

Lesson 34 – Romans 15:22-33

In Paul's previous pericope he encouraged the Romans to keep ministering to the Gentiles as he himself continued to do. He intended to offer the gentiles believers up as an offering to God. This effort by Paul made him proud of his service to the Lord for in it God could be clearly seen and therefore glorified. Paul intended to continue evangelizing the Gentiles to the furthest realms.

Paul's travel plans – 22-29

Paul intended to travel to Spain. Why? Two reasons:

1. "I no longer have any room for work in these regions (Corinth)"
2. "I have longed for many years to come to you"

* Note * Paul assumed, and made a very obvious statement of expectation about the Romans giving to help him journey to Spain.

But first Paul had to visit in Jerusalem. Why?

* To bring the collection taken up by the Gentile believers of Macedonia and Achaia for the poor among the Jewish believers in that city and region.

* Note * Paul says that the Gentile believers owe the saints of Jerusalem this kindness since the Jerusalem believers initially invested to send the gospel to them. It is a small repayment for their spiritual generosity to be paid back in part through financial generosity which the Gentiles were very happy to do.

Paul's appeal for prayer – 30-32

Paul's appeal was based upon what? Two things:

1. "By our Lord Jesus Christ"
2. "By the love of (or for) the Spirit"

Paul's appeal was for what? Two objectives:

1. "that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea" (Which were hostile toward Paul)
2. "that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints"

Paul's appeal was to what end?

* "that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company."

Paul's blessing to the Romans – 33

"May the God of peace be with you all. Amen."