Digging into God's Word



written by Shelli Locke

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Digging Into the Word

I am so glad you are taking time to dig into the Word of God. What an amazing opportunity we have to grow in our understanding of God Himself and learn about the life and sacrifice of Christ. I hope you enjoy taking time to go verse by verse and chapter by chapter. I pray that you will grow in your faith and experience the love of the Savior whose biggest desire is to have a relationship with you.

Acknowledgment

I would like to thank Bradie Peeples for designing the cover of this study. Her gifts and talents are greatly appreciated!

Sources

For all 'Bible Notes', I used my study Bible which is the *Holman Christian Standard Bible*. All websites used are noted within the text for additional study resources.

God Bless!

Romans

Written by Paul to the church in Rome. He probably wrote Romans during his three-month stay in Greece in early A.D. 57 on his third missionary journey. (Bible Notes)

Chapter 1:

Vs. 1-5- This is a powerful and loaded introduction. How does Paul describe himself?

Where and by whom does he reference God's good news?

Who is this good news about?

What details does Paul specifically share about Jesus in this introduction?

What did Paul receive from Him and what is his mission?

Vs. 7- To whom does Paul address this letter?

Vs. 8-12- Paul wants very much to go to Rome and meet this church he hears so much about. Why does he want to see them?

This still applies. Why is it important to gather with other people of faith?

Vs. 14-15- What is Paul's obligation?

(Bible Notes- Greeks were the culturally elite in the Hellenistic world; barbarians were those not yet tutored in the Hellenistic culture. Together they represented all Gentiles, and Paul's burden was to share the gospel with all).

Vs. 16-17- What is God's power for salvation?

(Bible Notes- Greek:, *euaggelion* lit. "good message", which is the heart of salvation of Jesus Christ).

How does Paul describe the gospel?

What is the gospel? GotQuestions.org
Vs. 17- What is revealed in the gospel message?
Paul quotes Habakuk 2:4. What does it say?
Vs. 18-20- How has God made Himself evident?
What sight in creation leave you in awe of God?
Vs. 20- As a result, people are without
Vs. 21-23- Instead of glorifying God and showing gratitude to Him, what did they do?
Does this sound familiar to our day and age? If so, why?
Vs. 24-25- What did God do as a result?
What did the people do?
Vs. 26-27- God delivered them over to their own desires, and what is described here?
Vs. 28-31- Before any fingers get pointed at those acts mentioned above, hold on a minute and look at the other behaviors of which people were accused? List them here:

What does it mean that all have sinned? GotQuestions.org
Not only did their lives reflect unrighteous actions, but how did their choices affect their character?
This just shows that only God makes us righteous, without Him our lives are
(Fill in the blank for yourself).
These final verses could have been written about our culture here and now. What does this tell us about mankind?
Will God forgive me? GotQuestions.org
Chapter 2:
Vs. 1- What does Paul explain about judging others?
Vs. 2-3- What does Paul ask?
Vs. 4- How does he describe God and what does God want everyone to do?
Vs. 5-6- What hinders repentance?
Vs. 7-11- Following Jesus will result in a life change. What kind of actions display a life lived for God?

What kinds of actions display a life apart from knowing God?

(Bible Notes- Judgment will result in two different rewards: eternal life or wrath and indignation. Those who put their trust in God, not their own achievements, will receive that special quality of life lived in the presence of God. In contrast, those motivated by self-centeredness reject the truth and obey unrighteousness. Their reward will be wrath and anger.)

Vs. 12-16- Paul references the Mosaic Law: (Bible notes- The law reveals the utter sinfulness of every man and woman and their desperate need for a Savior. The law was never intended to be the way of salvation).

Vs. 13- What is the distinguishing factor regarding the law?

Vs. 14-15- How is it that Gentiles who do not know the law can live out the law?

Vs. 17-29- Paul addresses even the devout, practicing Jews. What is he asking them?

