

Romans 16 - Christ at the Center of Life

Phoebe - - (scholars believe she hand delivered the scroll 725 miles - 36 days) to Rome) - a book that is - instrumental in so many coming to faith in Jesus -- a glimpse into life where Christ is at the center

Rom 16:1-27 ESV I **commend** to you our **sister Phoebe**, a **servant of the church** at Cenchreae, 2 that you may **welcome her in the Lord** in a way worthy of the saints, and **help her in whatever** [GK perhaps a legal or business matter] **she may need** from you, for she has been a **patron of many** and of **myself** as well.

Paul's recommendation

- **Commend** - a strong reference - commendation

Who is Phoebe

- **Sister** - we are the family of God
- **Servant of the church** at Cenchreae (ken kray A hee) - 10 miles from Corinth - expansion of church
- **A Patron of many including Paul** → assisted many (perhaps even financial)

Church responsibility

- **Welcome her IN THE LORD** → receive her, show hospitality, stand by her in a way worthy of saints
- **Help her in whatever** (a business term perhaps on some business)

Prisca and Aquila

3 Greet **Prisca and Aquila**, my **fellow workers in Christ Jesus**, 4 who **risked their necks** for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but **all the churches of the Gentiles** give thanks as well. 5 Greet also **the church in their house**.

- Fellow **workers** → (co-laborers) in Christ Jesus
- **Risked** their necks
- I and all the churches of the Gentiles thanks
- Greet the **church in their house**
- Pontus, Rome, Corinth, Ephesus, Rome, Ephesus (church in their house in Ephesus & Rome)

In Christ

- Greet my **beloved** Epaenetus, who was the *first convert to Christ in Asia*.
- 6 Greet Mary, who has **worked hard for you**.
- 7 Greet Andronicus and Junia, my **kinsmen** and **my fellow prisoners**. They are well known (*GK among the apostles*) to the apostles, and they were **in Christ before me**.
- 8 Greet Ampliatus, my **beloved in the Lord**.
- 9 Greet Urbanus, our **fellow worker in Christ**
- and my **beloved** Stachys.
- 10 Greet Apelles, who is **approved** in Christ.
- Greet those who belong to the **family** of Aristobulus. [*household - perhaps a church in the home*]
- 11 Greet my **kinsman** Herodion.
- Greet **those in the Lord** who belong to the **family** of Narcissus. [*household - perhaps a church in the home*]
- 12 Greet those **workers in the Lord**, Tryphaena and Tryphosa.
- Greet the **beloved** Persis, **who has worked hard in the Lord**.
- 13 Greet Rufus, **chosen in the Lord**; also his mother, who has been **a mother to me as well**.
- 14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and **the brothers who are with them**. *perhaps a church in the home*
- 15 Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and **all the saints who are with them**. *perhaps a church in the home*

Summary Jesus said, "Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel will save it" (Mk 8:35).