



The Book of Romans

How to be Right with God

(Romans 16:17-20)

The Practical Application from our Justification:

(Romans 16:17-20)

*“The Maintenance of the Unity and
Testimony of the Local Church”*

Outline:

1. The Unity of the church at Rome vv. 17-18
2. The Testimony of the church at Rome vv. 19-20

1- The Unity of the church at Rome vv. 17-18

Observation:

- The solution to disunity v. 17
 - “Now I urge you, brothers”
 - “urge” = Παρακαλῶ (cf. 12:1)
 - “note those who cause divisions and offenses”
 - “note” = to be on the look out for
 - “those who cause” (lit. note the divisive and tempters)
 - “divisions” = διχοστασίας (cause dissensions cf. 1 Cor. 3)
 - “offenses” = σκάνδαλα (those who bring about temptations)

1- The Unity of the church at Rome vv. 17-18

Observation:

- The solution to disunity v. 17
 - “contrary to the doctrine”
 - Doctrine = the content of teaching
 - “Which you learned”
 - Learned when?
 - Cf. Rom. 12-15 (Love & Liberty)
 - “and avoid them.”
 - “avoid” imperative = turn away from them
(aorist form used in Rom. 3:12)

1- The Unity of the church at Rome vv. 17-18

Observation:

- The cause of disunity v. 18
 - “for those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ”
 - “but their own belly” *NASB “appetite” (how?)
 - Cf. Rom. 14:13 (“cause to fall” is the same word used in v. 17)
 - “and by smooth words and flattering speech”
 - “flattering speech” = words that are well chosen but untrue BDAG
 - “deceive the hearts of the simple.”
 - “simple” *NASB and LSB “unsuspecting” I would prefer innocent... Paul’s word play in v. 19

1- The Unity of the church at Rome vv. 17-18

Summary/Application:

- The local church is to watch for divisive people and tempters.
- They are to be avoided.
- They do not serve Christ but deceive those who would.

Outline:

1. The Unity of the church at Rome vv. 17-18
2. The Testimony of the church at Rome vv. 19-20

2- The Testimony of the church at Rome vv. 19-20

Observation:

- The testimony of the church at Rome v. 19a
- The preservation of the testimony v. 19b
- The destruction of the enemy v. 20

2- The Testimony of the church at Rome vv. 19-20

Observation:

- The testimony of the church at Rome v. 19a
 - “for your obedience has become known to all.”
 - What obedience?
 - Who is all?

2- The Testimony of the church at Rome vv. 19-20

Observation:

- The preservation of the testimony v. 19b
 - “Therefore I am glad on your behalf”
 - “but”
 - “I want you to be”
 1. “wise in what is good”
 2. “simple concerning evil” *NASB “innocent”

2- The Testimony of the church at Rome vv. 19-20

Observation:

- The destruction of the enemy v. 20

- “and the God of peace”

➤ Cf. Rom. 5:1

- “will crush Satan under your feet shortly”

➤ What? (cf. Gen. 3:15?)

➤ When? (shortly can be used in two senses)

- “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you amen.”

2- The Testimony of the church at Rome vv. 19-20

Summary/Application:

- A testimony is intermittent not static.
- Maintenance of a good testimony requires wisdom towards good and innocence towards evil.
- **THE** enemy **WILL** be defeated.
- A good testimony requires grace (cf. Rom. 5:2)

