

# BE INVOLVED IN WORLD MISSIONS Romans 15:23-33

September 18, 2022 Pastor Trevor Cooper

Good morning! Throughout Church history, we have seen New Testament evangelists, church planters, missionaries, shepherds or pastors, & teachers who equip the saints for the work of ministry. All of these people have been called by God to a position of ministry leadership. In Romans 15, we see the possibility of making it to Rome is now in view for Paul. He says in verse 23, it's been a goal for many years as he continued the work of Christ throughout many Gentile cities to eventually visit the Roman Christians.

### Romans 15:23-33

"But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, **24** I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. 25 At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. 26 For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. 27 For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings. 28 When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you. 29 I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ. 30 I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, **31** that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, 32 so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. 33 May the God of peace be with you all. Amen."

## 1. Paul's PLAN Demonstrates TRUST and DEPENDANCE in the Lord's Control. (v 23-24)

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." **Matthew 24:14** 

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

## 2. Paul Hopes All New Testament CHURCHES be INVOLVED in World MISSIONS. (v. 25-33)

- 4 Ways to be Involved in Missions:
- A. GOER: GOES from place to place preaching the GOOD NEWS of Christ.
- B. SENDER: Delivers SUPPORT and Shares in SUFFERING with other Believers. (25-26)
  - FINANCIAL Gift of Love & Gratitude (v. 26)
  - PERSONAL Support of Supplies (v. 27)
  - PRAYING for the Task of Reaching the Nations. (30-31)

Paul's Need for Prayer is twofold:

- 1. Be protected & delivered from the hostility of the Jews so the Gospel can be PREACHED.
- 2. Jewish Christians in Jerusalem will respond to the Gentile gift, recognizing <u>BROTHERLY</u> love.
- C. <u>WELCOMER</u>: Ministers of <u>HOSPITALITY</u>. (28-29, 32-33)
- D. <u>MOBILIZER</u>: Encourages believers to <u>LIVE</u> as Great <u>COMMISSIONED</u> Christians.

Mobilizers get people praying, giving and going. They organize short-term and long-term mission teams. They are the ones helping believers find their niche as either goers, senders, welcomers, or mobilizers. How will you be involved in God's remaining task of World Missions?

#### Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision you could ever make is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, all have sinned and fall short of God's glory and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death. Yet through God's love, only Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead — YOU WILL BE SAVED. The Bible says to REPENT of your sins, BELIEVE in Jesus thereby receiving His forgiveness. And identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.