

Romans

How to be a Christian without Being Religious!

Lesson 15 Romans 15 Continuing Instructions and Paul's Ministry

1. Read verses 1-6. How should we treat our neighbors? What should always be the purpose of anything you say about a friend or neighbor (I Thess. 5:11 and Ephesians 4:29)?
2. What gives the Christian hope according to verse 4? Read Hebrews 6:19-20. Who is the Christian's anchor? What does this mean to you?
3. According to verse 5, Who enables believers to live in unity with each other? What is the key (Look for a specific phrase in verse 5)?
4. Read verses 7-13. What admonition does Paul give in verse 7? Who accepted each of us?
5. According to verses 8-9, why did Jesus become a servant to the Jews? How did Jesus "confirm the promises made to the Patriarchs?" What were these promises (covenants) [to Abraham] see Genesis:12:1-3; 22:18; [to Isaac] see Genesis 26:2-4; [to Jacob] see Genesis 28:13-15; 49:10?
6. From the beginning, God's redemptive plan for the Jews had who in view (see Genesis 12:3)? Read Psalm 18:49. Who did David foresee coming to the Lord (vv. 9-12)?
7. In verse 12, Who is the Root of Jesse? Read Isaiah 11:1-10. Explain the phrases "the stump of Jesse," and "the root of Jesse?" (Hints: Who was David's father? What happened to the nation of Israel? Think about the two main enemies God used to defeat them: the Assyrians and the Babylonians. Think about what happens to a tree when you cut it down. Who came from the line of David?)

8. Hope (verse 13) is a very important word in the message found in God's Word. Why is hope so important to us? Consider John 16:33; Romans 5:2-5; Ephesians 2:12; Titus 1:1-2; and, Hebrews 6:19 as you answer this question.
9. Read verses 14-22. Paul refers to himself as a "minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles." Read Ephesians 3 to see how Paul explains his ministry to the Gentiles. Paul received this ministry by the _____ (verse 15) of God. When did Paul experience this grace (Acts 9)?
10. According to verse 16, what did Paul consider was his priestly duty? What did Paul see himself as a priest offering to God? What does it mean to be sanctified by the Holy Spirit? When does this happen?
11. Was Paul boasting about what he had accomplished in verses 16-17? To Whom did he give the credit and glory? How did Paul's ministry bring glory to Christ? How can you bring glory to God through your work?
12. What was Paul's ambition according to verse 20? What should our ambition be? Are you a willing vessel, available to God that He might speak through you to others? Are you willing to say what Isaiah said in Isaiah 6:8?
13. Read verses 23-33. In verse 27, Paul states that Gentiles are indebted to the Jews. What two major gifts did Jews give to the world? What did Paul suggest Gentiles do to show their appreciation? What should our response be to Jews today and even to the nation of Israel?
14. According to verse 30, how could those who could not travel with Paul join him in his struggle to take the Gospel to the world? How does this apply to today?