

Romans 16:25-27

The Preaching of Jesus Christ

1. The End

- a. Since Feb 2023, a lot has changed. Remember why we started? Why so long?
- b. Romans: greatest book in the greatest book, establishment, foundation for gospel of Christ
- c. Has it worked? By God, if you heard it, your faith grew with mine.
- d. Everyone who builds on a Pauline foundation should be adept with this book.

2. Unstable Teaching

- a. MacArthur taught his last NT expository by saying the last 16 verses of Mark didn't belong.
- b. Rom 16:24 is 1 of 17 entire NT verses removed in the ESV, NLT, NIV, NASB, CSB, et al.
- c. Rom 16:25-27 is questioned as interpolation, misplaced, a textual variant, added later?
- d. WEB moves it to Rom 14:24-26 to align with "oldest and best", ESV, NASB choose not to.
- e. Faithful finish: we studied Romans believing every word, and we will not stop now.
- f. *"to stablish you"* - The abundant lack of this stablishment caused us to start a church.
- g. KJ note: establish → to found or build up. stablish → strengthen or support *what exists*.

3. 16:25 – The Preaching of Jesus Christ

- a. The goal of Romans is to fully establish the saints there - Rom 1:1-5, 1:11
- b. *"my gospel"* by apostleship - 1 Cor 9:17, Col 1:25; Gal 2:7, Rom 1:1, 1:16, 2:16, 2 Tim 2:8
- c. *"the preaching of Jesus Christ"* - true for every apostle, w/o which there is no salvation.
- d. *"according to the revelation of the mystery"* - it matters how Jesus is preached (2Cor 5:16)
- e. Paul's preaching of Jesus Christ (in Romans) is according to this mystery - Rom 15:8, 15:16
- f. *"kept secret since the world began"* - excludes prophecy - Eph 3:9, 'before' 2 Tim 1:9
 - i. There was something hidden in revealed prophecy – 1 Pet 1:9-13, Luke 18:31-34
 - ii. Yet, it was spoken by the prophets since the world began – Luke 1:69-70, 24:25-27
 - iii. Preaching of Jesus Christ according to prophecy - Acts 2:16, 2:22-32, 3:18-24
- g. The mystery of Christ concerns the gospel of grace & His Body - 1Cor 2:7-8, Eph 3:1-6, 6:19
- h. We preach Christ crucified, and glory in the cross - 1 Cor 1:18, Gal 2:20, 6:14

4. 16:26 – Made Known to All Nations

- a. *"but now"* refers to the mystery Col 1:26, we saw it also in Rom 3:21,26, 5:8, 7:6, 8:1
- b. *"is made manifest"* - By revelation to Paul/Romans. By prophets would be a contradiction.
- c. *"and by the scriptures of the prophets"* – necessary to be stablished - Rom 15:4, 2Tim 3:16
- d. Whether Paul or Peter, prophecy or mystery, faith in Christ is preached – 1 Cor 15:11
- e. The scriptures of the prophets were used by Paul - Rom 3:20-21, 3:31, 4:1, 7:1, Phil 2:5-7
- f. The prophets identify Christ as Saviour of all men - Eph 2:20, Rom 1:1-5, John 4:42, Isa 12
- g. *"according to the commandment of the everlasting God"* = by authority of Jesus Christ
 - i. Paul was given specific commands by the Christ – Acts 9:15, Rom 15:15-19
- h. *"made known to all nations..."* - Something Paul himself proved in Rom 9-11 and 15:8-12
- i. The mystery was now revealed to prophets (but no scriptures) - Eph 3:5, 4:11, 1 Cor 14:37

5. 16:27 – To God Be Glory

- a. *"To God only wise"* - He has always been - 1 Tim 1:17, Jude 25
 - i. But his wisdom now revealed fully in the mystery - 1 Cor 2:7, Eph 3:9-10, Col 2:2-3
- b. *"To God... be glory"* - both in heaven & earth, by law & grace, from Israel & church
 - i. Kingdom glory Matt 6:13, glory of his grace Eph 1:6,17, in the church 3:21 forever.
- c. *"through Jesus Christ"* - the mystery of his will and work in Christ - Eph 1:9-10, Phi 3:21
- d. *"forever"* - Glory departed from Israel (1 Sam 4:21) but will never depart from Jesus Christ

Remember this? From the first lesson.

1. Purpose of Studying Romans

- a. It has been too long, and repetition is good: new people, ministries, growth, heresies.
- b. The chief book for establishing the gospel, doctrine, position, walk for the church today.
- c. Foundational - Our understanding of Romans changes the future course of the church.
- d. Its focus is on the mystery of Christ instead of the history of Christ (MMLJ).
- e. The 'purest gospel' responsible for saving more than any other book/man.