



REDISCOVERING REAL LOVE IN THE FAMILY OF GOD

"We are in the Praise Business"

"What is God's Ambition for Your Church?" Romans 16:21-27

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1049.

In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.

Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com

REVIEW:

1. We are in the PEOPLE business.
2. We are in the PROTECTION business.
3. Paul warns us about troublemakers in the church.
4. Paul makes a plea for observation (watch out), separation (get them out), education (wisdom to know what is good and be innocent of evil), and anticipation (the "God the peace will soon crush Satan").
5. Until the Lord returns, we must be wise to mark and avoid those who would divide us with selfish motives or false doctrines.
6. "It is better to divide over truth than to unite around error." – Cornell

What is God's ambition for your Church?

Paul gives us holy principles to remember:

1. We are in the people business.
2. We are in the protection business.
3. We are in the _____ business.

A. Edify the saints ("Edify" means to "build up" or "encourage")

Romans 16:21–24, HCSB ⁻²¹ Timothy, my coworker [Timothy was Paul's young associate and "son" in the ministry (2 Tim. 1:2), a top aid and closest friend], and Lucius [a teacher from Antioch], Jason ["brave" convert of Paul's (Acts 13)], and Sosipater [a convert from Berea (Acts 20)], my fellow countrymen, greet you. ²² Tertius, [an amanuensis (secretary) who took dictation from Paul when he wrote the letters to the churches but here adds a personal note to the Romans; "Tertius" means "3" in Greek] who wrote this letter, greet you in the Lord. ²³ Gaius, who is host to me and to the whole church, greets you. Erastus [a convert of Paul's], the city treasurer, and our brother Quartus [a servant of Paul's; "Quartus" means "4" in Greek] greet you. ²⁴ [The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.] [This phrase is actually in verse 23 and not located here in the Greek Text; it was added for clarity as a "blessing."]

B. Evangelize the unsaved.

Romans 16:25-26, HCSB ⁻²⁵ Now to Him who has power [Gk: δύναμις (dune-a my) gives us our Eng. "dynamite"] to strengthen [Gk: στήριζω (stair-REEZ-o) gives us our Eng. "steroid"; Lit., "to establish"; "a settled, stable spiritual condition—both doctrinally and experientially" (ATR); it means to give you the maximum amount of strength available from God] YOU according to my [The word "my" does not appear in the Greek but was added to show the impact the gospel had on Paul's life; "gospel" is possessive; it was not "Paul's gospel" but personal gospel of Jesus Christ that greatly changed his life] gospel and the proclamation about Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept silent for long ages ²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic Scriptures, according to the command of the eternal God to advance the obedience of faith among all nations—

C. Elevate the Savior.

Romans 16:27, HCSB ⁻²⁷ to the only [modifies "wise" but it implies that these is only one God—the wise God] wise God, through [the only way God could be revealed is through Christ] Jesus Christ—to Him be the glory forever! Amen.



Romans 16:25–27, TLB ⁻²⁵ I commit you to God, who is able to make you strong and steady in the Lord, just as the Gospel says, and just as I have told you. This is God's plan of salvation for you Gentiles, kept secret from the beginning of time. But now as the prophets foretold and as God commands, this message is being preached everywhere, so that people all around the world will have faith in Christ and obey him. To God, who alone is wise, be the glory forever through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Romans 16:25–27, MSG ⁻²⁵ All of our praise rises to the One who is strong enough to make you strong, exactly as preached in Jesus Christ, precisely as revealed in the mystery kept secret for so long ²⁶ but now an open book through the prophetic Scriptures. All the nations of the world can now know the truth and be brought into obedient belief, carrying out the orders of God, who got all this started, down to the very last letter. ²⁷ All our praise is focused through Jesus on this incomparably wise God! Yes!



The God who created us gave us a singular purpose—to Glorify God. We do this by building up those that are saved, reaching out to those that are not saved and praising the One who saves.