

Romans 16:17-27

Final Instructions (17-24)

- ◆ I urge you, my friends: watch out for those who cause divisions and upset people's faith and go against the teaching which you have received. Keep away from them! For those who do such things are not serving Christ our Lord, but their own appetites. By their fine words and flattering speech they deceive innocent people. Everyone has heard of your loyalty to the gospel, and for this reason I am happy about you. I want you to be wise about what is good, but innocent in what is evil. And God, our source of peace, will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. Timothy, my fellow worker, sends you his greetings; and so do Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater, fellow Jews. I, Tertius, the writer of this letter, send you Christian greetings. My host Gaius, in whose house the church meets, sends you his greetings; Erastus, the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus send you their greetings.
- ◆ The final instruction is on vigilance; there are those who are on a mission to cause divisions and upset others faith against teachings of the faith of the good news. Such people use fine words and flattering speech to deceive innocent people; all this they do to satisfy their own appetites. Let's know the word by studying it diligently as individuals and as groups that really want to live accordingly to this faith; and also by the help of Gods Spirit we can be wise about what is good and innocent in what is evil.

Concluding Prayer of Praise (25-27)

- ◆ Let us give glory to God! He is able to make you stand firm in your faith, according to the Good News I preach about Jesus Christ and according to the revelation of the secret truth which was hidden for long ages in the past. Now, however, that truth has been brought out into the open through the writings of the prophets; and by the command of the eternal God it is made known to all nations, so that all may believe and obey. To the only God, who alone is all-wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever! Amen.
- ◆ Glory to God who makes us stand firm in our faith, according to the good news about Jesus Christ. The secrets prophesied by the prophets are now open to all and all people can now believe and obey. Glory, reverence, praise, worship be to the God of peace and wisdom through Jesus Christ. **AMEN!**