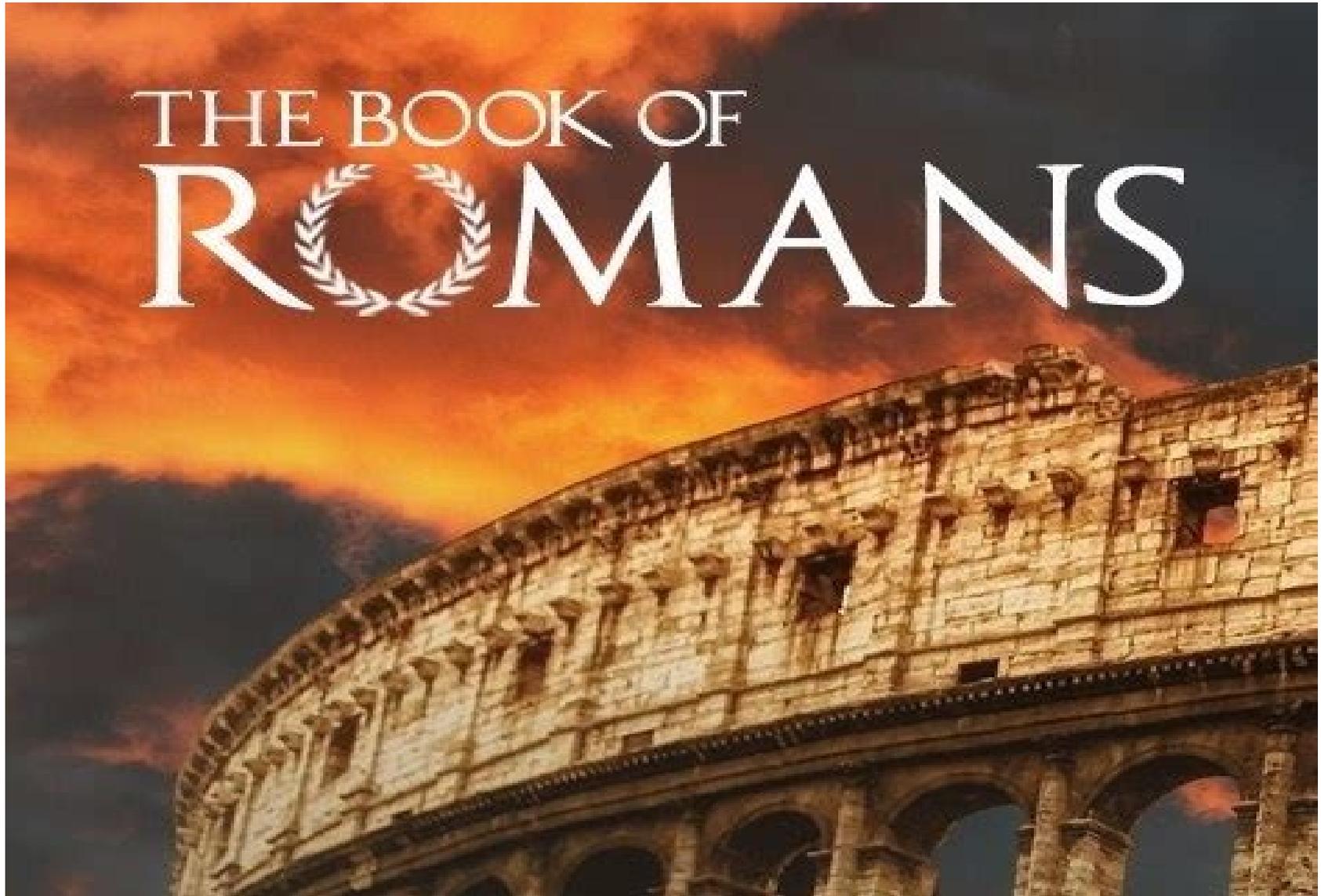


Rom 15:15-16

A Minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles



Outline of Rom 15:14 to 33 and Rom 16 *



1. Paul's Persuasions 15:14
2. Paul's Ministry 15:15-21
3. Paul's Desires 15:22-29
4. Paul's Requests 15:30-32
5. Paul's Benedictions 15:33 & 16:25-27
6. Paul's Salutations 16:1-24

