

# The Book of Romans

## LESSON SIXTEEN

### “Greetings & Final Instructions”

Paul ends his letter to the church in Rome in this final chapter by sending out personal greetings to a number of beloved believers, mentioning them by name.

**J. Vernon McGee** says of this chapter: **“I consider this one of the most revealing chapters that we have in the Epistle to the Romans. Paul has left the mountain peaks of doctrine to come down to the pavements of Rome. Here we see Christianity in action. The great doctrines which Paul proclaimed are not missiles for outer space. They are vehicles which actually operated on Roman roads. The gospel was translated into life and reality. This remarkable chapter should not be omitted or neglected in any study of Romans.”**

There are 35 persons Paul mentions by name in this chapter, many who were living in Rome, along with those who were with Paul in Corinth in the house of Gaius, where this letter was written. We get a real glimpse of Paul’s heart in this chapter and the love he had for the family of God and those partnering alongside him in ministry.

1. The first name Paul mentions in verse one of this chapter is Phoebe. Looking at **verses 1 & 2**, how does Paul describe her?

Paul had sent Phoebe to Rome as the messenger that brought this letter to them. He obviously had a very high regard for her and for her service to the Lord, and Paul’s commendation of her indicates that she held a prominent role in the church. It is assumed that Phoebe was a Gentile believer because the name Phoebe is a feminine form of the god Apollos. It means “the bright one.” The word “servant” that Paul uses in his description of her is the same word used for deacons, and it implies that Phoebe was a deaconess in the church.

2. Women have always played a prominent role in the church, and their service has been greatly valued. We see another example of this in **verse 3**, as Paul names two other fellow workers. Write down their names below.

3. Priscilla and Aquilla were a husband and wife team and are mentioned several other times in **Acts 18:2, 18:18 and 18:26**. Look up each of these verses and give a brief summary of what is said about them in each.

**Acts 18:2 -**

**Acts 18:18 -**

**Acts 18:26 –**

4. Looking at **Romans 16:4** and the **first part of 5**, what else do we find out about them?
5. Note, that these two are always mentioned together, and it is obvious that they were beloved by Paul and their ministry was esteemed as fellow workers with him. Since they are always mentioned together, it proves obvious that both Priscilla and her husband, Aquila, were equally involved in the work of the ministry together and in the church in their home. Looking at the rest of **verse 5**, who does Paul mention and what does Paul say concerning him?
6. Paul mentions several beloved workers in the ministry in this list of special greetings, with several women among them. Write down the names of those Paul greets and what he says about them below.

**Verse 6 -**

**Verse 7 –** *(Note: the name Junia can be either masculine or feminine, and some scholars believe Andronicus and Junia were a husband and wife.)*

**Verse 8 -**

**Verse 9 -**

**Verse 10 –**



9. This verse is a reminder that every local church is a part of the whole church of Christ and the family of God. Paul had great affection for his fellow believers, and he emphasizes the bond of love we share and the need to express our affection toward one another. How does Paul express this in **Romans 12:10** and in **Philippians 2:1-2**?

**Romans 12:10 -**

**Philippians 2:1-2 -**

10. Unity amongst fellow believers in the body of Christ was of great importance to Paul and it is of great importance for us today. As we come to **verses 17-20**, Paul warns his readers about those who creep into the church to deceive and to divide. Write down Paul's warning in **verse 17** below.

11. Paul tells us to **avoid** these people. In **verse 18** he gives us the reason why. What does he say?

12. What warnings do we see in the following verses to guard against those who would deceive and divide? Look up and record the following Scriptures.

**1 Timothy 6:3-5 -**

**2 Timothy 2:15-17a -**

**Titus 1:10-11 -**

**Jude 1:16 -**

13. In **verse 19**, Paul acknowledges their obedience. It's important for us to note that **true faith always results in obedience to God's Word** and to **godly instruction**. Paul commends them, that they had already that kind of reputation, and he is glad for it, but he wants them to stay diligent in protecting the truth. What further instruction does Paul give them in this verse?

