

A Glimpse Inside the New Testament Church

Romans 16

The Nature, philosophy, and the purpose of the New Testament Church

1. Different people in New Testament Church

The variety of people who loved one another in the New Testament Church in Rome

- Both men and women
—26 people in Rome, 7 were women

Phoebe

I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea. Romans 16:1

Dainty and Delicate, twins

Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those women who work hard in the Lord. Romans 16:12

- New and mature Christians

Priscilla and Aquila, mature believers

Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus. They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. Greet also the church that meets at their house. Romans 16:3-5a

Epenetus, mature believer

Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia. Romans 16:5b

**Andronicus and Junias,
mature believers**

Greet Andronicus and Junias, my relatives who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.

Romans 16:7

**Apelles,
a mature believer**

Greet Apelles, tested and approved in Christ. **Romans 16:10a**

- Aristocrats and slaves, rich and poor

**Aristobulus, close to Emperor
Claudius**

Greet those who belong to the household of Aristobulus.

Romans 16:10b

**Narcissus, wealthy secretary to
Emperor Claudius**

Greet Herodion, my relative. Greet those in the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord.

Romans 16:11

Jews and Gentiles

Timothy, my fellow worker, sends his greetings to you, as do Lucius, Jason and Sosipater, my relatives.

Romans 16:21

Tertius, a slave

I, Tertius, who wrote down this letter, greet you in the Lord.

Romans 16:22

Gaius, wealthy landowner, where church met

Gaius, whose hospitality I and the whole church here enjoy, sends you his greetings.

Romans 16:23

**Erastus and Quartus,
City Director and a slave**

Erastus, who is the city's director of public works, and our brother Quartus send you their greetings.
Romans 16:23b

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. **Romans 16:16**

Shake hands warmly with each other. All the churches here send you their greetings.
Romans 16:16, The Living Bible

2. Strong doctrine of the New Testament Church

Nature, philosophy, and the purpose of the New Testament church.

I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have

learned. Keep away from them.

Romans 16:17

False teachers who come into the Church

- They are divisive
- They are egotistical
- Very persuasive

False teachers today quote just enough scripture to deceive, to be dangerous to the spiritually naïve.

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. 3 John 2

For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears

away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations,

2 Timothy 4:3-5a

I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.

Romans 16:17

*For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people. **Romans 16:18***

If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work.

2 John 10-11

*Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I am full of joy over you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. **Romans 16:19***

3. New Testament Church
purpose was to be aggressively evangelistic.

Nature, philosophy, and the purpose of the New Testament church.

Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ,
Romans 16:25

Two ways to be firmly grounded, to be established

- Listen to the gospel being proclaimed
- Proclaim the gospel yourself

*Now to him who is able to
establish you by my gospel and the
proclamation of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of the
mystery hidden for long ages past,*
Romans 16:25

*but now revealed and made
known through the prophetic
writings by the command of the
eternal God, so that all nations
might believe and obey him—to
the only wise God be glory forever
through Jesus Christ! Amen.*

Romans 16:26-27

***We exist to be the agency through
which the message of salvation
outlined in Romans is proclaimed
to the world.***

*always learning but never able to
acknowledge the truth.*

2 Timothy 3:7

*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **John 14:6***

*Then they said to each other, "We're not doing right. This is a day of good news and we are keeping it to ourselves. If we wait until daylight, punishment will overtake us. Let's go at once and report this to the royal palace."
2 Kings 7:9*

*I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes **Romans 1:16***

Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made

known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him—to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Romans 16:25-27