry of Jesus – 2 Cor 5:16
- g. *"to make the Gentiles obedient"* to the gospel – Rom 1:5,6:17,16:26, 2 Th 1:8, Acts 26:15-20
- h. *"through mighty signs and wonders"* – Proof of his apostleship – Acts 14:27,15:12,2Co 12:12
- i. *"I have fully preached the gospel of Christ"* – He kept nothing back – Acts 20:20-27
 - i. Paul arrives in Rome (where he has not been) with it known already (see ch. 16)