

# Romans Refresh

Renewing Gospel-Centrality

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## Letter Conclusion (15:14-16:27)

➤ Paul communicates...

1. The reason he wrote this letter
2. The nature of his apostolic ministry
3. His present and future plans

2

<sup>14</sup> And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another. <sup>15</sup> But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God, <sup>16</sup> to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that *my* offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

(Romans 15:14-16)

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## Letter Conclusion

### 1. Why did Paul write Romans?

- to establish the Christians at Rome in *his* gospel as the apostle of the Gentiles

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*All Christians need the gospel continually*

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<sup>17</sup> Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God. <sup>18</sup> For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed, <sup>19</sup> in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have fulfilled the gospel of Christ.

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<sup>20</sup> And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was *already* named, so that I might not build on another man's foundation;

<sup>21</sup> but as it is written,

"THEY WHO HAD NO NEWS OF HIM SHALL SEE,  
AND THEY WHO HAVE NOT HEARD SHALL UNDERSTAND."

(Romans 15:17-21)

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## Letter Conclusion

### 2. What was the nature of Paul's ministry?

- to preach the gospel and establish churches where Christ was not already named

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*Our missions engagement must prioritize "unreached" peoples and places*

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*"Unreached peoples and places are those among whom Christ is largely unknown and the church relatively insufficient to make Christ known in its broader population without outside help."*

– David Platt

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<sup>22</sup> For this reason I have often been hindered from coming to you; <sup>23</sup> but now, with no further place for me in these regions, and since I have had for many years a longing to come to you <sup>24</sup> whenever I go to Spain—for I hope to see you in passing, and to be helped on my way there by you, when I have first enjoyed your company for a while— <sup>25</sup> but now, I am going to Jerusalem serving the saints.

9

<sup>26</sup> For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. <sup>27</sup> Yes, they were pleased *to do so*, and they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things. <sup>28</sup> Therefore, when I have finished this, and have put my seal on this fruit of theirs, I will go on by way of you to Spain. <sup>29</sup> I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

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<sup>30</sup> Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me, <sup>31</sup> that I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and *that* my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints; <sup>32</sup> so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and find *refreshing* rest in your company. <sup>33</sup> Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.

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## Letter Conclusion

### 3. What were Paul's plans?

- future – to visit Rome on his way to Spain, in the hope of being supported by this church
- immediate – to deliver a financial gift from the Gentile churches to the poor saints in Jerusalem

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Letter Conclusion

*Pray earnestly and submit all your planning to the sovereign will of God*

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Instead, *you ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and also do this or that." (James 4:15)