

Romans 15:19-25

Paul's Ministry Plans

1. 15:17-19 – Glory Among the Gentiles

- a. *"I may glory through Jesus Christ"* – as his chosen vessel to Gentiles - Acts 9:15, 14:27
- b. v18 – *"I will not dare to speak..."* – he will glory in only those works done by him. 15:12
- c. God would make known... glory of Christ... among the Gentiles thru Paul - Col 1:27
- d. v19 - *"signs and wonders"* – 2 Cor 12:11-12, testifying his chief apostleship (sending)
- e. *"from Jerusalem to Illyricum I have..."* – His ministry was across the sea to every nation.

2. 15:20 – Not Where Christ Was Named

- a. *"strived to preach the gospel"* – everywhere except... Rom 15:8 cf. Gal 2:9
- b. Christ was named in Israel/Judaea/Jerusalem/among believing Israel (remnant)
- c. *"not where"* – A place he was not sent (to Jerusalem) - Acts 22:18, Gal 1:17-2:1
- d. *"lest I should build..."* – Paul built his own foundation – Gal 1:11-12, 1 Cor 3:5, 10-11
- e. *"upon another man's foundation"* – The foundation is Christ, who/how it is laid differs
- f. Foundations are laid by apostles (sent by Christ) - Matt 16:17-19, Eph 2:20
- g. Who is the other man? Apostles sent of Christ somewhere else - 1 Cor 1:12, Gal 2:7-9
- h. v21 *"as it is written"* – Isa 52:15 prophesies Christ sent to Gentiles (not Paul, not mystery)

3. 15:22 – Hindering Paul

- a. Paul was laying a foundation among the "heathen" – Rom 1:5,6, 11-15
- b. Paul said before he purposed to go to Rome, but was 'let' / hindered – Rom 1:13
- c. *"for which cause"* = His ministry to Gentiles -Acts 13:46, 17:5,13, 18:6, 22:22, 26:21
- d. Paul was hindered by the Gentile heathen - Acts 16:20-23
- e. Paul was hindered by Jewish 'heathen' – Acts 7:51, 21:28, Gal 5:11, 1 Th 2:14-16
- f. Paul says Satan hindered him – 1 Thess 2:17-18, 2 Cor 12:7, Acts 13:9-11
- g. Without were troubles and within were fears – 2 Cor 2:11-13, 7:5, 11:23-27
- h. He was in persecuted and placed in bonds for the mystery among Gentiles – Col 4:3

4. 15:23-25 – Paul's Plans

- a. *"no more place here"* - Paul wrote this letter from Cenchrea (Corinth) in Acts 20:1-3
- b. *"a great desire these many years to come..."* – Met Romans in Acts 18:2,
- c. Then preached all over for years 18:11, 19:10, 20:31, and had purposed → 19:20-22
- d. But... there was a "no small stir" and "uproar" with the "beasts at Ephesus" – 19:23, 20:1
- e. His plan: Macedonia/Achaia (Corinth) → Jerusalem → Rome (- -> Spain 15:24)
- f. v24 - *"see you in my journey"* – He did not plan to be arrested, this a 4th journey, to Spain.
- g. v25 - *"But now I go unto Jerusalem..."* – Perhaps they had expected him to come now.
- h. *"minister to the saints"* - Not a doctrinal ministry (15:20), but donations-1Cor 16:1-6, 15:26
- i. Macedonia ✓ Achaia/Greece ✓ but... Acts 20:3 – waiting Jews changed his route.
- j. Caught in a trial by the Jews, Paul is bound for years after his arrest - Acts 24:17-18, 23-27

