

ROMANS 61 – 15:16-20

Minister of Grace to Gentiles

1. 15:15-16

- a. *“grace given to me of God”* – This is what makes Paul unique - Acts 9:15, Gal 1:15
- b. *“to be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles”* – 1 Cor 15:8-10, Eph 3:1-2, Rom 11:13
- c. *“the gospel of God”* – More than one in the Bible, but Paul only had one – 1 Cor 9:17
- d. Some make this a different gospel, but don't be fooled – Rom 15:15, 15:19
- e. Paul's gospel is the same as Rom 16:25, 1:16, Acts 20:24 – it was a mystery.
- f. Even without Rom 16:25, the mystery is found in Rom 5-8; 11:25; 12:3,6; 14:14
- g. *“Gentiles might be acceptable”* – to whom? A: God in Christ - Rom 12:1, Eph 1:6
- h. Only Paul explained how Gentiles could be acceptable – Col 1:25-28, Eph 2:16

2. 15:17-18

- a. Paul glories in what was a shame in MMLJ, and Pentecost – Gal 6:14
- b. He has no glory in himself, he counts it all loss – 1 Cor 1:29-31, Phil 3:8
- c. *“things which pertain to God”* – Acts 26:15-17, 2 Cor 12:1
- d. God gave Paul authority to preach to them – 2 Cor 10:7-8
- e. *“not dare to speak”* - Paul did not go outside his measure – 2 Cor 10-12-18
- f. He never wrote narratives of the earthly ministry of Jesus – 2 Cor 5:16
- g. *“any of those things”* – law, promises to Israel, kingdom, circumcision
- h. *“to make the Gentiles obedient”* – obedient to the gospel – Rom 1:5, 16:26, 2Th 1:8

3. 15:18-19

- a. What had God wrought by Paul?
 - i. The gospel of grace among the Gentiles - Gal 2:2, 1 Cor 9:17, Eph 3:6-8
 - ii. A special apostleship - Gal 2:8, Rom 11:13
 - iii. Special miracles - Acts 15:12, 19:11, 21:19-20
 - iv. The mystery of Christ – Col 1:29
- b. Paul's proof of his apostleship is found in signs– 2 Cor 12:12, 13:3-6, 1 Thess 2:13
- c. *“by the power of the Spirit of God”* – Paul's proof was the Spirit in him.

4. 15:20

- a. *“from Jerusalem to Illyricum”* – Paul was not sent to Jerusalem – Acts 22:18
- b. *“fully preached the gospel”* – Preached it completely, and will arrive with it known
- c. *“not where Christ was named”* – where was Christ named before? Believing Israel.