* McCalley

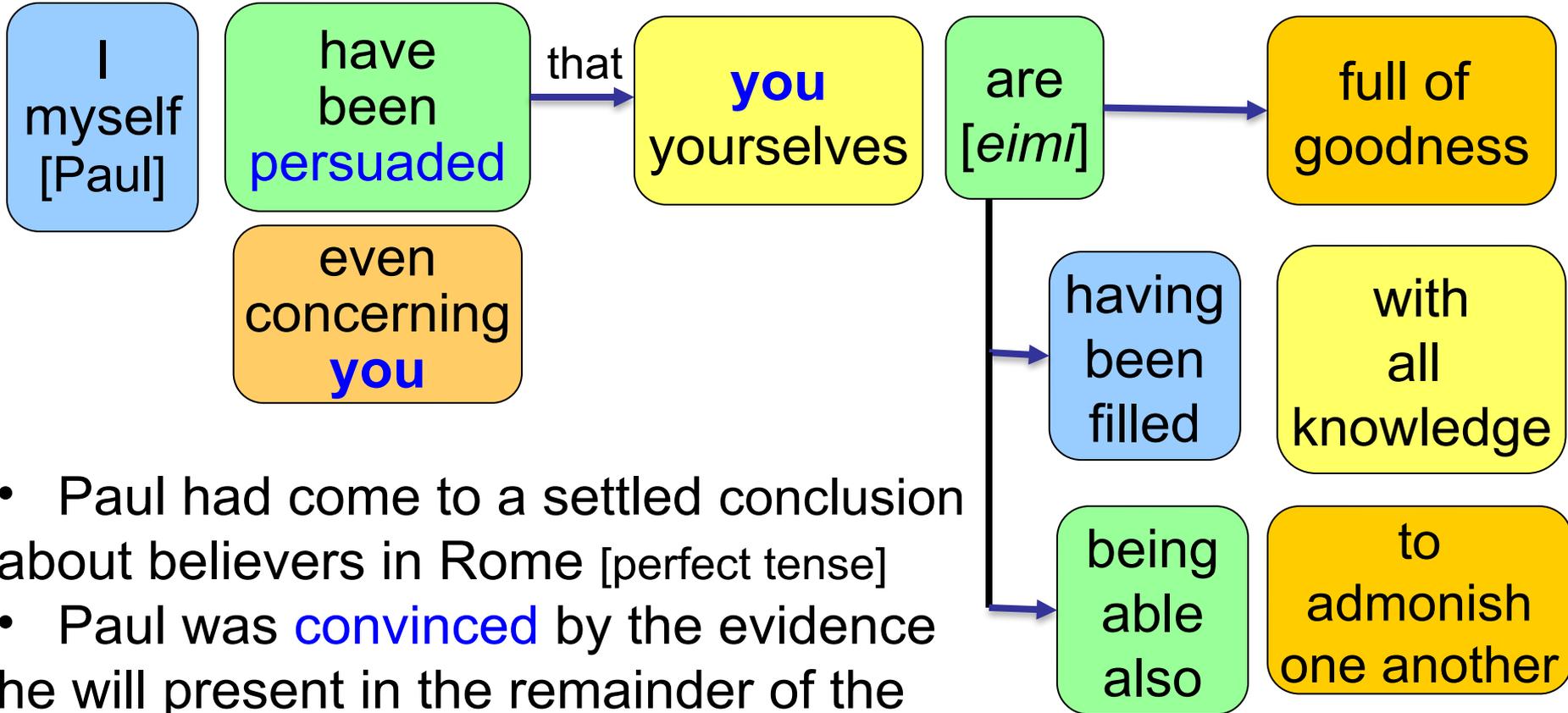
and - this is a big continuation of Paul's thoughts to the church at Rome

Rom 15:14



my brothers
[in Rome]

- *eimi* is a state of being verb



- Paul had come to a settled conclusion about believers in Rome [perfect tense]
- Paul was **convinced** by the evidence he will present in the remainder of the verse [passive voice]

Merryman

In this verse Paul lists three things that **Rom 15:14** are characteristic of the believers in Rome:



1st - **full of goodness** – lit: filled with goodness

goodness – *agathōsynē* – it is a disposition to do good

- Where did these believers get this disposition? Merryman
- You as a believer in Christ are continually full of goodness
- But what about their Christian walk?
- Gal 5:22-23a But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, **goodness**, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
- If you are under the control of the Spirit you have all nine of these [i.e. Christ's life]

2nd – **having been filled with all knowledge**

- This phrase is telling us more about who the believer is in Christ – it modifies the verb *eimi*



- 2nd – having been filled with all knowledge (cont.)
- perfect tense: you have been filled in the past and continue to be filled up into the present
 - passive voice: you have received the action of God the Holy Spirit
 - **knowledge** – *gnosis* – factual knowledge [of Scripture] that has become experiential [real]*
 - filled with all knowledge means a positive interaction with the truth from Scripture * Merryman
 - Rom 1:8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, because **your faith is being proclaimed** throughout the whole world.
 - Wuest: having been filled completely- full of every knowledge with the result that you are in an abiding state of fullness



3rd being able also to admonish one another

being able – *dynamai* – you have the power or capacity within you

- present tense, continuous action
- middle voice – for your own benefit

to admonish - *noutheteō* - to put in mind i.e. warn, admonish, exhort

- Col 1:28 We proclaim Him, **admonishing every man** and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.
- Amplified: competent to admonish and counsel and instruct one another also.

