

ROMANS

TRANSFORMED!

MESSAGE: GARY DARNELL

MUSIC: BROOKE THIELEN, DAN GILLETTE, PAUL BOLIN

DATE: JULY 19, 2020

A vibrant hope-faith produces loving harmony
Romans 15:7-13

The grand comparison: like Christ, we also treat others as family (7).

Rom. 15:7 *Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.*

Rom. 14:1 *As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ... 3 Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him.*

How welcome are we in God's family?

Rom. 3:24 *and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,*

Rom. 8:15 *For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.*

The grand sacrifice: Christ came to serve us (8a).

Rom. 15:8a *For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs,*

Phil. 2:5 *Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

See also Mark 9: 43-45.

The grand achievement: Christ's service extends to all (8b-12).

Rom. 15:8 *For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, 9 and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." 10 And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." 11 And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." 12 And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."*

1. His achievements first were promised to Abraham.

Gen. 12:1 *Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

2. He achieved for the Jewish people access to God (8b).
3. He achieved for the Gentile people access to God (9a).
4. His achievements have always been part of His plan (9b-12).

The grand expectation: living faith produces vibrant hope (13).

Rom. 15:13 *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

1. Why "hope"?
2. Who is the source of hope?
3. How does "joy and peace" flow from our hope?
4. How does "in believing" make our joy and peace real and vital?
5. Why does he end with hope?
6. How does our hope influence our welcoming?

Discussion/Reflection Questions:

1. How is Paul's command to "welcome one another" in verse 7 clarified by the phrase "as Christ has welcomed you"? Share one of your favorite truths about being welcomed by Christ into God's family. How can what Jesus did influence your treatment of others?
2. What is the connection between Christ becoming a servant (8a) and Him welcoming us into His family (7)? How does Philippians 2:5-8 give us insight into the depth of His love for us by showing what He was willing to do to make us His own? What's your favorite part of this Philippians passage?
3. Verses 8-9 tell us that Christ accomplished two huge realities by becoming a servant. What are they? And in the four OT quotations that follow in verses 9-12 he mentions "Gentiles" in each. Why did the author take so much time speaking about the Gentiles? How does this relate to the relationship struggles going on in the church in Rome?
4. Read Paul's prayer in verse 13 a few times slowly and respond to the following:
 - a. Explain the relationship between our hope of eternity and our being filled with joy and peace. How are they connected?
 - b. The phrase "in believing" is crucial because it is the only act we must perform as found in this verse. How do you explain the meaning of "believing"? What specifically are we believing? How does, then, our hope "abound" as a result of believing?
5. Put into your own words the way in which our growing hope enables us to welcome all into the family of God. That is, explain the connection between verses 13 & 7.

SONGS

"Nothing But The Blood" - Robert Lowry

"God Is For Us" - James Ferguson, James Tealy, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, Tiarne Kleyn, Michael Farren, Jesse Reeves

"Living Hope" - Brian Johnson, Phil Wickham

"In Christ Alone" - Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$29,982.00
WEEKLY NEED: \$34,979.00

YTD GIVING: \$975,322.00
YTD GENERAL NEED: \$979,412.00