Vs. 24- He refers to Isaiah 52:5. What kind of reflection of God is seen when God's people act in opposition to His will?

How relevant is this point today?

Why is the way we live relevant?

Vs. 25-29- Circumcision is a Jewish observance and many Jewish men felt that just going through the outward act made them complete and superior. What does Paul say in verse 29?

What is circumcision of the heart? | GotQuestions.org

Chapter 3:

Vs. 1-2- What advantage did the Jews have?

That's a huge obligation and honor for the Jewish people.

Vs. 3-8- Simply being a Jew, however, did not make them perfect in God's sight. God remains righteous and amplifies truth, even when people claiming to know Him fail miserably. How we represent God to others matters, hence the importance of our actions.

Vs. 9- What continues to be the hang up for Jews and Gentiles?

Vs. 10-12- Jot this down:

What does it mean that "there is none who does good, no not one" (Psalm 14:3; Romans 3:12)? | GotQuestions.org

Vs. 13- Read Psalm 5:9 and Psalm 140:3. Of what are people accused?

Vs. 14- Read Psalm 10:7. Of what are people accused?

Vs. 15-18- Reach Isaiah 59:7-8. What does he reveal?

Why is Paul quoting Scripture to make his point?

Vs. 19- What will ultimately take place with every person?

Vs. 20- Why can't people be justified by the law?

Vs. 21-22- A big BUT- How has God's righteousness been revealed?

How is His righteousness attested?

To whom does God reveal His righteousness through Christ?

T 7	22.24	T 4 41	1		1
VS	23-24-	IOT T	nese	verses	down:

Vs. 25.26 Paul describes vividly the acts of Cod through Jasus Christ to demonstrate His
Vs. 25-26- Paul describes vividly the acts of God through Jesus Christ to demonstrate His righteousness and grace. "God presented Him as a through faith in His
blood, to demonstrate His righteousness, because of His restraint God passed over the sins previously committed.
(Definition: Propitiation- atonement)
What is the meaning of atonement? GotQuestions.org
Vs. 26- Why did God present His Son in this way?
So, in whom is our salvation?
Vs. 28- Jot this down to remember:
Vs. 30- God will justify both Jews and Gentiles by their
How should we view and apply the law?
Is salvation by faith alone, or by faith plus works? GotQuestions.org
Chapter 4:
Vs. 1-4- Who does Paul bring up?
(Bible Notes- Jews looked to Abraham as the father of their nation and as one of the most righteous men who ever lived. They believed he was justified by his works, especially his circumcision. The apostle asserts, however, that Abraham was justified by his faith.)
He quotes Genesis 15:6. What is important about this Scripture?

Vs. 4-5- What is the difference between works-based religion and faith-based belief?

Vs. 7	7-8- Paul references David in Psalm 32:1-2. What does David say here? (Jot these down).
	9-12- Paul clarifies to whom this gift was to be given. He refers to Genesis 15:6 again. What pointing out?
	t does the Bible say about circumcision? What is the Christian view of circumcision? Questions.org
Vs. 1	3- What was promised to Abraham and his descendants and how would they receive this?
	4- The original promise to Abraham and his descendants was dependent on his faith. If rs try to make it about their own work, what does that do to the promise?
Vs. 1 all?	5- The law gave an account of right and wrong. What would happen if there was no law at
Vs. 1	6- Jot this down to remember:
Vs. 1	7-18- Paul references Genesis 17:5. What does it say?
Vs. 1	7-21- Paul elaborates about Abraham's faith. What did he believe?
Vs. 2	24-25- Write this down and post it somewhere as a daily reminder:
To w	whom is all glory given for our salvation?

