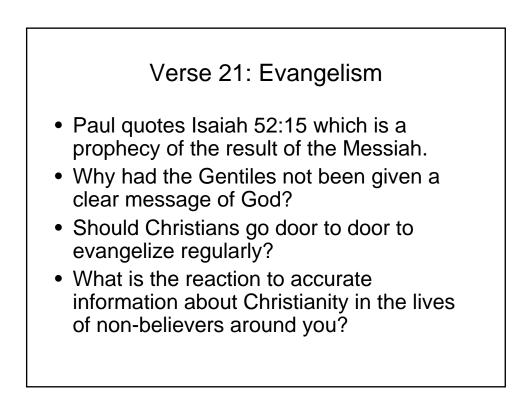


but as it is written, "THEY WHO HAD NO NEWS OF HIM SHALL SEE, AND THEY WHO HAVE NOT HEARD SHALL UNDERSTAND." For this reason I have often been prevented from coming to you; but now, with no further place for me in these regions, and since I have had for many years a longing to come to you whenever I go to Spain--for I hope to see you in passing, and to be helped on my way there by you, when I have first enjoyed your company for a while-- but now, I am going to Jerusalem serving the saints. For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. Yes, they were pleased to do so, and they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things. Therefore, when I have finished this, and have put my seal on this fruit of theirs, I will go on by way of you to Spain. I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ. Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me, that I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints; so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest in your company. Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen. (NASB)



Verses 22-24: Paul's Purpose

Paul outlines his ministry's methodology:

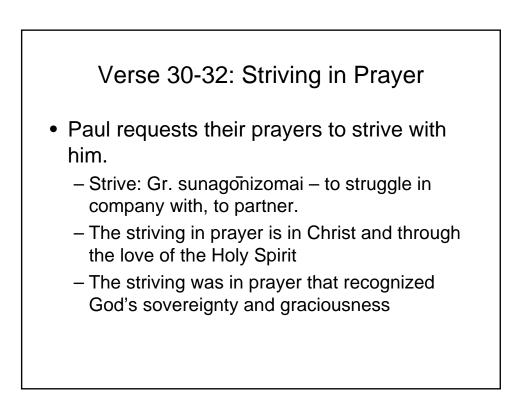
- Reach the un-reached and don't lose time.
- Be as self sufficient as possible, but don't ignore the responsibility of the body to support the work of the leadership.
- Strive for continued fellowship & the edification that results from fellowship

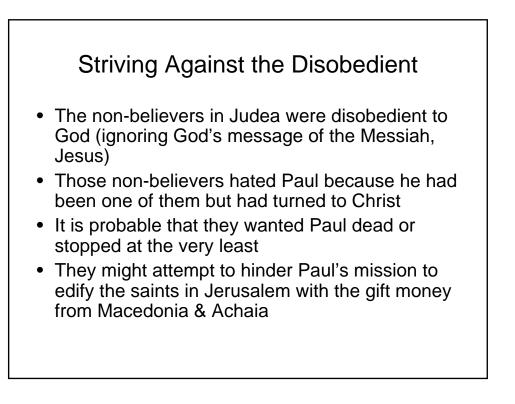


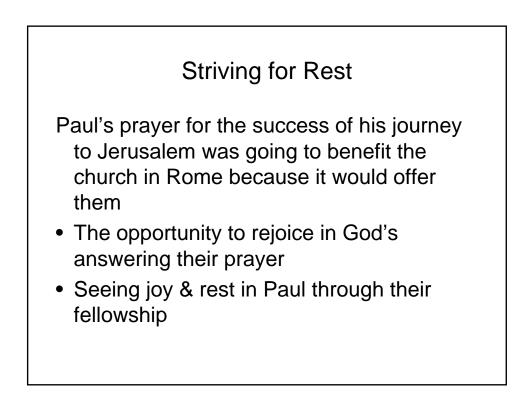
- Paul references his life of service. Paul is serving the saints. Where? Macedonia, Achaia and Jerusalem.
 - Philippians 4:15-19
- Contributing to the poor
 - Romans 12:13a
 - Acts 2:45
- The Gospel was borne from Jerusalem and so the saints sent a financial support gift back to the poor saints in Jerusalem
- Paul took personal responsibility for the delivery

Verse 29: The Blessing of Christ

- Paul's entire ministry was lead by the direction of the Holy Spirit (ex. Acts 16:6)
- Paul's direction for all steps in his life was from the Holy Spirit. When he went to Rome en transit to Spain it would be with the full blessing of Christ.







Verse 33: The God of Peace

- After giving them something to be concerned over in Paul's journey he reminds them of their peaceful Father.
- True peace is originated in God who gives peace its very definition.