

# Outline of Romans

- **1 - 8**    *Doctrinal*                      **Faith**
  - 1-3 Sin: (the most complete diagnosis)
  - 4-5 Salvation
  - 6-8 Sanctification
- **9-11**    *Dispensational*                      **Hope**
  - 9 Israel - Past
  - 10 Israel - Present
  - 11 Israel - Future
- **12-16**    *Practical*                      **Love**

## Practical Instruction

- Romans 12 Responsibilities from gifts
- Romans 13 Civil Responsibilities
- Romans 14 Christian Maturity
- Romans 15 Unity within the Body
- Romans 16 Personal Greetings

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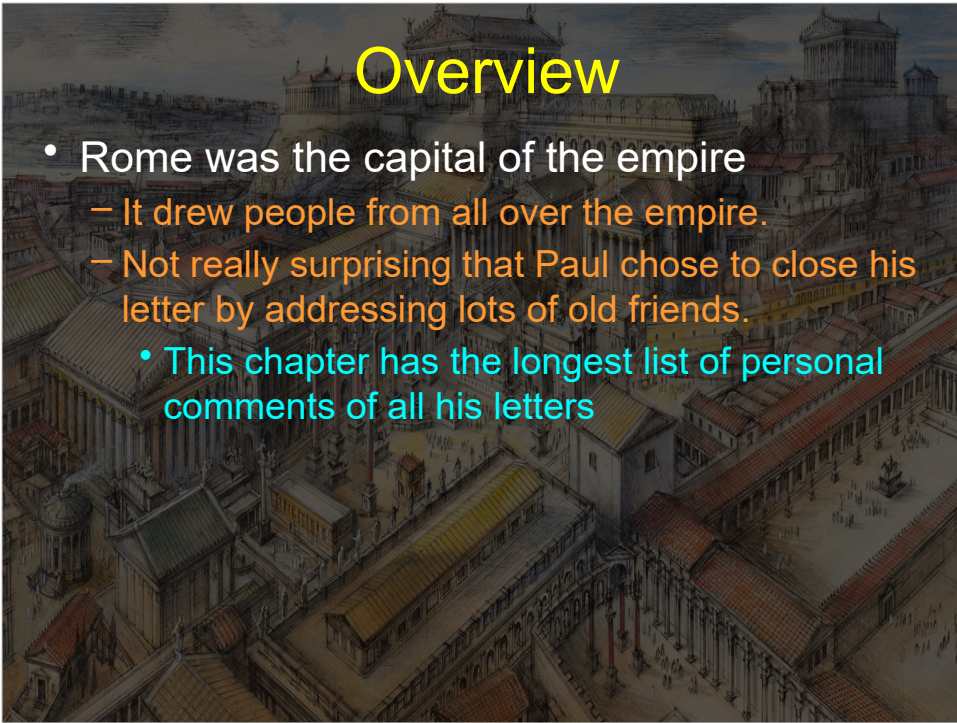
## General Review