Chapter 5:		
Vs. 1-2- We are declared righteous b our Lord Jesus Christ.	y, we have	we with God through
Paul says we stand in	and rejoice in the	of the glory of God.
Vs. 3-5- What else can we rejoice in	and why?	
How does God's love dwell in us?		
Vs. 6- For whom did Christ die?		
What does this tell us about Christ?		
Vs. 8- What is amazing about this ve	erse? (Jot this verse do	wn)
Vs. 9- How are we saved from wrath	1?	
Vs. 10- Salvation comes through Jess here?	us' sacrifice on the cro	oss. But what does Paul emphasize
This is such a gift!!		
Vs. 12- How did sin enter the world	and what were the cor	nsequences?
Vs. 13-14- Sin was in the world long Exodus from Egypt. What was happe	_	
How does he describe Adam?		
Vs. 15- Through one man's trespass of God and the gift overflowed to the Christ.	manye many by the	How much more have the grace of the one man, Jesus

Vs. 16- From one man's sin came to	he	_, resulting in
, b	ut from many trespasses came the	, resulting in
·		
Vs. 17- By one man's trespass change that?	reigned through the	at one man. How did Christ
Vs. 18- Through one trespass there one righteous act there is	isfo	or everyone, so also through for everyone.
Vs. 19- Through one man 's disobe the one man's obedience the many	edience the many were madewill be made	, so also through
Vs. 21- Through whom do we rece	ive eternal life?	
Chapter 6:		
Vs. 1-2- (Bible Notes- Paul anticipa faith could lead to sin. Paul emphat no longer are bound to sin. New life	tically rejects this thinking. Believ	ers have died to sin. They
Vs. 3- He explains that all who are	baptized into Christ Jesus are bap	tized into His
Vs. 4-5- How does Paul explain the	e symbolism of baptism and its me	eaning?
What is the symbolism of water bap	ptism? GotQuestions.org	
Vs. 6- Why is our "old life" crucifie	ed with Christ?	
Vs. 7-9- If our old life dies with Ch	nrist, what can we also look forwar	rd to?
Vs. 10- How many times does Chri	ist need to perform this great act o	f sacrifice and love?
For whom did He die and raise aga	in?	
Take that in for a while: Once, for A	ALL.	

So, God's free gift that He gave to all is ours to accept, not earn. It's tempting to get into "performance" and "check boxes" of requirements, but we will never be able to match His payment that is already done and paid. Our lives now have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who leads and guides our actions. This is how our lives reflect the gift we so gratefully receive.

Vs. 13-14- How should we see our daily lives and why?

Vs. 18- Once we accept and follow Jesus as our Savior and Redeemer, how does Paul describe the life change?

Vs. 22- Now that Jesus has liberated believers from the power of sin, what is the outcome?

Vs. 23- Jot this down to remember:

Chapter 7:

Vs. 1-3- Paul describes the authority the law has over people as long as they live. What example does he use?

Vs. 4- How did Christ's sacrifice on the cross change the effects of the law and why?

Vs. 5- How does Paul describe life before Christ's sacrifice?

Vs. 6- How does he describe life with Christ?

In what new way can our lives be directed?

Vs. 7- What purpose does the law provide?

What do	we all	realize a	about oi	urselves	when v	e measure	ourselves	against the	command	ments
and the la	aw?									

Vs. 8-11- How does Paul describe life before and after the realization of the law?

Vs. 12- How does Paul describe the law and commandments?

Vs. 13- Paul explains how the law makes us recognize sin. What does he say?

Vs. 14-23- The struggle of all humans! Summarize:

Vs. 22-23- What does Paul describe here?

Vs. 24-25- Who will rescue us from this continual battle between law and flesh (sin)?