Today's Verses



¹⁵ But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God,

¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, so that *my* offering of the Gentiles may become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

But - *de* – in contrast to verse 14

Rom 15:15



I have written [*in this letter*]

very boldly [*unreservedly!*]

to *you* [in Rome]

on some points [*issues*]

Shall we continue in sin,
that grace may abound?
God forbid! How shall
we, that are dead to sin,
live any longer therein?*

so as to remind *you* again

because of the Grace that was given **me** from God

- on account of

* Rom 6:1b-2 8

¹⁵ But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God,



But – *de* – now in contrast to Paul's praises

I have written - in Eng. we would say "I am writing,"
taking our point of view from the time
at which we are doing it Vine

very boldly to you [in Rome]

boldly – from the word *tolmaō* - to be bold, to bear oneself
boldly, deal boldly

on some points – another example below

- Rom 8:26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; **for we do not know how to pray as we should**, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words.

¹⁵ But I have written very boldly to you on some points so as to remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God,



so as – lit: I have done so

Amplified

to remind you again

remind - *epanamimnēskō* - putting (you) again in remembrance," AV, "putting (you) in mind.

because of - *dia* - on account of

“the grace” that was given me from God

- so this is not grace in general that God gives to all who put their faith in Jesus Christ
- Eph 2:8 For by **grace** you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.
- The next verse [v:16] will tell us about **this specific grace** that was given to Paul alone

This **specific grace** was given [in v:5]

Rom 15:16



for me [Paul] **to be** [*eimi*] a servant

- a public servant, minister of God

of Christ Jesus
to **the Gentiles**

“administering in sacred service” the **good news** of God

so that

- *ginomai* – to come into a new state of being

the offering of the Gentiles

may be
[*ginomai*]

acceptable

having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit

- having been permanently set apart

¹⁶ for me [Paul] to be a servant of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, administering in sacred service the good news of God, that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit 

for me [Paul]

to be – *eimi* – the state in which someone continually exists

a servant - *leitourgos* - a public servant, minister

- In the NT a minister, servant, generally of God Zodhiates
- Rom 13:6b for *rulers* are servants [*leitourgos*] of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.
- Heb 8:1b we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ² a minister [*leitourgos*] in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.

¹⁶ for me [Paul] to be a servant of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles administering in sacred service the good news of God that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit

Interlinear



a servant [*leitourgos*] of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles

- so Paul is serving Christ Jesus directly as he gives out the good news to the Gentiles

administering in sacred service – *hierourgéō* - to perform or be employed in a sacred office

- compound of **temple** (*hieron*) and of **work** (*ergon*);
a temple-worker, i.e. officiate as a priest, minister

Vine

- Therefore, *hierourgéō*, **to act or work like a priest**, should be taken as a figurative allusion in Rom 15:16 Zodhiates

¹⁶ for me [Paul] to be a servant of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles administering in sacred service the good news of God that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit

Interlinear



the good news of God

good news – *euangelion* - The Eng. word "gospel"

- In the NT it denotes the "good tidings" of salvation through Christ, to be received by faith, on the basis of His expiatory death, His burial, resurrection, and ascension. Vine
- Rom 1:1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for **the gospel** of God,
- Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of **the gospel**, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁶ for me [Paul] to be a servant of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles administering in sacred service the good news of God that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit

Interlinear



that – *hina* – this introduces the purpose of Paul being a servant of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles

the offering of the Gentiles

may be – *ginomai* – to come into a new state of being

acceptable - *euprosdektos* - a person or thing who has been regarded very favorably

- **the offering in** which Paul conceives himself as presenting to God is “the Gentile Church,”*
- and **the priestly function** in the exercise of which this offering is made is the “preaching of the gospel” * Wuest

¹⁶ for me [Paul] to be a servant of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles administering in sacred service the good news of God that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit

Interlinear



having been sanctified by the Holy Spirit

sanctified – lit: to be set apart

- expanded: having been permanently set apart by the Holy Spirit
- the Gentile church is now acceptable as they receive the good news having been set apart by the Holy Spirit

1 Cor 1:2 To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who **have been sanctified** in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours.

Final Thoughts*



- "Minister" here is not the usual word *diakonos* (a servant),
- But *leitourgos*, used in secular life of a public minister, a **servant** of the state and in sacred things, of a minister [*leitourgos*] in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle [Heb 8:2]
- Paul uses it [*leitourgos*] here to speak of his ministry of preaching the gospel as a “priestly ministry,”
- And of **equal value and sacredness** to the ministry of the priesthood of the Old Testament
- The word "ministering" is again another of those words speaking of a ministry that is sacred, *leitourgeō* used of the priests and Levites who were busied with the sacred rites in the tabernacle and temple