



THE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS "The Importance of Being Careful" Romans 16:1-27

No. 301

Stuart Briscoe

In the first eleven chapters Paul explained the doctrine of Christianity. In the following four chapters he showed practical implications of Christian living but in the final chapter he concludes with personal greetings, which are as instructive as they are illuminating. He showed that we must:

I. Be Careful to Give Encouragement to People. vv. 1-16; 21-24

- A. Receive people, e.g. Phoebe. vv. 1-2
- B. Thank people, e.g. Priscilla and Aquila. vv. 3-5
- C. Remember people, e.g. Epenetus. v. 5
- D. Respect people, e.g. Andronicus, Junias. v. 7
- E. Befriend people, e.g. Ampliatus, Stachys. vv. 8-9
- F. Affirm people, e.g. Apelles. v. 10
- G. Mother people, e.g. Rufus' mother. v. 13
- H. Greet people. vv. 15-16

- Notes:
- i. Number of women.
 - ii. Number of households.
 - iii. Number of house-churches.

II. Be Careful to Give Attention to Problems. vv. 17-20

- A. Be alert to destructive influences.
 - 1. Division. v. 17
 - a. Doctrinal errors.
 - b. Unwarranted emphases.
 - 2. Deception. v. 18
 - a. Pointing from Christ to self.
 - b. Promoting with skill and conviction.
- B. Be anxious for naïve believers.
 - 1. Believers who believe anything.
 - 2. Believers who believe everybody.
- C. Be active in protective measure.
 - 1. Watch out. v. 17
 - 2. Walk away. v. 17
 - 3. Wise up. v. 19

III. Be Careful to Give Glory to God. vv. 25-27

- A. Why?
 - 1. Because He commanded the mystery to be revealed.
 - a. By Christ's proclamation.
 - b. By Paul's Gospel.
 - c. By prophetic teaching.
 - 2. Because the message has universal relevance.
 - 3. Because the Gospel has eternal significance.
 - 4. Because God alone is wise.
- B. How?
 - 1. By obedience now.
 - 2. Through Christ forever.

Question: After studying Romans, do I glorify God by loving obedience?