

sermon notes

June 13, 2021 | Pastor Tony Caffey, Harvest Decatur
Wholly Transformed | "Final Exhortations" | Romans 16:17-27

Five Final Exhortations from Romans:

1. _____ False Teachers (16:17-18)
2. _____ wisdom and goodness (16:19)
3. _____ Satan's demise (16:20)
4. _____ the brotherhood of believers (16:21-23)
5. _____ the God of Salvation (16:25-27)

Questions for further application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Paul tells the church in Rome to avoid false teachers who cause division in the church (16:17-18). What false teaching might Paul be alluding to here? How might false teachers in our day use "smooth talk and flattery" to deceive naïve Christians?

Paul tells the Romans, "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet" (16:20). Do you think this is an allusion to Genesis 3:15 (the *protoevangelium*)? Has this already happened (i.e. hasn't Christ already crushed Satan)? If it hasn't happened yet, when will it happen? See the following article for more on the *protoevangelium*:

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/proto-evangelium/>

Also watch the following video from The Bible Project called "Messiah":

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/messiah/>

GET PERSONAL

Paul lists a number of faithful collaborators in the church in Rome (16:1-16) and also from where he wrote the letter of Romans (16:21-23). Who are your faithful collaborators? Who do you pray for, pray with, and work with in ministry? Why is it important that we have a brotherhood (and sisterhood) of believers to serve Christ alongside?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Paul closes the book of Romans with doxology and worship. Why is this the perfect way to close out this book? What does Paul communicate about the Lord in the final doxology (16:25-27)? How do you make worship an essential and consistent part of your life? How do you engage in corporate worship? How do you engage in personal worship?

Spend some time meditating on Romans 16:25-27. Put these verses in your own words. Let them move you to praise God and maybe sing a song of praise to him.

ADVANCED QUESTION

Paul references a "mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations" (16:25-26). What was that mystery? How has it been revealed and made known to all nations? Why does this declaration lead Paul to conclude: "to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen" (16:27).