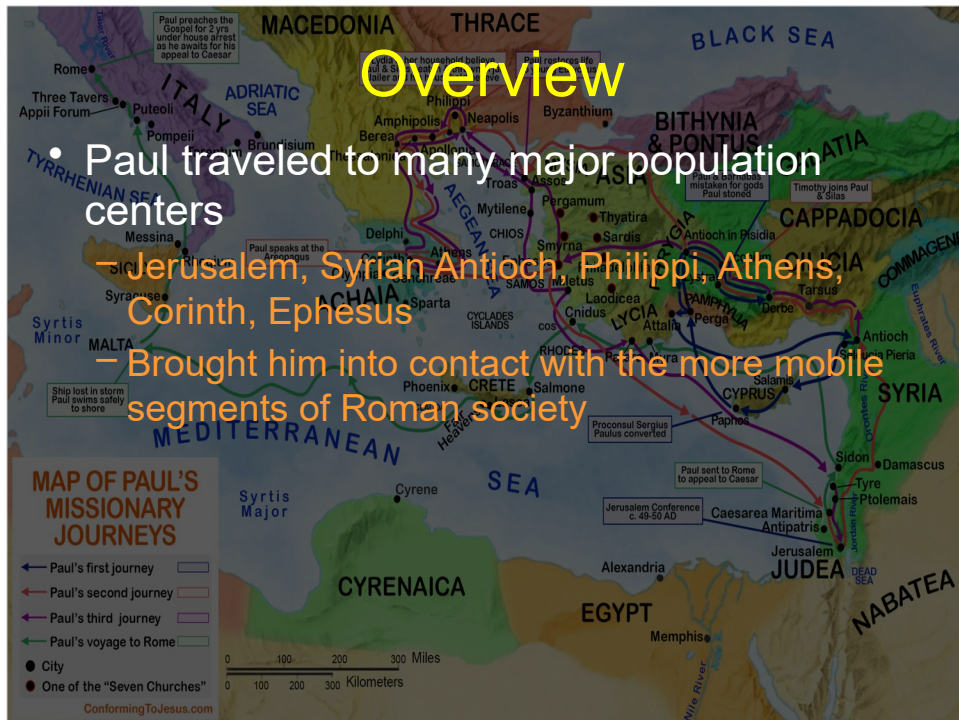
- Paul is not writing to the “Church” at Rome
    - He wrote to the believers in Rome – yet had not visited personally
  - We take travel for granted today
  - For Paul it was foot, horseback, ship etc.
    - Sailing was an ordeal -Shipwrecks often
- Acts 27

Contrast with today: travel at the speed of sound; communicate at the speed of light...

# Overview

- Rome was the capital of the empire
  - It drew people from all over the empire.
  - Not really surprising that Paul chose to close his letter by addressing lots of old friends.
  - This chapter has the longest list of personal comments of all his letters







# Overview

- This final chapter will emphasize the importance of relationships:
    - Concludes with longest personal list in all the epistles
    - From a city he hadn't visited yet...
  - In 24 verses he named 33 people,
    - And refers to many others
- Rom 16:5, 10-11, 13-15



# Lessons

- 1) Shows Paul's concern and care for individuals
  - And gives us an insight into Paul's prayer list . . .

# Lessons

## 2) Shows Paul's regard for women

- Contrast with prevailing culture
- A number of women are included in the list:
  - Priscilla v. 3
  - Mary v. 6
  - Tryphena and Tryphosa v. 12
  - Persis v. 12
  - Rufus' mother v. 13
  - and Nereus' sister v. 15
  - Two others are possibly women
    - Junias and Julia v. 7, 15

# Lessons

- 3) It evidences the great influence Paul had:
  - Many friends, even though *he had never been there*.
  - He knew their name, activities, progress, etc.
- 4) It reflects the Lamb's Book of Life:
  - Individuals from many callings, many strata:
  - from slaves to royalty ...

*I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a  
servant of the church which is at Cenchrea:*

**Romans 16:1**

- Phoebe (which means “bright, radiant”)
  - She was Paul’s emissary to hand-carry this letter
- Cenchrea: Seaport 9 miles from Corinth

**Act 18:18**

# Cenchrea



I commend unto you Phebe our sister, *which* is a **servant** of the church *which* is at Cenchrea:

Romans 16:1

- “Servant”: *diakonos*, is used for the office of deacon

Phil 1:1; 1 Tim 3:8, 10, 12

- Used generally “of the church”

Rom 15:8; 1 Cor 3:5

- Strongly suggests some recognised position, appropriate for a person serving as Paul’s emissary.

*That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh  
saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever  
business she hath need of you: for she hath  
been a succourer of many, and of myself also.*

**Romans 16:2**

- Phoebe is assumed to be a business-woman.
  - “Whatever she needs put it on my bill” (See Philemon)
- “Succourer”
  - Someone who provides help or assistance, especially to those in need or distress
  - Someone who exemplifies Christ!



*Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ*  
Jesus: **Romans 16:3**

- Paul first met **Priscilla and Aquila** (always a team) in Corinth on his 2<sup>nd</sup> missionary journey

**Acts 18:2**

- And worked with them at their trade of tent-making.
- They had come to Corinth from Rome because of Claudius' decree that all Jews must leave Rome.
- They accompanied Paul when he left Corinth

**Acts 18:18**

*Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ*  
Jesus: **Romans 16:3**

–Remained in Ephesus

**Acts 18:19**

–They ministered to Apollos and Paul during his stay in Ephesus on his third journey, because they sent greetings to the Corinthian Christians

**Acts 18:26 1 Cor. 16:19**

–After that, they moved back to Rome and still later returned to Ephesus

**2 Tim. 4:19**

Who have for my life laid down their own  
necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but  
also all the churches of the Gentiles.

Romans 16:4

- They didn't just minister, they risked their lives!

- It was rough to be a Christian in those days

- In most of the world today people proclaim Christ at the risk of death

- *“We may see those days again as Biblical Christianity increasingly becomes “politically incorrect””* Chuck Missler

*Likewise greet the church that is in their house.  
Salute my well beloved Epaphroditus, who is the  
first fruits of Achaia unto Christ.*

**Romans 16:5**

- They had a house church in Ephesus  
**1 Cor 16:19**
- Other house churches are mentioned in  
**Col 4:15;**  
**Phm 2**

*Likewise greet the church that is in their house.  
Salute my well beloved Epaphroditus, who is the  
first fruits of Achaia unto Christ.*

**Romans 16:5**

- If Epaphroditus was the first convert in Achaia,
  - He may have been the Philippian jailer!
  - Paul reached Asia, the western portion of modern-day Turkey, on his third missionary journey

**Acts 19:10**

After having been prevented from going there on  
his second journey **Acts 16:6.**

*Greet Mary, who bestowed much labor on us.*  
Romans 16:6

- Some Greek manuscripts read Mariam,  
–Hebrew form, which indicates this woman was Jewish

*Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.*

**Romans 16:7**

- Junias can be either masculine or feminine;
  - Could be Andronicus' wife?
- Kinsmen? Possibly tribal: of Benjamin

**Rom 9:3**

– He also mentioned four other “kinsmen”

**Rom 16:11, 21**



*Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.*

**Romans 16:7**

- “Fellow prisoners” . . . “Apostles”:
  - Probably used here in the broader, general sense in which Barnabas, Silas, and others were called apostles     **Acts 14:14; 1 Thes 2:7**

Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

Romans 16:7

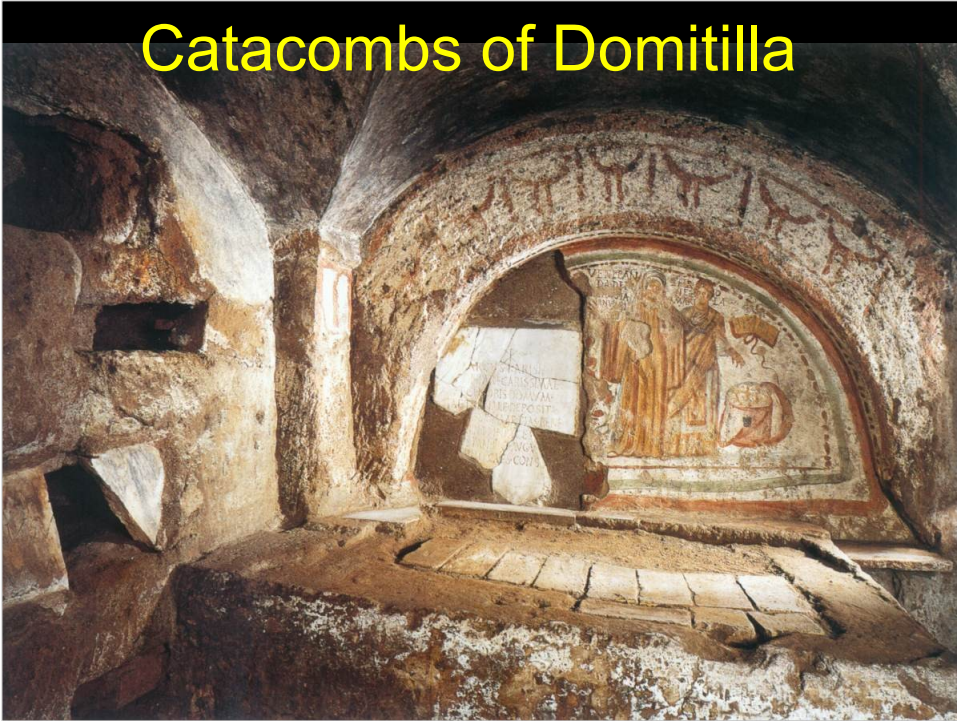
- Greek: perfect tense, *“they came to be and still are”* in Christ before I was
  - They knew Christ *before* Paul; probably about the time of Stephen’s martyrdom
  - Therefore, believers for about 25 years
  - Likely prayed for him during his persecution of Christians!

*Greet Amplias my beloved in the Lord.*

**Romans 16:8**

- The name implies a slave.
  - “Beloved”: Special relationship.
    - KJV: Amplias; NAS: Ampliatus
  - In the Domitilla Cemetery, among the catacombs of Rome, there is an ornate grave with the single name, Ampliatus, an apparent slave, yet the ornate grave indicates he was held in high regard.
  - Some scholars believe that this is the same person mentioned by Paul

# Catacombs of Domitilla



Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and  
Stachys my beloved.

Salute Apelles **approved** in Christ. Salute them  
which are of Aristobulus' household.

Romans 16:9-10

- “Approved”: Greek: *ton dokimon*,
  - “the *one approved* through testing”;
  - *had been put to the test*.
    - Used of coins, and coin dealers
  - Will this be said of *you and me*?

Of coins, and coin dealers.

*Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and  
Stachys my beloved.*

*Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them  
which are of Aristobulus' household.*

**Romans 16:9-10**

- Ancient traditions, though not contemporary with Paul, suggest that Aristobulus, possibly one of the seventy disciples and a brother of Barnabas, became the first bishop of Britain
- Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre (around 300 AD), is cited as stating this.

Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and  
Stachys my beloved.  
Salute Apelles approved in Christ. Salute them  
which are of **Aristobulus' household.**

Romans 16:9-10

- Gr. simply has “those out of, belonging to Aristobulus”; cf. v.11.
  - Why not Aristobulus? Not a believer? (Slaves were known by their household.)
  - What a wonderful picture of those who belong to Christ!

Upon Aristobulus' death, his servants and slaves became the property of the emperor; but they were still known as the household of Aristobulus.



Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that  
be of the household of Narcissus, which are in  
the Lord.

Romans 16:11

- Herodion: implies a relative of King Herod.
- Again, *slaves* of Narcissus (vs. their owner);
  - Narcissus we know from Roman history was a former slave who became the personal secretary of the Emperor Claudius.

*Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that  
be of the household of Narcissus, which are in  
the Lord.*

**Romans 16:11**

- Narcissus became wealthy since he was in charge of the emperor's correspondence and his palm would have to be greased before a letter could get to the emperor.
  - When Claudius was murdered, Nero took over and shortly forced the suicide of Narcissus.

*Salute Herodion my kinsman. Greet them that  
be of the household of Narcissus, which are in  
the Lord.*

**Romans 16:11**

- Gospel: from slaves to the royal family; from the catacombs to the court . . .
  - In just two decades, Rome became the largest Gentile church
  - Founded by those who had been visiting Jerusalem at Pentecost **Acts 2**
  - Just “average believers . . .”

