

Boldly Go Where No One Has Gone Before (Romans 15:14-33)

Dr. John H. Niemelä Water of Life Bible Class

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Introduction

Paul's Ministry to Gentiles (15:14-21)

14 Now my brothers, I am personally persuaded about you that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, competent also to admonish others.

15 And I have written very boldly to you, brothers (in part, to refresh your memories), because of the grace that has been given to me by God,

16 that I should be a priestly minister of Jesus Christ for the Gentiles, serving as a priest with the gospel of God, so that the offering up of the Gentiles, sanctified by the Holy Spirit, might be acceptable.

17 Therefore I have reason for exultation in Christ Jesus in things related to God.

18 For I will not dare to speak about any *of the things* which Christ has not accomplished through me to produce obedience by the Gentiles, *whether* by word and deed, **19** *or* by the power of signs and wonders, *or* by the power of the Spirit of God, with the result that I have completed *the spread of* the gospel of Christ from Jerusalem and all around as far as Illyricum.

20 And *I have done* so having an ambition to proclaim the gospel, where Christ was not named, so that I might not build on another man's foundation,

21 but instead as it is written: "*They to whom nothing about Him had been announced, shall see; And they who have not heard shall understand.*" [Isaiah 52:12]

Paul's Plan to Visit Rome on his Way to Spain (15:22-29)

22 This is also why I also have been hindered many times from coming to you.

23 But now, since I no longer have any *room* in these regions, and since I have had a desire for many years to come to you,

24 whenever I go to Spain, I will come to you. For I hope to see you as I pass through, and to be assisted by you on my trip there, provided that first I am at least partially filled up with your company.

25 But right now I am going to Jerusalem to serve the saints there.

26 For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a certain contribution to the poor among the saints who are in Jerusalem.

27 Indeed they have been pleased, and they debtors to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual *benefits*, they are also under obligation to render priestly service to them in their spiritual *concerns*.

28 So when I have completed this *task* and have sealed to them this fruit, I shall go by way of you to Spain.

29 And I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

Paul Requests Prayer for him to Minister to Jerusalem and Come to Rome (15:30-33)

30 Now I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, that you contend together with me in *your* prayers for me to God,

31 that I might be delivered from those in Judea who don't believe, and that my ministry to Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints,

32 that I may come to you with joy by the will of God and might find rest with you.

33 Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.