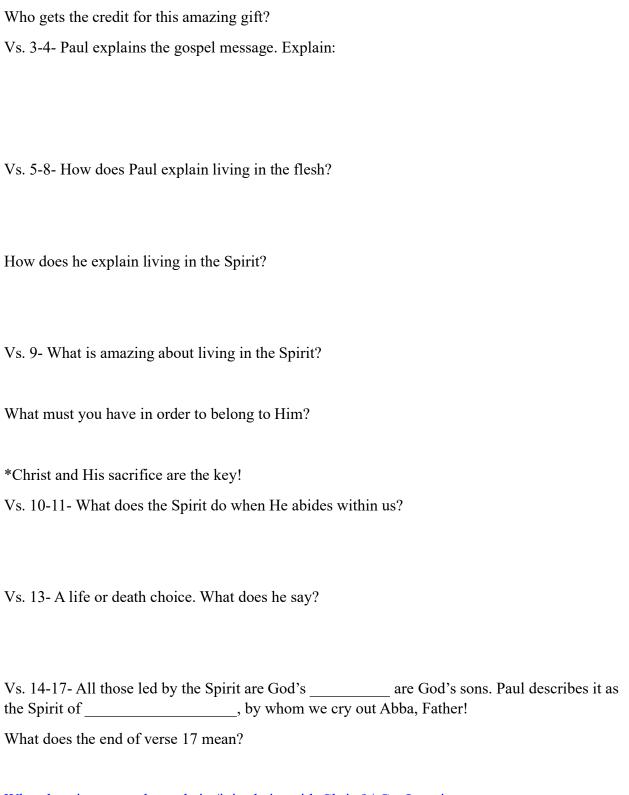
What does it mean that the peace of God will guard your hearts and minds (Philippians 4:7)? | GotQuestions.org

Re-read verse 4 and jot it down again:

So, remember, it is not our good works, but Christ through us. We will never earn this gift. Be grateful daily and live for Him.

Chapter 8:

Vs. 1-2- Wow! Better jot these down to remember:



What does it mean to be co-heirs/joint-heirs with Christ? | GotQuestions.org

Vs. 18- This verse can bring comfort to us. Jot this down:

Vs. 19-24- What does Paul explain in these verses?
Vs. 26-27- What does the Holy Spirit do?
Vs. 28- Do not misunderstand this verse. Write it down carefully.
This does not mean all things will be good, but God never leaves us. He will carry us through the good and the bad working all things out for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose.
Vs. 29- What can we understand about God from this verse?
What does it mean that God predestined those He foreknew (Romans 8:29)? GotQuestions.org Vs. 30- What all does our Father do for us?
Vs. 31- Another great verse! Jot down the last half of this verse as a reminder:
Vs. 32- God's love is so great He didn't even spare Who did He offer Him up for?
Vs. 33- What does God do?
Vs. 34- What does this verse tell us about Jesus?
Vs. 35-39- What is the huge takeaway from these powerful verses?

Chapter 9:

Vs. 1-3- What does Paul express?

4-5- What does Paul list here as belonging to the Israelites?

Vs. 5- How does Paul describe the Messiah?

Is Jesus God? Why should I believe that Jesus is God? | GotQuestions.org

(This is one of many verses throughout the Scripture that portray His deity directly).

Vs. 6-7- Through whom would Abraham's descendants be traced? (Read Genesis 21:12)

Vs. 8- What does he clarify?

Vs. 9-13 (Read Genesis 18:10,14 and Genesis 25:19-23) What two women are mentioned?

Vs. 11-12- What point is made clear here?

(Bible Notes- Paul insists that all Israel did not receive God's promises. God's saving purpose never applied to the whole ethnic nation but to a smaller group within the nation. Paul developed his argument by quoting Gn 21:12 to show that not all Abraham's offspring were his true children. God made His promises to Isaac, the son of Abraham and Sarah and thus the child of promise. Mere physical descent from Abraham (such as Ishmael through the concubine Hagar) did not automatically mean inheriting the promises of God.)

Does God hate? If God is love, how can He hate? | GotQuestions.org

Why did God love Jacob and hate Esau (Malachi 1:3; Romans 9:13)? | GotQuestions.org

Vs. 14-18- There is absolutely no injustice with God. What can God choose to do?

Vs. 19- Some questions arise. What are they?