*Salute Tryphena and Tryphosa, who labor in the Lord. Salute the beloved Persis, which labored much in the Lord.*

**Romans 16:12**

- Some believe they were sisters, perhaps twins.
  - Paul must have had a smile on his face when he commended them for their labor:
  - Their names mean “Dainty” and “Delicate”!

*Salute Rufus chosen in the Lord, and his mother  
and mine.*

**Romans 16:13**

- Paul mentions Alexander and Rufus and presumes that his audience would know who they were
- Many commentators suspect Paul stayed in the home of Rufus while a young student of Gamaliel in Jerusalem; Then returned after his conversion to lead them to Christ
- Possibly the same Rufus mentioned by Mark

**Mark 15:21**

*A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross.*

**Mark 15:21**

## Textual Insight

Mark mentions the high priest without naming him. **Mark 14:60-63**

According to the other writers, the high priest at the time of Jesus' public ministry was Caiaphas **Matthew 26:57**

Caiaphas was high priest from A.D. 18-37.



## Textual Insight

This presumes that Mark's audience would have known to which high priest he alluded, affirming tradition that this gospel is very early, possibly no later than A.D. 40.

Church tradition suggests that Mark composed his Gospel in Rome.

Paul's letter to the Romans-dated approximately A.D. 57

*Salute Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas,  
Hermes, and the brethren which are with  
them.*

**Romans 16:14**

- Another home church?

*Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his  
sister, and Olympas, and all the saints which  
are with them.*

**Romans 16:15**

- Leaders of another home church?
- Philologus = “lover of the Word.”
  - Julia may have been the wife of Philologus.

*Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.*

*Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.*

**Romans 16:16-17**

- Admonitory Insert; watch out for those who destroy relationships:
- “Mark” = “Keep your eye on”; “Avoid them.”
  - Greek present imperative, “keep on turning away.”

*For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.*

**Romans 16:18**

- Slaves of their own appetites rather than of Christ
  - There are “ministries” which make their income by “accusing the brethren.”
  - We know where that doctrine comes from!

For your obedience is come abroad unto all men.  
I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I  
would have you **wise unto that which is good,**  
and simple concerning evil. Romans 16:19

- “Wise unto that which is good”: *sophos*:
  - Wise; skilled, expert: of artificers; skilled in letters, cultivated, learned;
  - (of the Greek philosophers and orators;  
of Jewish theologians; of Christian teachers);

Even in that ancient world, reputations were widespread;

For your obedience is come abroad unto all men.  
I am glad therefore on your behalf: but yet I  
would have you wise unto that which is good,  
and simple concerning evil.

Romans 16:19

- “Simple concerning evil”:

*akeraios*

- 1) unmixed, as in wines or metals;  
uncontaminated;
- 2) of the mind, without a mixture of evil, free from  
guile, innocent.

*And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.*

**Romans 16:20**

- Do not worry!
  - We should have peace because our enemy is already defeated!
- “The Grace....”
  - We need that Grace continually
- Paul had learned to rely on that grace alone
  - Our own strength is weak!



*Timotheus my workfellow, and Lucius, and  
Jason, and Sosipater, my kinsmen, salute you.*

**Romans 16:21**

- Timothy – Paul's co-laborer
- Lucius? Kinsman? Family?
- Interestingly, Lucius was the praenomen of a significant person in Paul's life.
  - 'praenomina' was a first name chosen by the parents of a Roman child
  - Many Romans would also have other titles they were better known by publicly

## Sergius Paulus

- Roman Proconsul (governor) of Malta
  - Appointed by Emperor Claudius in AD 46
  - He was the voice of Rome in Malta!
- Quoted by Pliny as a trustworthy historian
  - Pliny the Elder was a Roman author, naturalist, and commander in the Roman Empire
- Became a believer through Paul's teaching
- Luke calls him 'a prudent man'
  - Gr: 'sunetos' – wise, sagacious, shrewd, discreet, learned

