

Romans # 28

Romans 16

A glimpse of a gospel church

Lord's day morning: 20 May 2007
Preacher: Geoff Findlay

Children's talk: A chocolate-headed snake

Introduction

Every individual is important
Excluding Peter

1. The people of the gospel (16¹⁻¹⁶, 21-24)

A restaurant at church?
A spirit of servanthood
A willingness to work
A lot of love
A touching togetherness
The secret behind it all

2. The perversion of the gospel (16¹⁷⁻¹⁹)

As subtle as serpents
As shrewd as serpents

3. The promise of the gospel (16²⁰)

The crushing of the accuser
The crux of divine sovereignty & human responsibility

4. The power of the gospel (16²⁵⁻²⁷)

Power to strengthen saints
Power to save sinners

Conclusion

Everything begins & ends with God



Questions answered

- What can we learn from a list of names of people we don't know?
- What is often claimed concerning Peter? How does Romans 16 refute this?
- If the church is like a restaurant, where should we be?
- How did Priscilla & Aquila show their love for Paul?
- What are two evidences of a touching togetherness in the churches to whom Paul wrote?
- What was the secret behind their spirit of servanthood, willingness to work, lots of love, and touching togetherness?
- Who were as subtle as serpents?
What did Paul tell the church to do about them?
- Who is to be as shrewd as serpents? What does this mean?
- What is Satan's position and power right now?
What happened to him when Christ came the 1st time?
What will happen to him at the end (when Christ returns again)?
- How are God's sovereignty & human responsibility interwoven in this text?
- How does the last paragraph of the letter declare the power of God?
Over whom is this power to be manifest?
- What is the last verse of the letter all about? Why?



Things to pray about

- The privilege of being "in Christ" and what this means for how I live.
- The power of the gospel in my life and witness.



Search the Scriptures

- Phoebe is called a *servant* or *diakonos* (*deacon*). Does this necessarily mean that there was an office of *deaconess* in the early church? Consider the use of the same word in 1 Pet 4¹⁰, Rom 13⁴, 15⁸, Col 1²³, 1 Tim 3⁸⁻¹², 4⁶.