

Series on Romans for Airdrie Baptist Church, Autumn 2021

Session 12.

Romans 16:1- 27

Signing Off

Phoebe intended to go to Rome from Cenchrea and Paul took the opportunity to send a letter with her. Cenchrea was a seaport a few miles south and east of Corinth. Paul sends greetings in Rome to Prisca (Priscilla) and Aquila, the friends that he met in Corinth during their exile as Jews from Rome under Claudius. They are a testimony to a change in politics during the intervening five or so years since Paul left them at Ephesus as he returned from his second missionary journey. Nero has ascended to the throne of Rome, but he is not yet a threat to Christians or their activities.

The list of friends to whom Paul extends greetings is quite long, considering he has never been to Rome as of the time of writing. The work that he has done in a few years has created a network of faith in the heart of the civilized world, even without his own attendance. Paul *would* appear in Rome within the next few years. He would come as a citizen in chains, claiming his right to an appeal before Caesar.

A.	Paul Commends Phoebe of Cenchrea (near Corinth)	16:1-2
1.	Phoebe is a <i>diakonon</i> of the church	16:1
2.	Phoebe is a <i>prostatis</i> patron/protectress of many, including Paul	16:2
B.	Paul Greet His Various Friends and Colleagues in Rome	16:3-16
1.	Priscilla and Aquila and the church at their house (Acts 18:2)	16:3-5
2.	Friends and colleagues	16:6-12
3.	Rufus (of Cyrene? Mark 15:21)	16:13
4.	The people with Asyncritus	16:14
5.	The people with Philologus	16:15
6.	Warm greetings from everybody Paul knows	16:16
C.	Paul Warns the Church against Division by False Teachers	16:17-20
1.	Avoid them, they are divisive	16:17
2.	They talk smooth but they are in it for themselves	16:18
3.	Just a warning, not a criticism	16:19-20
D.	Paul Extends Greetings from Those with Him	16:21-23 (24?)
1.	Timothy, Luke, Jason and Sosipater	16:21
2.	(Tertius)	16:22
3.	Gaius (1 Corinthians 1:14), Erastus and Quartus	16:23
E.	Paul's Benediction	16:25-27