



ROMANS 15:14-21

¹⁴ *I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another.* ¹⁵ *But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God* ¹⁶ *to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.* ¹⁷ *In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to be proud of my work for God.* ¹⁸ *For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience — by word and deed,* ¹⁹ *by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God — so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ;* ²⁰ *and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation,* ²¹ *but as it is written, "Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand."* (Romans 15:14-21)

Introduction

- Romans 1:16-17 is the theme verse for the “_____ foundation” of Romans.
 - Paul believed that the only way to be a Christian was having faith in Jesus Christ.
- Romans 12:1-2 is the theme verse for the “_____ application” of Romans.
 - Paul assumed that Christians (noun) would live distinctly “Christian” (adjective) lives.

“Have you ever come to the end of something that has been exceptionally nice and found yourself feeling a bit sad about it? Maybe a vacation? Or a night at the opera? Children feel sad when Christmas is over, though their parents are usually rejoicing. We have something like that now. We are coming to the end of our study of Paul’s great letter to the Romans. In it Paul has unfolded the Christian doctrine of justification by faith in all its many ramifications ... He has unfolded practical applications of this theology ... With Romans 15:14, Paul begins to wrap this up, turning in his final paragraphs to his reasons for writing the letter ... But even though he is ending, he still has quite a bit to say.” (James Montgomery Boice, *Romans Volume 4*)

Seven Lessons about the Christian Life

- Christianity begins and ends with the good news about Jesus _____ for sinners (Romans 3:21-26, 5:8, 15:21 ... Isaiah 52:15).
- On this side of eternity, a Christian never grows beyond the need to be _____ of the gospel (Romans 15:14-15 ... Philippians 3:1).
- The Christian faith is built on _____ authority – today, that authority resides in the _____, not in a human being (Romans 15:15-16, 15:19 ... Acts 2:43, 5:12, 2 Corinthians 12:12).
- The Christian faith is good news for _____ who will repent of their sins and believe in Jesus (Romans 15:16, 15:18).
- Christians are saved by grace alone through _____ in Christ alone – but the faith that saves is _____ (Romans 15:16, 15:18).
- There is a certain kind of _____, or boasting, that is entirely appropriate for the Christian (Romans 15:17-18 ... Proverbs 8:13, Matthew 5:3).
- Christians have a desire and a calling to see the gospel proclaimed to those who have _____ (Romans 15:19-21 ... Isaiah 52:15).