14. To be "wise in what is good..." **David Guzik** states: **"This is the best defense against dividers and deceivers. It is of far more use to know the good than it is to know the evil, to learn about the genuine rather than the counterfeit."** This is why it is so important for us to know God's Word and be thoroughly equipped to counter the lies of the enemy with the truth of God's Word. What do these Scriptures say to us about the importance of being students of God's Word?

**2 Timothy 2:15 -**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17 -**

**Colossians 3:16 -**

15. In **Romans 16:19**, Paul also told his readers to "be **simple** concerning evil" (NKJV). The **NIV** and **NASB** say, "**innocent** about what is evil." The **NLT** reads, "stay innocent of any wrong." The best way to tell a **counterfeit dollar** is to know what the **real thing feels like**. This is also so true of God's Word. If we are familiar and knowledgeable about the truth, it will be much easier for us to quickly discern the deceitful lies of the enemy. Being a knowledgeable student of God's Word and being obedient to it is what brings us into maturity. Paul gave the Corinthian church a similar warning in **1 Corinthians 14:20**. He was speaking to them concerning the gifts of the Spirit and how they should be used in the general assembly, but his admonition to them applies here too. Look up **1 Corinthians 14:20** and record Paul's warning to them below.

16. Looking at **Romans 16:20**, Paul tells us that our obedience to these things comes with a promise. Record this promise below.

17. This promise to us is a reminder to us that Satan is the author of all the false doctrine that invades the church. He is also the author of lies, disunity, deceit, and dissension. Record the words of Jesus concerning the devil in **John 8:44**.

18. We are warned to be alert to the enemy's tactics and to those he uses to disrupt the unity of the church through deceitful lies. However, we are not to live in fear of him. We have this promise concerning him in **Romans 16:20**, as well as several other promises that have been given to us in God's Word. Record these promises below.

**Ephesians 6:11 & 16 -**

**2 Thessalonians 3:3 -**

**James 4:7 -**

**1 John 4:4 -**

**Revelation 12:9-10 -**

19. As we come to **Romans 16:21-23**, Paul sends greetings to the church of Rome from those who are there with him in Corinth. It is easy to quickly scan over these verses, but they do give us some valuable information, and they also give us that glimpse into the day-to-day workings of Paul's ministry. The first person he mentions in **verse 21** is Timothy, calling him

his “fellow worker.” In the rest of this verse he mentions three others. What are their names, how does he describe them, and what does this tell us about them?

**20.** In **verse 22**, whose name is mentioned and what does he tell us about himself?

**21.** Looking at the **first part** of **verse 23**, write down the name Paul sends greetings from and what we read about him.

**22.** Gaius is also mentioned in **Acts 19:29**, **Acts 20:4**, **1 Corinthians 1:14** and in **3 John**, a letter which John wrote personally to him. From all that we read about Gaius, he had a wonderful gift of hospitality and often opened his doors to the traveling saints and to strangers. He was also known as one who accompanied Paul as one of his traveling companions. Looking at the rest of **Romans 16:23**, what other two names are mentioned, and what do we learn about them?

**23.** Paul repeats in **verse 24** the benediction he gave to the church in Rome. Write down his benediction below.

**24.** This benediction is used by Paul in twelve of his other letters to the churches. He goes on in **verses 25-27** to conclude his letter with a beautiful doxology. Write down the words of this doxology below.

**Verse 25 -**

**Verse 26 -**

**Verse 27 -**

**25. “Now to Him who is able to establish you” (NKJV). What does the author of Hebrews remind us of in **Hebrews 12:2**?**

**26. What do these other verses say to us concerning “our God who is able?”**

**Ephesians 3:20-21 -**

**Jude 1:24-25 -**

**27. As we conclude our study in Romans, what was your greatest take-away from this final chapter?**

**28. \*Optional: On your own time, scan back over all the lessons of this study and jot down on a separate sheet of paper each of your take-aways from each lesson. Ask the Lord to plant these truths deep into your heart so that they take deep root and produce good fruit in your life. Is there something the Lord has placed on your heart to share with the group from your study of Romans?**

This study was written and prepared by Shawn Van Hook, 2026