

Romans 15:22-33

Paul's Plan To Visit Rome

- ◆ And so I have been prevented many times from coming to you. But now that I have finished my work in these regions and since I have been wanting for so many years to come to see you, I hope to do so now. I would like to see you on my way to Spain, and be helped by you to go there, after I enjoyed visiting you for a while. Right now, however, I am going to Jerusalem in the service of God's people there. For the churches in Macedonia and Achaia have freely decided to give an offering to help the poor among God's people in Jerusalem. That decision was their own; but as a matter of fact, they have the obligation to help them. Since the Jews shared their spiritual blessings with the Gentiles, the Gentiles ought to use their material blessings to help the Jews. When I have finished this task and have turned over to them all the money that has been raised for them, I shall leave for Spain and visit you on my way there. When I come to you, I know that I shall come with a full measure of the blessing of Christ. I urge you, friends, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love that the Spirit gives: join me in praying fervently to God for me. Pray that I may be kept safe from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to God's people there. And so I will come to you full of joy, if it is God's will, and enjoy a refreshing visit with you. May God, our source of peace, be with all of you. Amen.
- ◆ In these verses we see a lot of lessons; lessons on prayer, charity, need of assistance, and other implied lessons like love that leads to charitable works and others.
- ◆ Paul longs to visit Rome but his works/missions have not allowed for it but when it allows he will visit. He also knows the danger he will face on the way especially in Judea and Jerusalem hence he is asking for the people to pray for him that God protects him. We see the power of prayer and of others prayers. We also see the need for others, Paul was a great man of God but he needed others in prayers and assistance. We need to pray for ourselves, for others and for others to pray for us.
- ◆ Paul also mentions the churches in Macedonia and Achaia which were offering help to the poor amongst God's people. The decision was their own and it was a good one, but it was also their obligation to do so. We should also be charitable to those in need when we can and it should be from our heart, this is good and it pleases God. We're also obliged to do these good deeds but it should come from our heart.