

## THE TRANSITION PERIOD (CIRCA 35 TO 64 AD) (Also called Acts Period)

Peter And The

God's Prophetic Program With the Nation of Israel: DIMINISHING

God's Mystery Program
With the Body of Christ:
INCREASING

Paul Wrote Romans 60 AD



Night of Israel's
Prophecy under
Gentile Darkness is
Far Spent. Rom. 13

**Salvation** 

Is nearer.

Day is at

**Rom. 13** 

Hand.

Body of
Christ
Salvation
And Day
Are here

Transition
Period
Over by Col. 1
Circa 64 AD



Israel's Prophetic Program Set Aside

A

### **GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS**

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

# Closing The Gaps:

### Paul's Foundation

Rom. 15:19-24

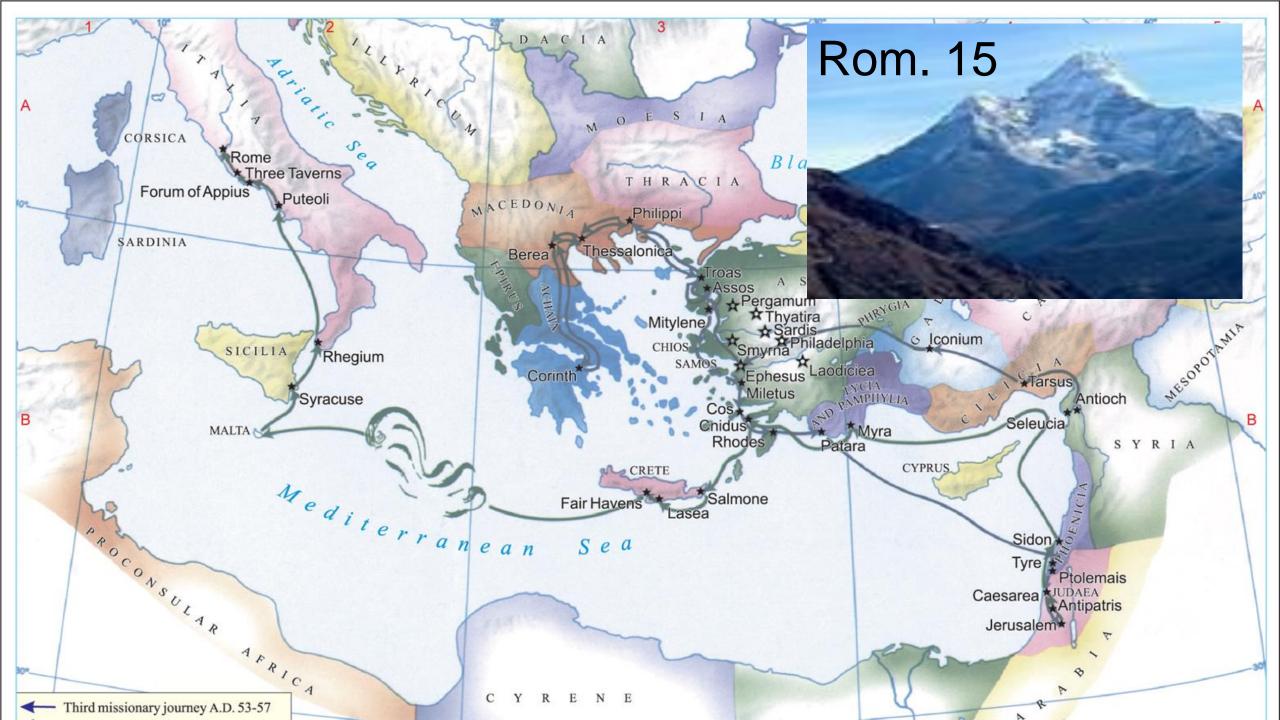
Rom. 14 is the answer to every question and the solution to all problems and the alleviator or all errors and confusions that have corrupted historical Christianity:

- a. Follow Paul (14:14, 20)
- b. By walking in Love (14:15, 21)
- c. In the light of Pauline Grace Mystery Truth
- d. Holding it all in the presence of God and with constant prayerful communion with Him (14:22-23).

Once aligned with Paul in the Love of God that flows out of faith in Pauline Grace Mystery Truth:

- a. You can welcome all people the way Christ welcomes all people, including your enemies (15:1-3)
- b. So that you participate in their edification (15:2-4)
- c. Which will enable you all to praise God together with one mind and one mouth (15:5-7)
- d. By teaching them how to rightly-divide the Scriptures (15:8-16)
- e. So that they can appreciate the new source of hope and blessing that the whole Triune God is now dispensing the world, esp. the Gentiles, apart from Israel and without the works of her Law, based solely on the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ as revealed in Paul's ministry and apostleship (15:14-19).

- 1. We wrap up Rom. 15-16 with more accounts of Paul being the GAP-CLOSER:
  - a. In Rom. 14:1-15:19, Paul tried to close the gap between the weak in the faith (primarily believing Jews) and the strong in the faith (primarily Gentiles).
  - b. In Rom. 15:20-33, Paul will try to close the gap between the Believing Remnant of Israel and the Body of Christ.
  - c. Which, in doing this, He also tries to bridge the gaps between Paul's geographically far-flung churches—Macedonia, Achaia, