

Romans

(48) Paul's philosophy of ministry

Paul's personal ministry to the Gentiles...15:14-22

In what (3) areas does Paul most highly commend the Romans? 15:14 Comment? 1:8

1) goodness 2) knowledge 3) competent to instruct. Never met Paul, but great reputation!

If they were already so well taught, why did Paul write 'Romans'? vs.15 IIPet.1:12; 3:1-2

To remind (refresh) them of the truth and to lend his Apostolic authority to it.

How does Paul describe his ministry? vs.16

Paul, as a priest, proclaims the gospel to the Gentiles, then presents believers back to God.

And why is this (Gentile) offering acceptable to God? vs.16b

Because they, as all believers, are sanctified (set apart) by the Holy Spirit.

What is the only thing Paul would boast about? vs.17-18a

Only what Christ has accomplished through him. Specifically leading Gentiles to obey God

And what part was Paul's and what part was Christ's? vs.18b-19

Paul: what he said and did, fully proclaimed the Gospel. Christ's: signs, miracles, Spirit.

Why is it important to understand this balance?

Because there are things He expects us to do, and things only He can do. And so with us...

What was Paul's 'ambition' as regards the preaching of the Gospel? vs.20 ICor.3:1-7

To not build on another's work. Paul was a true Church planter, an evangelist.

And how did this explain why Paul had not yet visited Rome? vs.22

Paul had been many times diverted from visiting them, probably by the Holy Spirit.

Paul's plans for future ministry...15:23-33

Called to plant new churches, where was he heading? vs.24 Why? vs.23

He was headed to the un-churched in Spain. "These regions" were being covered.

What was his plan on how he would do this? vs.24, 28-29

He would visit Rome on his way to Spain. Be encouraged by them! Full blessing of Christ.

But, before this he had to do what? vs.25-27

He must deliver the Gentile love offering to the Jews (persecuted) in Jerusalem.

What principle does Paul remind us of? vs.27

The Gentiles have a debt to the Jews! Love offering was owed to them! How to apply...

Finally, what does Paul elicit from the Roman believers? vs.30-31 Acts 21:17, 19-20

He covets their prayers. 1) rescued from unbelievers 2) love offering would be accepted.

And how does he wrap up his request to them? vs.32-33

3) Pray: by God's will he would visit Rome, with joy, and be refreshed. Peace to all. Amen