## Sergius Paulus

- 'Inexplicably', (thanks to an inscription found in Rome in the 19<sup>th</sup> century) Sergius Paulus was recalled to Rome after a few years and given the job of looking after the river Tiber as it flowed through Rome.
- In essence he went from one of the top jobs in the Roman Empire , to being a comparatively minor civil servant responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the city's riverbanks (removing rubbish and corpses).
  - This is some come down & needs an explanation!
  - Had he offended Rome he would have been put to death!

## Sergius Paulus

- *“Could it perhaps, have had something to do with the insurmountable difficulty with which Christians in public office were faced in those days? Namely the Pagan rituals and oaths which would have had to be satisfied in order for the officeholder to continue in his post” – Bill Cooper*
- His newfound Christian faith would have made his position as Roman governor untenable
- Christians were regarded by Rome at that time as being ‘unhinged’
- It appears he was ‘moved out of harms way’, where his new ideas couldn’t hurt Rome!

## Sergius Paulus

- But what of his connection with the Apostle Paul?
- Up until his meeting with Sergius Paulus, Paul was known only as Saul
- But from this moment on, Saul adopts the name 'Paulus'
- Adoption of adults was common in Roman culture
- *"The purpose of such adoption was to give the adoptee the protection both in law and under arms of the adopter". – Bill Cooper*
- It seems that Sergius Paulus adopts Saul and thereafter Saul takes to himself the family name!

## Sergius Paulus

- *“This would have afforded Paul a level of protection against both Jew and Gentile which he otherwise would have lacked and explains, on a level which his mere Roman citizenship does not explain, why the Roman officials treated him so courteously – even down to the centurions, guards and escorts who later carried him to Rome. By Paul’s day, Roman citizens were two a penny (even former slaves and captives could purchase citizenship) but the adopted sons of Rome’s nobility were not. They were special and their aristocratic status showed in the special treatment they received ”. – Bill Cooper*

*Timotheus my workfellow, and Lucius, and  
Jason, and Sosipater, my kinsmen, salute you.*

**Romans 16:21**

- The other two names Paul lists here are Jason and Sosipater – both again referenced by their ‘praenomen’ (forename given at birth)
- There is a strong likelihood that both of these individuals were also part of Sergius Paulus’ (Lucius) family
  - Thus, true kinsmen of Paul

## Who wrote the Epistle to the Romans?

*I Tertius, who wrote this epistle, salute you in  
the Lord.*

**Romans 16:22**



- We take for granted the ease with which we can make copies of documents today.
- In the ancient world, all copies had to be accomplished painstakingly *by hand*.
  - Thus, the term *manuscript*, “manu-script.”
- The invention of Johannes Gutenberg’s movable type in 1454 ushered in the printing techniques that we also have come to take so for granted today.

Even before the revolution of our copiers and fax machines,

## Professional Secretaries

- It was quite natural that these manual methods would also be accompanied with special shortcuts, aids, and techniques to facilitate the drudgery they faced.
  - And, like all the Greeks and Romans of the period, the Christian authors and their scribes employed trained secretaries or *amanuenses*, trusted helpers who were well-versed in contemporary literary techniques and scribal methods.

## Professional Secretaries

- These highly qualified assistants are mentioned in the New Testament:
  - 1 Corinthians 1:1 “Paul ... and Sosthenes”
  - 2 Corinthians 1:1 “Paul ... and Timothy”
  - Philippians 1:1 “Paul and Timothy”
  - Colossians 1:1 “Paul and Timothy”
  - 2 Thess 1:1 “Paul, Silvanus and Timothy”
  - Philemon 1:1 “Paul and ...and Timothy”
  - 1 Peter 5:12: “By Silvanus, (Greek variant of Silas)”

## Professional Secretaries

- These were more than ordinary scribes;
  - They were trained professional editors, comparable to the modern-day political speechwriter.
  - The contrast the gritty, Hebraic style of **2 Peter** to the polished Greek of **1 Peter**
    - due to Silvanus, an experienced secretary who had already proved his worth in both Paul's letters to the Thessalonians.