Vs. 20-21- These verses humble us. What does he say?
Vs 22- What does God want to make known?
Vs. 23- What is described as God's motive here?
(Bible Notes- God has patiently put up with the unbelieving Jews (objects of wrath) because He wanted to show mercy to both Jews and Gentiles.)
Vs. 24- God did this, not only for the Jews, but also for the
Vs. 25-26- Paul refers to Hosea 2:23 and 1:10. (Bible Notes- Although Hs 2:23 originally applied to the rebellious 10 tribes of Israel, both Paul and Peter (1 Pt 2:10) broaden the application to include the Gentiles as well.)
He refers to Isaiah 10:22-23; 28:22; Hosea 1:10: What is the point?
(Bible Notes- God chooses to extend His mercy to a remnant in Israel.)
Isaiah 1:9 predicts what would have ultimately happened to Israel had God not shown mercy. What does it say?
Vs. 30-33- Why are Gentiles declared righteous?
What did Israel pursue for righteousness?
Why did the law not bring righteousness?
Vs. 33- (Bible Notes- Paul uses Is 8:14 and 28:16 to show how the very One who should have been the object of the Jews' faith became instead <i>the stumbling stone</i> .)

Chapter 10:

What does Paul want most for people?

This should be our priority daily as well.

Vs. 3- What is the problem?

Vs. 4-5- What did Christ's sacrifice accomplish?

Vs. 8- Paul quotes Dt. 30:14: (Jot it down)

Vs. 9- What is the message of faith? (Jot this down)

What does belief in the heart result in?

What does confessing with the mouth result in?

Vs. 11-12- Paul refers to the Scriptures. Read Isaiah 28:16 What promise was foretold?

Vs. 13- A message for everyone. What does it say? (Read Joel 2:32)

Vs. 14-15- Valid questions! We need to ask those questions still today. What is the point?

Vs. 17- What needs to be heard by all?

Vs. 18-20- Paul reveals in Scripture that the Jews did hear, referring to Psalm 19:4. He also refers to Dt. 32:21 and Isaiah 65:1. What did these scriptures reveal?

Vs. 21- Here he refers to Isaiah 65:2. Ouch! What point is made?

Chapter 11:

Vs. 1-2- These verses pick up right where chapter 10 left off. The people of Israel were disobedient, defiant people. What does Paul clarify?

Vs. 3-4- Paul refers to the Scriptures regarding Elijah. What is his point?

Vs. 5-6- Paul makes clear how this remnant is chosen, even in his day. Explain:

What is the definition of grace? | GotQuestions.org

Do you find it hard to accept salvation by grace? Why or why not?

Vs. 7-12- Paul refers to Dt. 29:4; Isaiah 29:10; Psalm 69:22-23. Summarize these Scripture references:

Why does God harden hearts? | GotQuestions.org

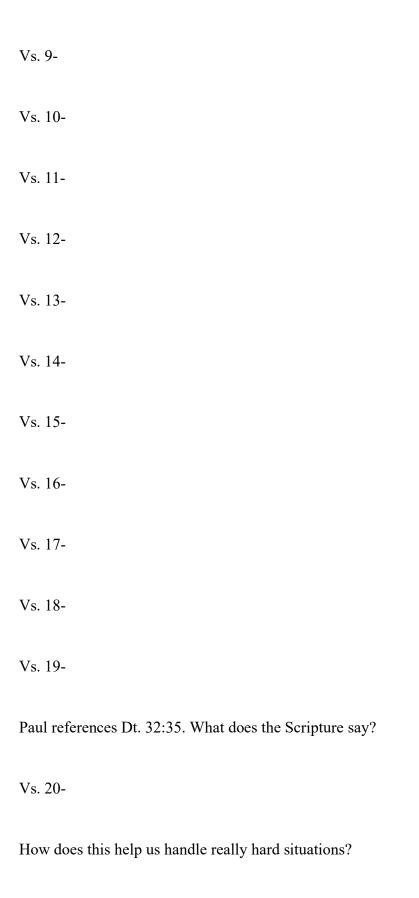
Vs. 11- Yes, Israel stumbled, but all is not lost! What will come of it?

