

**Title:** Accepted for God's Glory

**Passage:** Romans 15:7-13

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Summary:

**Overview**

I. Command (v. 7)

*Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.*

II. Protest by Gentile Christian (v.8)

III. Protest by Jewish Christian (v. 9-12)

III. Prayer (v.13)

*Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit*

Key Truths:

- As fellow Christians, we are called to accept one another as Jesus accepted us.
- All of God's promises were made to the nation of Israel but for the benefit for all the nations.
- God glorifies Himself through Christ accepting you - at no cost to you but complete cost to Himself. His love is never revoked.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- By what standard should a Christian accept other Christians regardless of their personality, background, or characteristics?
- How can a strong Christian use his or her strength to help other Christians?
- Where is your genuine love and affection: Is it God you love or what you do for Him?
- James 1:22 admonishes us to be “doers of the Word.” What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have been exposed to?

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**Passage:**

Romans 15:7-13

“Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God. For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers, and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, “THEREFORE I WILL GIVE PRAISE TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES, AND I WILL SING TO YOUR NAME.”

And again he says, “REJOICE, O GENTILES, WITH HIS PEOPLE.”

And again, “PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES, AND LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM.”

And again Isaiah says, “THERE SHALL COME THE ROOT OF JESSE, AND HE WHO ARISES TO RULE OVER THE GENTILES, IN HIM SHALL THE GENTILES HOPE.”

Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

## **EXPOSITION**

### **Overview**

- I. Command (v. 7)
- II. Protests (v. 8-12)
- III. Prayer (v.13)

### **Context of Passage**

This is the conclusion of Paul's book to the Romans

- Jews and Gentiles embracing together the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **I. COMMAND: ACCEPT ONE ANOTHER**

### **Romans 15:7**

**“Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.”**

*Therefore,*

- Previously wrote: Bear the weak = carry the weak

### **Romans 15:1**

Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves.

### **Galatians 6:2**

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

- While we are to call out sin, we also need to be careful as we admonish and relate to one another.
  - We also must be discerning on what we choose to call out (sin vs. preference)
- Strong in Christ
  - mighty because not weakened by weak faith that struggles to believe God is truly as gracious as He is.
    - All is grace / mercy / forgiven.
    - My performance doesn't matter as I am justified completely in Christ.

*accept one another*

- key command
  - Why? You all are in Christ together.
    - You all will rule together.

*just as Christ also accepted us*

- the standard of acceptance

Romans 14:1, 12

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions...So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Romans 5:8

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

John 13:1

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

*to the glory of God.*

- The "why"
  - Why we ought to accept one another.
- God glorifies Himself through Christ accepting you. (The "how")
  - At no cost to you
    - but complete cost to Himself.
  - His love is never revoked.

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **II. PROTEST BY GENTILE CHRISTIAN (v.8)**

- Protest: Why should I, the strong Gentile Christian, bear the weak Jewish Christian?
  - Answer in verse 8

**Romans 15:8**

***For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision on behalf of the truth of God to confirm the promises given to the fathers,***

*For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision*

- Why use the word "circumcision"?
  - Circumcision = sign of God's covenant with the Jews/nation of Israel.
- Jesus came to show that God's promises are true.
  - See: Isaiah 42-53

## II. PROTEST BY JEWISH CHRISTIAN (v. 9-12)

- Protest: Why should I, the Jewish Christian, embrace the Gentile Christian with grace?
  - Answers are clear in God's Word
    - "As it is written"

### **Romans 15:9-12**

***“and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, “THEREFORE I WILL GIVE PRAISE TO YOU AMONG THE GENTILES, AND I WILL SING TO YOUR NAME.””***

***“And again he says, “REJOICE, O GENTILES, WITH HIS PEOPLE.””***

***“And again, “PRAISE THE LORD ALL YOU GENTILES, AND LET ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE HIM.””***

***“And again Isaiah says, “THERE SHALL COME THE ROOT OF JESSE, AND HE WHO ARISES TO RULE OVER THE GENTILES, IN HIM SHALL THE GENTILES HOPE.””***

- All of God's promises were made to the nation of Israel
  - but for the benefit for all the nations.
- God's plan was always for Israel to accept and love the nations.
  - Made clear all throughout God's Word as he quotes:
    - 2 Samuel
    - Deuteronomy
    - Psalm 117
    - Isaiah
  - God's plan was for Jewish Christians to bear Gentile Christians (and vice-versa).

### **2 Samuel 22:50**

“For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations, and sing praises to your name.

### **Deuteronomy 32:43a**

“Rejoice with him, O heavens...

### **Psalms 117**

Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Praise the LORD!

### **Isaiah 11:10**

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Likewise, we are called to love the body of Christ / love one another

**Ephesians 4:15-16**

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

- Question: Is it Him you love? (Or what you do for Him?)

***Romans 15:13***

***“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”***

- Hope
  - One cannot live without
- Where are we to turn?
  - God of hope.
- What will God do?
  - Fill you with
    - All joy
    - All peace
- What's the result?
  - Abound in hope
    - By the power of the Holy Spirit
- Not by feeling but by truth and by His grace.