

## **Aspirations**

10/6/19

**Romans 15:1** Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not *just* please ourselves.

- <sup>2</sup> Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to his edification.
- <sup>3</sup> For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached Thee fell upon Me."
- <sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.
- <sup>5</sup> Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus;
- <sup>6</sup> that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- <sup>7</sup> Wherefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.
- <sup>8</sup> For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises *given* to the fathers,
- <sup>9</sup> and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, "Therefore I will give praise to Thee among the Gentiles, And I will sing to Thy name."
- <sup>10</sup> And again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people."
- <sup>11</sup> And again, "Praise the Lord all you Gentiles, And let all the peoples praise Him."
- <sup>12</sup> And again Isaiah says, "There shall come the root of Jesse, And He who arises to rule over the Gentiles, In Him shall the Gentiles hope."
- <sup>13</sup> Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- <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, that *my* offering of the Gentiles might become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
- <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 fully preached the gospel of Christ.
- <sup>20</sup> And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was *already* named, that I might not build upon 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."
- <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.
- <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> And I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fulness of the blessing of Christ.
- <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 delivered 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.

## **Romans 5:1** Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- <sup>2</sup> through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.
- <sup>3</sup> And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;
- <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;
- <sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
- <sup>6</sup> For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

**Romans 8:28** And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

- <sup>29</sup> For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren;
- <sup>30</sup> and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.
- <sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?
- <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

**Isaiah 52:13** Behold, My servant will prosper, He will be high and lifted up, and greatly exalted.

- <sup>14</sup> Just as many were astonished at you, *My people*, So His appearance was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men.
- <sup>15</sup> Thus He will sprinkle many nations, Kings will shut their mouths on account of Him; For what had not been told them they will see, And what they had not heard they will understand.
- **53:1** Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
- <sup>2</sup> For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground; He has no *stately* form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.
- <sup>3</sup> He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face, He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
- <sup>4</sup> Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.
- <sup>5</sup> But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.
- <sup>6</sup> All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

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