**THE PRIESTLY DUTY OF PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL OF GOD**

Romans 15:14-33

Key Verse 15:16

*“…to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”*

1. Read verses 14-16. What did Paul know about the Roman Christians (14; 1:7-8)? Of what did he want to remind them? Why was he qualified to remind them of such basic Christian themes (15b-16a; 1:5)? What message was at the heart of his ministry (16b; 1:1-4)?

2. Why does he call proclaiming the gospel of God a “priestly duty” (Ex 19:5-6; 1Pe 2:9-10)? What was his goal in ministering to the Gentiles? What does it mean that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit?

3. Read verses 17-22. What does it mean that Paul gloried in Christ Jesus in his service to God? How did he view his ministry (18)? How had God blessed him? What was the extent of his pioneering ministry? What can we learn about his pioneering spirit, his strategy and his urgency to preach the gospel (19b-22)?

4. Read verses 23-29. Why did Paul want to go to Rome (23; 1:10-14)? To Spain (24; Ac 1:8)? What was Paul’s purpose in visiting Jerusalem before going to Spain? Why was this also a priestly duty (Eph 2:14-18; 3:6-7)? Why did he want his Gentile converts to show their appreciation to the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem (27)?

5. Read verses 30-33. What were Paul’s prayer requests? What were the two big troubles he anticipated in going to Jerusalem (See also Acts 21:13)? What can we learn from him?