

⁷ Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.

⁸ Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers,

*⁹ and that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written:
"For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles,
And sing to Your name."*

Romans 15:7-9

THE CHURCH IN ROME

1. It had a good mixture of Jews and Gentiles
2. There were some difficulties among the brethren in the Church

A SHORT LIST OF PROBLEMS

1. There were weak and strong believers
2. There were differences of opinions
 - a) With reference to dietary concerns
 - b) With reference to observation of holy days

AN ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DIFFICULTIES

1. To accept each other's difference of opinions
2. To accept each other's choices and preferences
3. To receive one another
4. There was the danger of rejection of people
5. This would result in schism in the Church

BEARING IN MIND THE GLORY OF GOD

1. The example of the Lord Jesus Christ in receiving people

2. How did He receive people who came to Him?

- a) With grace
- b) With mercy
- c) With love
- d) With understanding

3. This example of the Lord should be emulated

- a) All believers must learn to accept others similarly
- b) This would bring glory to God
- c) The glory of God is to be borne in mind at all times

THE EXAMPLE OF THE LORD JESUS AS A SERVANT OF GOD

1. This was a word that was more directly applicable to the Jews in the Church of Rome

2. The Lord Jesus was a Servant to Israel

- a) The Jews are here called "of the circumcision"
- b) He came to confirm the promises God gave to their forefathers
- c) He ministered as "the Servant of the LORD" (Isaiah 42)

3. Did the Lord Jesus have the Gentiles in mind too?

- a) The short answer is "Yes!"
- b) The Lord's ministry:
 - i) To a Gentile centurion Matthew 8
 - ii) To a woman of Canaan Matthew 15

4. Gentiles can bring glory to God too

- a) They will glorify God for His mercy
- b) Paul cited Psalm 18:49
 - i) This was a Psalm written by David
 - ii) Gentiles were mentioned
 - iii) This was David singing the praise of God

THE JEWISH AND GENTILE DIVIDE

1. Paul appealed to the Jewish believers

2. He urged them to be more:

- a) Accommodating
- b) Gracious
- c) Receptive

With reference to Gentile believers in the Church at Rome