How will this affect the Jews?

Vs. 13-15- What does Paul hope will come from this jealousy?

Vs. 16-24- Explain this analogy of the branches:

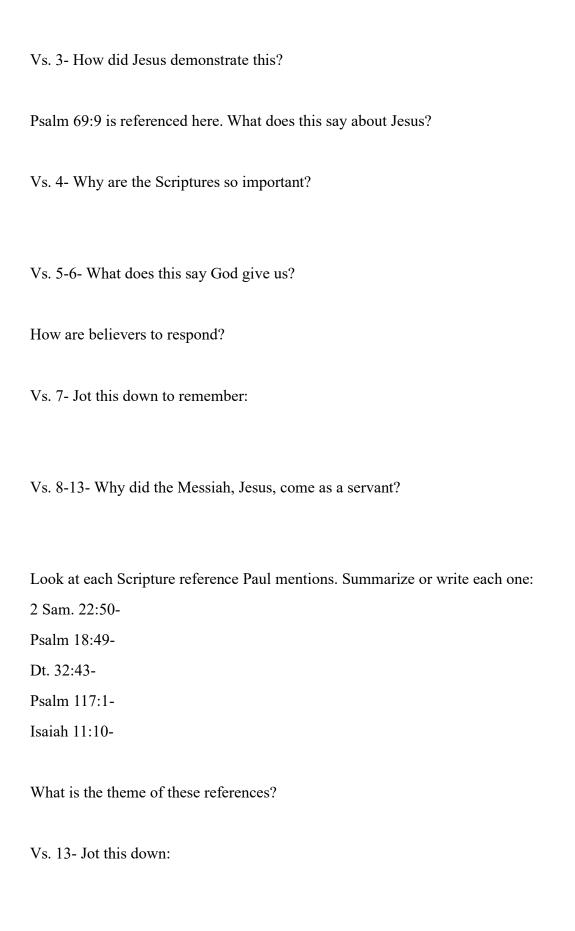
Vs. 25-26- Paul refers to God's dealing with Israel as a describe happened to them? Why?	. What does he
What will ultimately happen for Israel?	
The wife dictional interpretation in the second sec	
Paul refers to Isaiah 59:20-21. What promise was made through the prophet?	
Has the church been grafted in Israel's place? GotQuestions.org	
Vs. 28-29- Who benefits from Israel's rejection of Christ (the gospel)?	
Why, then, are Israelites still called God's elect?	
Vs. 30-32- All have received God's	
Vs. 33-36- Bask in these words a while! Jot this down.	
Chanton 12.	
Chapter 12: Vs. 1-2- What do believers need to do?	
What does it mean to be a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1)? GotQuestions.org	2
Vs. 3- What character trait should believers have?	
Vs. 4-8- We are one in Christ, and He gives us different	·
What are some of your gifts God has given you?	
Vs. 9-21- Within each verse write down the virtue Christians should follow:	

