

THE BOOK OF ROMANS

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GRACE.
THE FOUNDATION OF NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.

Romans 15:22-29

Media Reference Number SMX-1183

Sunday, February 1, 2026

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

The Gospel of Grace. The Foundation of New Testament Theology
And How The Justified Shall Live by Faith in Jesus Christ Alone.

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Spiritual Worship, Godly Service, Dedication, Devotion, Sacrifice, The Will of God.

Romans 15:22-29

For this reason I also have been much hindered from coming to you.
23 But now (1) no longer having a place in these parts and (2) having a great desire these many years to come to you, 24 whenever I journey to Spain, (3) I shall come to you. For I hope to see you on my journey, and to be helped on my way there (Spain) by you, if first I may enjoy your company for a while. 25 But now I am going to Jerusalem to minister to the saints. 26 For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem. 27 It pleased them indeed, and they are their debtors. For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister to them in material things. 28 Therefore, when I have performed this and have sealed to them this fruit, I shall go by way of you to Spain.
29 But I know that when I come to you, I shall come in the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ.

Take note here of Paul's Personal Communications & Expressions

He tells them in the most loving terms and gracious words that behind his heart and mind have been these driving forces that for him, as a minister of the gospel of God,

is the beautiful burden of love. And that burden of love is the same driving force that is shared among the fellowship of the believers.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

1.) Will we go to the ends of the earth? vs. 22-24

When asked by the London Missionary Society,
“Where would you like to go should God call you to go”
David Livingstone replied,
“Anywhere so long as it is forward”

Try to wrap your mind around this. It's hard to imagine that we're talking about a conversation here that is 2000 years old - here recorded in the Bible.

First of all, Paul is in the city of Corinth, Greece. As he writes this Epistle to the Roman believers in Italy, he longs to see them just as he longs to see those in Spain as well as Jerusalem, Israel.

He is telling the Roman believers that while he will be enroute to Spain to minister there, he will first pull over & make a stop in Rome

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

WILL WE GO TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH?

1a.) We must put up with the challenges vs. 22

Romans 15:22

For this reason I also have been much hindered from coming to you.

Here, Paul calls us back to verses 20-21

Romans 15:20-21

20 And so I have made it my AIM to preach the gospel, (that's a problem for the kingdom of hell and darkness) not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation, 21 but as it is written: *“To whom He was not announced, they shall see; And those who have not heard shall understand.”*

Isaiah 52:15

So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; for what had not been told them they shall see, and what they had not heard they shall consider.

Verse 22

Romans 15:22

For this **reason** **I also have been much hindered**
from coming to you.

Reason grk: di'o

This is why, on the account of, for this purpose, for this is the motive.

Romans 1:13

Now I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that I often planned to come to you (but was hindered until now), that I might have some fruit among you also, just as among the other Gentiles.

Hindered grk: eg'kop'to

to cut in line, to stop up or to impede, to retard, thwart, to make weary.
the word can refer to either demonic resistance and or human limitations.

2 Corinthians 12:7

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations,
a **thorn (just enough)** in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to **buffet** me,
lest I be exalted above measure.

We should not be surprised to hear this

Paul moved in the realm of the spirit, but he used the realm of the physical to do the will of God. He understood perfectly, that in this physical life, we are to be Instruments of God to invade the spiritual realm of dark forces that seek to blind the souls of men!

2 Corinthians 4:3-7

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, **4** whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. **5** For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (and if by any chance you think yourself unable, He has already enabled you) **7** But (for) we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

Spiritual warfare in the life of the Christian is
not only normal, it's also reassuring.

Opposition can be a great indicator
that you're in the place for God

1 Thessalonians 2:17-20

But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire. **18** Therefore we wanted to come to you - even I, Paul, time and again - but Satan hindered us. **19** For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Is it* not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? **20** For you are our glory and joy.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD WILL WE GO TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH?

1b.) We must **be open to** what He has next vs. 23a

Romans 15:23a

23 But now **(1)** no longer having a place in these parts

Like a Faithful Gardner or Farmer;
He Looks Around to See If There Has Been Anyone Who Has Not Yet Heard
the Gospel Truth. Having Been Satisfied with His Labor –
He Moves On with His Mission

Not that Paul witnessed to ever person, but that he left a
witness in every location thereabouts.

Verse 23a

(2) having a great desire
these many years to come to you,

Desire grk: epi'po'thi'a
a persistent longing for, to yearn or to have an underlaying desire to have or to be (thing or place). Meaning that; as Christians our desired values & pursuits have changed and are now upon lasting things.

His Sanctified Passion for Souls Drives Him On.

Having This Great Desire was The Desire of God.

Psalm 37:4-5

Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. **5** Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

WILL WE GO TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH?

1c.) We must **be willing to** work together vs. 24

Romans 15:24

24 whenever I journey to Spain, (3) I **shall come to you**. For I **hope** to see you on my journey, **and to be helped on my way there** (Spain) **by you**, if first I may **enjoy** your **company** for a while

Hope grk: el'piz'o
to fully expect, to be assured of.

Helped grk: empi'ple'mi
to establish a beach-head. to stop and to be filled up with supplies and provisions so as to continue on in the work (race) for human souls.

Romans 15:24 NLT

I am planning to go to Spain, and when I do, I will stop off in Rome. And after I have enjoyed your fellowship for a little while, **you can provide for my journey.**

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

2.) Will we **display the practical love of God? vs. 25-27**

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD
WILL WE DISPLAY THE PRACTICAL LOVE OF GOD?

2a.) As **love looks** for the opportunity vs. 25

Romans 15:25

25 But now I am going to Jerusalem
to **minister** to the **saints**

I love this;

“Now I am going to South Central to Minister to the Saints.