## Professional Secretaries

To assuage any doubts about the final editorial authenticity, Paul would frequently *add* his personal signature in his own handwriting

1 Cor 16:21

Gal 6:11

Col 4:18

2 Thess 3:17 (responding to a forgery!)

Philemon 19

## Professional Secretaries

- One of the common, obligatory, qualifications among the professionals in the Graeco-Roman world was that of a *tachygráphos*, or shorthand writer.
- Among the disciples, Matthew, a former customs official, would also likely have had a working knowledge of *tachygraphy*,
  - and thus may have been able to transcribe the Sermon on the Mount verbatim
  - Just as Tertius and others were able to transcribe Paul's more verbose utterances.

# Professional Secretaries

- Even in the Old Testament
  - The Hebrew, **Psalm 45:1** speaks of a
    - “ready writer” (KJV), or  
“skillful writer” (NIV)
  - In the Greek Septuagint **LXX**:  
**oxygràphos**, a synonym for *tachygràphos*,  
or shorthand writer
    - A common term in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC:

## Professional Secretaries

- Paul mentions a technical term, *membranae*, Latin word transcribed into Greek, referring to a parchment notebook **2 Tim 4:13**
  - This was apparently a predecessor to the *codex*, or “book” that we know today.
    - They were written on both sides of the sheet, small and often pocket-sized, they were easy to handle, to skip through for reference, and to store, and thus led to the ultimate departure from the traditional scrolls.



**Gaius** mine host, and of the whole church,  
saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the  
city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.

Romans 16:23

–Gaius was Paul's host in Corinth, apparently  
had a church meeting in his home.

- Was probably not the same Gaius who was from  
Macedonia and traveled with Paul Acts 19:29
- Nor the Gaius who was from Derbe Acts 20:4
- The Gaius here in Romans was probably Paul's  
convert whom he baptized 1 Cor. 1:14

*Gaius mine host, and of the whole church,  
saluteth you. Erastus the chamberlain of the  
city saluteth you, and Quartus a brother.*

**Romans 16:23**

- The city treasurer Erastus:

- A 1929 excavation in Corinth unearthed a pavement inscribed with these words:

**ERASTVS PRO:AED:P:STRAVIT:**

“Erastus, curator of public buildings, laid this pavement at his own expense.”

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you  
all. Amen.*

*Now to him that is of power to stablish you  
according to my gospel, and the preaching of  
Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of  
the mystery, which was kept secret since the  
world began,*

**Romans 16:24-25**

- This letter to the Romans is Paul's longest and most complete statement of the message he proclaimed, which some call, "the Gospel according to Paul."

**2:16; 2 Tim 2:8**

*But now is made manifest, and by the  
scriptures of the prophets, according to the  
commandment of the everlasting God, made  
known to all nations for the obedience of  
faith:*

**Romans 16:26**

Paul said that aspects of this message

**Rom 11:25; 1 Cor 15:51; Eph 5:32**

and in a sense the total message

**Eph 3:39; Col 1:26-27**

are the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now  
revealed and made known

*But now is made manifest, and by the  
scriptures of the prophets, according to the  
commandment of the everlasting God, made  
known to all nations for the obedience of  
faith:*

**Romans 16:26**

—Paul's concern for the geographical spread of the gospel is evident here, and appropriate in view of his writing to the believers at the empire's capital city.