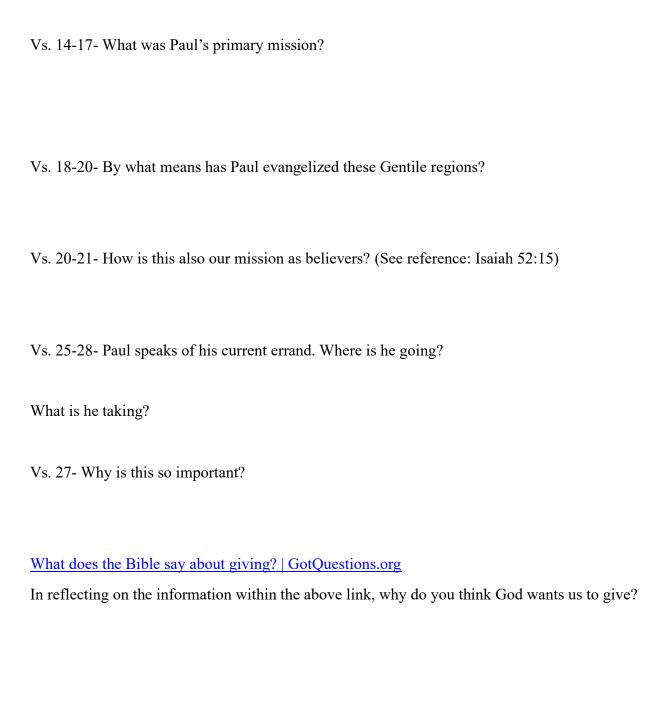


Vs. 20- Paul refers to Proverbs 25:21-22. What are believers asked to do and why?				
Vs. 21- Jot this down to remember:				
Chapter 13:				
Vs. 1-2- How should Christians respond to governing authorities and why?				
Vs. 3-4- How does he encourage people to live unafraid of government?				
How does God equip governments and why?				
Vs. 5-7- Why should believers submit and why should they pay taxes?				
Vs. 8- Great advice! Do not anything, except to				
one another. Explain this in your own words:				
Vs. 9-10- Paul refers to the Scriptures in Ex. 20:13-17 and Dt. 5:17-21. How are these commandments summed up?				
Vs. 11-14- Because the hour of our salvation is nearer, what should we do? What should we not be doing?				
How can we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" everyday?				

Chapter 14:
Vs. 1- Believers everywhere can take note of this. We should not
Can you think of many "doubtful issues" believers will argue about even today? List a few:
Vs. 2-10- Whether it is food intake, observing special days, etc, we need to live for the in all we do.
Vs. 9- Why did Christ die and come back to life?
Vs. 11- Paul references Isaiah 45:23 and 49:18. Knowing what these Scriptures say, what should be our focus?
Vs. 12- This is a big deal! What will each of us have to do?
Vs. 13-18- How then should we view others, even when we have differences of opinion, and why?
Vs. 19- Jot this down to remember:
Vs. 20- How can arguing over trivial issues be detrimental?
Why is the way we treat others so important for God's kingdom?
Chapter 15:

Vs. 1-2- How should we treat each other and why?





Chapter 16:

Vs. 1-16- (Bible Notes: Paul greets 26 people by name and mentions two more without using a name as well as noting several households. With the great amount of travel in the 1st century due to Roman peace and well-kept roads, Paul could well have known many people already in a church he had not visited. Also, since he had not yet been to Rome, the apostle was anxious to establish the fact that they already had many relationships in common. The names are a mix of Greek, Latin, and Jewish. They indicate people from all strata of society, slaves and freedmen, singles and married, men and women, Jew and Gentile. They reflect the universal extension of the gospel.)

Vs. 17-20- What does Paul warn about?	
What doctrine is Paul referring to?	
Vs. 19- Paul wants believers to beabout what is evil.	about what is good and
Vs. 20- What is God going to do to Satan?	
Vs. 21-24- Paul's associates greeted the Romans. (secretary), who wrote this letter for him).	(Bible Notes- Tertius, Paul's amanuensis,

Vs. 25-27- Paul gives glory to Jesus and encouragement to the recipients as he summarizes his letter. What has been revealed and made known through the prophetic Scriptures?

How many prophecies did Jesus fulfill? | GotQuestions.org

(Bible Notes: The gospel had been a mystery for ages; but with the coming of Jesus Christ, God has revealed it. The gospel shows that Jesus explained and fulfilled the Old Testament Scriptures in every way according to the eternal God's commandment. This revelation is for the purpose of leading all nations to believe and obey the gospel).

Book of Romans Summary | Watch an Overview Video (Part 1) (bibleproject.com)

Book of Romans Summary | Watch an Overview Video (Part 2) (bibleproject.com)