

PAUL'S DESIRE TO COME TO ROME

(Romans 1:8-13)

I. THE SALUTATION AND INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF ROMANS (1:1-7)

II. THE PERSONAL AND PRACTICAL OUTREACH OF PAUL'S MINISTRY (1:8-13)

A. Paul's Love and Concern for Christians he had never met. (vv. 8-9)

1. The apostle offered a _____ of _____ for these believers in Rome; in doing so, he let them know that he really _____ them. (v. 8a)
2. His prayer was to God the Father _____ Jesus Christ, who is the _____ between God and man. (v. 8b, cf. John 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:5)
3. Despite the fact that these believers were living in a pagan city like Rome, they had quite the _____, their _____ was known throughout the entire Roman Empire! (v. 8c)
4. Paul _____ (Gk. *latreuo*) the Lord from the _____ ("*my spirit*"), not out of a mechanical, religious observance like he once did as a Pharisee. (v. 9a)

* What is the greatest method of service to God? (v. 9b)

5. The apostle called God as his witness, because only He would know that this man indeed prayed for these saints in Rome " _____ " (*adialeiptos*), they were always on his _____. (v. 9c)

* What can we learn from this godly man's example?

B. Paul's heart's desire in wanting to come to Rome to see these believers (vv. 10-13)

1. The apostle was _____ and _____ that it was God's perfect will for him to come to Rome in order that...
 - a. ...he could _____ these Christians on a _____ level (v. 11a, cf. 15:24)

 - b. ...he could impart a spiritual _____ (15:29), and that they could be doctrinally _____ (v. 11b)

 - c. ...that everyone could be _____ and have mutual _____ in the faith (v. 12)

* Why is it so important to fellowship with spiritual believers and not carnal believers?

2. Sometimes it was Satan that hindered Paul's movements (1 Thess. 2:17-18), other times he was overwhelmed with a super abundance of _____ and _____ in ministry in Asia Minor and Greece. (v. 13, cf. 15:18-24)

* What can you learn from Paul's example of wanting to be used in ministry?

* What can you personally apply from this passage in your own life?