“Now I am going to Malibu to Minister to the Saints.

“Now I am going to Sacramento to Minister to the Saints.

“Now I am going to Santa Barbara to Minister to the Saints.

Regarding Christ's Commission - is This, That
“Each of Us as Christians are Either Senders or Goers.”
- me

Minister grk: dia'ko'ne'o:
administrator, contributor, servant, supporter, server, to show a rendering
of (the nature of Jesus Christ)

We Have More Insight Provided Us;

2 Corinthians 8:1-4 NLT

Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. **2** They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity. **3** For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. **4** They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD
WILL WE DISPLAY THE PRACTICAL LOVE OF GOD?

2b.) As **love responds** to the need vs. 26

Romans 15:26

26 For it pleased those from Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem.

Pleased grk: eu'do'ke'o
to think well of or to have chosen gladly, with good pleasure or to have taken pleasure in. to be well content with. happy to have been involved.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7** So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, {not grudgingly or of necessity;} for God loves a cheerful giver.

Cheerful grk: hilaros
with a happy, joyous, hilarious attitude. a delight.

Taxes & Tithing

We never bat-an-eye at paying massive taxes here in California.
We apparently don't mind paying taxes because every time a tax increase comes down from Lord Newsom – I do it !!!

To Pay Taxes is the Act of Obedience to the Demanded
To Offer a Tithing is an Act of Worship

Contribution grk: koinonia
fellowship, participation, sharing, caring.

1John 3:17

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

Saints grk: hagios
most sacred, most holy, most cherished, most pure.

Acts 3:1-13a

Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. **2** And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the

temple, which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple; **3** who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. **4** And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." **5** So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. **6** Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." **7** And he took him by the right hand and lifted *him* up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. **8** So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them - walking, leaping, and praising God. **9** And all the people saw him walking and praising God. **10** Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. **11** Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch, which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed. **12** So when Peter saw *it*, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?" **13** The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus,

1 John 4:16

And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD WILL WE DISPLAY THE PRACTICAL LOVE OF GOD?

2c.) As **love unites** Jew and Gentile alike vs. 27

Romans 15:27

27 It **pleased them** (The Believing Gentiles) indeed, and **they are their** (The Believing Jews) **debtors**. For if the Gentiles have been **partakers of their** (The Believing Jews) **spiritual things**, **their** (The Believing Gentiles) **duty** is also to minister to **them** (The Believing Jews) in **material things**

Debtors grk: o'pheil'et'es
culprits, to owe another, to be under the obligation of another - be it a person, institution or by reason of loving devotion.

Romans 15:27 NLT

They were glad to do this because they feel they owe a real debt to them. Since the Gentiles received the spiritual blessings of the Good News from the believers in Jerusalem, they feel (fell a duty) **the least they can do** in return, is to help them financially. (\$ = the least we can do)

Romans 1:14-15

I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise.
15 So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel
to you who are in Rome also.

Always Remembering This;
That it was the Born -Again Jews of the New Covenant that first preached
Christ and His Gospel to the Gentile World

Partakers grk: koi'no'ne'o
to have a share of or share in, to contribute yourself, to give of your life.

We Have A Powerful Example of Koi'no'ne'o

Luke 21:1-4

And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, **2** and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. **3** So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; **4** for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."

Livelihood grk: bi'os
all of one's wealth, resources, life, living. that which is needed to sustain
one's life (the day). – she gave to God what she needed to stay alive.

We gentiles have been made additions to His family.

(Here's a Test for **Our Wednesday Night-ers**)

Micah 4:1-2

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD'S house Shall be established on the top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it. **2** Many nations shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion the law shall go forth, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

3.) Will we be obvious about our faith ? vs. 28-29

3a.) We must **be faithful** to God

vs. 28

Romans 15:28

28 Therefore, when I have **performed** this and have **sealed** to them this **fruit**, I shall go by way of you (Rome) to **Spain**.

Performed grk: epi'te'le'o
to make complete, to accomplish the mission

Sealed grk: sph'ra'gi'zo
to put the stamp of "finished" upon the job or task, to give it the final touch, (in a modern day vernacular we would say; "put a bow on it" or "ship it")

Fruit grk: kar'pos
harvest, benefit, bounty, produce, the portion of a profit made.

John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. **5** "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. **8** By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

"When the Life of The Holy Spirit is flowing through the veins of a local church, giving and supporting is never a problem."
- Dr. Warren Wiersbe

"When God Guides, God Provides."
- Pastor Chuck Smith

Zechariah 4:6b

'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD
WILL WE BE OBVIOUS ABOUT OUR FAITH?

3b.) We must **be dependable** for others vs. 29a

Romans 15:29

29 But I know that **when I come** to you,
I shall come in the **fullness of the blessing** of the **Gospel of Christ**.

We have here before us the receipt for real Christian living.

“We need to all become **Initiators** of God’s
benevolence starting right now”

- Fullness** grk: pleroma
to be all filled up, to be overwhelmed (+) to be topped off yet still
overflowing, in abundance.
- Blessing** grk: eu’lo’gi’a (root meaning blood)
to give, praise, to pronounce a blessing, to gift another by word and deed,
a flattering speech about someone else.
- Gospel** grk: euaggelion
good news, good tidings, the joyful word, the happy news. (in the dark and
pagan world of the Roman Empire, that which was good was reserved for
the Roman elites of the empire. the message of the cross, the tomb &
the resurrection of Jesus Christ was beyond wealth. (it’s yours for free)

Galatians 6:9-10

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.
10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the
household of faith.

Hebrews 13:16

But do not forget to do good and to share,
for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

FOR THE LOVE OF GOD
Would you be willing to Follow Him to.....

End of Study

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