



A STUDY OF  
THE BOOK OF  
**ROMANS**

upgrade



# CHAPTER 16

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**upgrade**



# ROMANS 16: FAITHFUL SERVANTS IN THE FAMILY OF GOD

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## **THEMES:**

- **Honoring those who serve Christ faithfully**
- **Living in unity and discernment within the body of Christ**
- **AUTHOR: Apostle Paul**



## ROMANS 16:1 – 2 (NKJV)

- <sup>1</sup> I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea,
- <sup>2</sup> that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.



# Greeting the Faithful (vv. 1 – 2)

- Paul honors Phoebe, a faithful servant and helper of many.
- **Verse: 'Receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints...'**
- Phoebe exemplifies Christian service and generosity. Her name means 'bright' — a reflection of her faithfulness and character.

**Paul teaches us to honor and support those who serve.**



## **GALATIANS 6:10 (NKJV)**

**Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 16:14 (NKJV)**

**Let all that you do be done with love.**



## ROMANS 16:3 – 5 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,

<sup>4</sup> who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

<sup>5</sup> Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ.



# Recognizing Ministry Partnerships (vv. 3 – 5a)

- Paul acknowledges Priscilla and Aquila — a couple devoted to ministry. Their home became a church.
- Verse: 'Who risked their own necks for my life...'

**God often uses families and partnerships  
for Kingdom work.**



## ACTS 18:2 – 3 (NKJV)

**<sup>2</sup> And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them.**

**<sup>3</sup> So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers.**



## **ECCLESIASTES 4:9 – 10 (NKJV)**

**<sup>9</sup> Two are better than one,  
Because they have a good reward for their labor.  
<sup>10</sup> For if they fall, one will lift up his companion.  
But woe to him who is alone when he falls,  
For he has no one to help him up.**



## ROMANS 16:5 – 16 (NKJV)

<sup>5</sup> Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ.

<sup>6</sup> Greet Mary, who labored much for us.

<sup>7</sup> Greet Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.



## ROMANS 16:5 – 16 (NKJV)

**<sup>8</sup> Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord.**

**<sup>9</sup> Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved.**

**<sup>10</sup> Greet Apelles, approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the household of Aristobulus.**

**<sup>11</sup> Greet Herodion, my countryman. Greet those who are of the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord.**



**12 Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, who have labored in the Lord. Greet the beloved Persis, who labored much in the Lord.**

**13 Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine.**

**14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren who are with them.**

**15 Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them.**

**16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you.**



# The Value of Individual Contribution (vv. 5b – 16)

- Every name matters to God. Paul lists over 25 individuals by name.
- Each person has a story of service. God values each role, seen and unseen.

**Romans 16 shows the diversity and unity of the early church.**



# Unity and Diversity in the Church

The church is a mosaic of believers from all backgrounds.

## GALATIANS 3:28 (NKJV)

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.



## 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12 – 14 (NKJV)

**12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.**

**13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.**

**14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.**



**The strength of the church is found in its  
unity, not uniformity.**

**God calls all believers to contribute their  
gifts for the body's growth.**



## ROMANS 16:17 – 18 (NKJV)

**<sup>17</sup> Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them.**

**<sup>18</sup> For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.**



# Watch Out for Division (vv. 17 – 18)

- Discernment is vital in protecting church unity.
- Verse: 'Note those who cause divisions and offenses... and avoid them.'

**False teachers and divisive spirits can harm  
the church's witness.**

**Love must be paired with truth.**



## **PROVERBS 6:16 (NKJV)**

**These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:**

## **PROVERBS 6:19 (NKJV)**

**A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.**



## 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10 (NKJV)

**Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.**



## ROMANS 16:19 (NKJV)

**For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.**



# The Power of Obedience (v. 19)

- Obedience strengthens the church's reputation.
- **Verse: 'Your obedience has become known to all.'**

**A faithful, obedient church glorifies Christ  
and draws others to Him.**



## 1 SAMUEL 15:22 (NKJV)

**So Samuel said: “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.**

## JAMES 1:22 (NKJV)

**But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.**



## **ROMANS 16:20 (NKJV)**

**And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.**



# The God of Peace Crushes Satan (v. 20)

- God's ultimate victory brings hope and peace.
- Verse: 'And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.'

**Peace comes not through passivity but through spiritual victory.**



## **1 JOHN 4:4 (NKJV)**

**You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.**

## **EPHESIANS 6:10 – 11 (NKJV)**

**<sup>10</sup> Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**

**<sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**



## ROMANS 16:21 – 23 (NKJV)

**<sup>21</sup> Timothy, my fellow worker, and Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, my countrymen, greet you.**

**<sup>22</sup> I, Tertius, who wrote this epistle, greet you in the Lord.**

**<sup>23</sup> Gaius, my host and the host of the whole church, greets you. Erastus, the treasurer of the city, greets you, and Quartus, a brother.**



# Honoring the Unsung Heroes (vv. 21 – 23)

- Even Paul's companions serve with humility and faithfulness.
- He mentions Timothy, Lucius, Jason, and others.

**Every contribution matters in the  
Kingdom economy.**



## PHILIPPIANS 2:19 – 22 (NKJV)

**<sup>19</sup> But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state.**

**<sup>20</sup> For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. <sup>21</sup> For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.**

**<sup>22</sup> But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel.**



## **MATTHEW 6:4 (NKJV)**

**that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.**



## ROMANS 16:25 – 27 (NKJV)

<sup>25</sup> Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began

<sup>26</sup> but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—

<sup>27</sup> to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever.  
Amen.



# The Doxology: Glory to God Alone (vv. 25 – 27)

- The gospel reveals God's eternal plan of salvation.
- Verse: 'To God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever.'

**Paul ends where all ministry should —  
giving glory to God.**



## EPHESIANS 3:20 – 21 (NKJV)

**<sup>20</sup> Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,**

**<sup>21</sup> to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.**



## **JUDE 24 – 25 (NKJV)**

**24 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling,  
And to present you faultless  
Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,  
25 To God our Savior,  
Who alone is wise,  
Be glory and majesty,  
Dominion and power,  
Both now and forever. Amen.**



# Lessons for Today's Church

1. Honor those who serve
2. Value every member's contribution
3. Guard unity and truth
4. Obey God's Word faithfully
5. Give all glory to God



**Romans 16 reminds  
us that ministry is relational, intentional,  
and Christ-centered.**