

**Lesson 17:
Paul's personal greetings
Romans 16:1-27**

Romans 16:1-2: A note about "our sister" Phoebe

1. What two words does Paul use to describe Phoebe as he first begins his commendation of her? [16:1]

2. As a part of his "commendation", what does Paul first exhort the Roman brethren to do with regard to her coming to them? [16:2; cp Philippians 2:29-30 (see v25)]
 - What is the second thing he exhorts them to do, and what reason does he give for this? [16:2; cp Acts 13:3; 14:26; 15:3, 30, 33; 23:24 ("provide"); 28:10; 1 Cor 16:11; Col 4:10; Titus 3:13; etc]

Romans 16:3-16: Greet these people for me

3. Who are the first people Paul desires to be "greeted" on his behalf? [16:3; cp Acts 18:1-3; etc]
 - How does he describe them? [16:3; cp 16:9, 21]
 - What does Paul say by way of "commending" them? [16:4]
 - Who does he say is thankful for them besides himself? [16:4]

4. Who else does Paul say to greet, in connection with these two? [16:5; cp 1 Cor 16:19 (Ephesus); also remember Acts 18:1-3 (Corinth)]
 - Who is the next person to whom Paul sends greetings, and what does Paul say of him? [16:5b]
 - How might this information indicate that he is also "connected" to Priscilla and Aquila? [note that some manuscripts say he is "of Achaia" (ct 1 Cor 16:15) while others say he is "of Asia"]

5. Who is the next person Paul "greet" and what does he say of her? [16:6; cp 16:12]

6. What does Paul first say of the next two (likely both men) whom he "greet"? [16:7; cp 9:3]
 - What else is "special" about the relationship he has with them? [16:7b; cp Col 4:10; Philemon 1:23]
 - What does he further mention regarding them, by way of "commendation"? [16:7c-d]

7. Whom does Paul “greet” next, and what is said of him? [16:8; cp 16:9, 12]
8. Whom does Paul “greet” next, and what is said of him? [16:9; note that this is slightly different from what he said of Priscilla and Aquila in 16:3; what might this difference indicate?]
- Whom does Paul “greet” next, and what is said of him? [16:9b; cp 16:5, 12]
9. Whom does Paul “greet” next, and what is said of him? [16:10]
- What group of people does Paul “greet” next? [16:10b; cp 16:11]
10. Whom does Paul “greet” next, and what is said of him? [16:11; cp 16:7]
- What group of people does Paul “greet” next – and specifically whom from this group? [16:11b; cp 16:10; also 16:8, 10, 12, 13]
11. What two women does Paul “greet” next, and what is said of them? [16:12a; cp 16:6, 12b]
- What third woman does Paul now “greet”, and in what two ways is she described? [16:12b; cp 16:6, 12a; notice the slight difference between this verse and what Paul calls the saints in 16:8-9; what might be the reason for this difference?]
12. Whom does Paul “greet” next, and what is said of him? [16:13; cp 16:10]
- Who else does Paul “greet” in connection with this person, and what does he call her? [16:13b]
13. Next Paul “greet” a group of people all together. What connection does he offer between them all? [16:14; cp 16:15; also 16:5]
14. Again Paul “greet” a series of people together. What is the connection he offers here? [16:15]
15. What type of greeting does Paul call them to share with one another? [16:16a]
- Whom does Paul say also “greet” them, in a generic sense? [16:16b]

Romans 16:17-20: A final exhortation against divisive brethren

16. On the heels of his loving “greetings” for the church, Paul turns to the ominous of warning them about divisive persons. What does he tell them first to do with those who “cause” these issues? [16:17; by contrast, see Philippians 3:17]

- What is the basis for determining these “divisions and offenses”? [16:17b; cp 1 Cor 3:11; Gal 1:6-10; 2 Thess 3:6, 14-15; 2 John 9-10; etc]
 - What then ought to be done with respect to those who have been “noted” for such things? [16:17c; cp 2 Thess 3:6, 14-15; 2 John 9-10; etc]
17. What does Paul say people such as this are really serving? [16:18; cp Philippians 3:18-19; etc]
- What is the danger in allowing these people to continue having influence among the saints? [16:18b; cp 2 Tim 2:16-18; 3:6; 2 Peter 3:16-17; etc]
18. What does Paul say “all” are aware of concerning the Roman saints? [16:19a; cp 1:8]
- Though Paul is grateful for this, what is his exhortation all the same? [16:19b-c; cp 16:18b]
19. What are Paul’s words of encouragement for those who continue in obedience and are not led astray? [16:20a; cp Gen 3:15]
- Therefore, what is his final “prayer” for them (TWICE!)? [16:20b; cp 16:24]

Romans 16:21-27: Closing greetings and words of encouragement

20. Whom does Paul first mention as “greeting” them, and what does Paul say of him? [16:21; cp 16:3, 9]
- What other three men send their greetings, and what does Paul say of them? [16:21b; these are all in Corinth with Paul as he is about to carry the offering of the Macedonian and Achaian saints to Judea. These may be some of the men who were chosen to represent the various congregations, and it is possible we have “met” them before in the New Testament. cp 1 Cor 16:3-4; 2 Cor 8:18-24; Acts 20:1-4; now see Acts 13:1 (Lucius, a companion of Paul and Barnabas at Antioch); Acts 17:5-9 (Jason, a Macedonian from Thessalonica); Acts 20:4 (Sopater, a Berean, was with Paul in Corinth as they began their journey back to Jerusalem)]
21. Who else greets them “in the Lord”, and what does he say of himself? [16:22]
- Didn’t the apostle Paul write this epistle? (cp Romans 1:1, 7) What does this mean? [16:22]
22. Who else “greet” them, and what is notable about him? [16:23; cp 1 Cor 1:14]
- Who else does Paul mention as sending his greeting, and what is his position? [16:23b; cp Acts 18:4]
 - Who else “greet” them, and what does Paul say of him? [16:23c]

23. What does Paul say God is “able” to do for them, and what is His means of doing this? [16:25; cp 2 Peter 1:3; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; etc]

- What does Paul say the gospel is built on? [16:25c; cp 9:25-28]

24. What is true of the gospel message now, and how do “all nations” have access to it? [16:26; cp Eph 3:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Cor 15:1-5; etc]

- What does Paul say is the **purpose** of the gospel? [16:26b; cp 1:5, 16-17; Acts 6:7; see 1 Pet 1:2; etc]

25. What, then, does Paul say is the **result** of obedience to the gospel? [16:27; cp 2:28-29; 11:33-36; 1 Peter 1:3; Revelation 5:9-14; etc]