**Matt. 28:19**

## The Spread of Christianity

- "All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household," *Philippians 4:22*.
- Welsh records (Triads) state that a British king in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century – Caratacus – was taken to Rome.
- He was then sent back to this country to 'rule' under the authority of Rome from AD 51-58
- His father – Bran – was held hostage in Rome to ensure Caratacus' compliance! (but whilst there Bran was converted to Christianity)
- From Rome he *"brought the faith of Christ to the Cambrians" (Wales)*
- Claudia (mentioned in 2 Tim 4:21 m. Pudens) was apparently daughter of Caratacus (from Roman poet Martial) – converted by Pomponia Graecina

**Claudia and Pudens (2 Timothy 4:21, though not directly in Romans 16):** While not in Romans 16, these two are often linked to the "British connection." The Roman poet Martial mentions a British woman named Claudia marrying a man named Pudens. Some theories connect this Claudia to the daughter of the British king Caratacus, who was brought to Rome as a captive. The idea is that this Claudia and Pudens, potentially converted by someone like Pomponia Graecina (a Roman noblewoman accused of "foreign superstition" and possibly a Christian), could have been early British Christians in Rome who then had influence on the spread of the gospel back to Britain

## Pomponia Graecina

- Husband of Aulus Plautius: She was the wife of Aulus Plautius, the distinguished Roman general who led the successful Roman invasion and conquest of Britain in 43 AD under Emperor Claudius. He served as the first governor of Roman Britain until 47 AD. It's thought that Pomponia Graecina may have accompanied her husband to Britain during his governorship.
- In AD 57 she was accused of "Foreign Superstition" but later acquitted.
- Tacitus doesn't explicitly name Christianity, but the term "foreign superstition" was often used to describe new and non-traditional religions in Rome, including Judaism and early Christianity.
- If she was indeed a Christian, she would be one of the earliest known Roman Christians, and potentially one of the very first Christians with a direct connection to Britain.

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To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ  
for ever. Amen.

Romans 16:27

Written to the Romans from Corinth,  
and sent by Phebe  
servant of the church at Cenchrea.



## A Chain of Gold

- Edward Kimball
- - had a burden for one of his Sunday school students to know Jesus as Lord and Savior. He went to see him at the shoe store where he worked and led him to Christ in the shoe store.
- The young lad's name?
- Dwight L. Moody.

[Pastor Joe Focht shared this piece of research:]

**Edward Kimball** had a burden for one of his Sunday school students to know Jesus as Lord and Savior. He went to see him at the shoe store where he worked and led him to Christ in the shoe store.

- His name? **Dwight L. Moody.**

## A Chain of Gold

- Dwight L. Moody
- went on to become an evangelist whose ministry rocked two continents.
- While preaching in the British Isles, Moody spoke in a small chapel pastored by
- Federick Brotherton Meyer.
- In his sermon Moody told an emotionally charged story of a Sunday School teacher he knew who personally went to every student in his class and won them to Christ. The message changed Pastor Meyer's entire ministry, inspiring him to become an evangelist.

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While preaching in the British Isles, Moody spoke in a small chapel pastored by

- **Federick Brotherton Meyer.**

## A Chain of Gold

- Frederick Brotherton Meyer
- Over the years, Meyer came to America several times to preach.
- Once in Northfield, Massachusetts a confused young preacher sitting in the back row heard Meyer say, “*If you are not willing to give everything to God, are you willing to be made willing?*”
- That remark led J. Wilbur Chapman to accept the call of God on his life.

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## Perspectives of Early Church

- 1) They were not “on their own.” They had a real sense of community.
  - “Ye are not your own; ye are bought with a price,” 1 Cor 6:19, 20
- 2) Life is a battle; a battle to the death!
- 3) They had need for rest and leisure, but only to better prepare them for the battle



## Perspectives of Early Church

- 4) They understood that the gifts of the Spirit opened up a ministry for every single believer.
  - (Those that were not exercising their gifts were defrauding the Body.)
- God has not called us to a picnic ground, but to a battleground!

Without Him we can't.

Without us, He won't.

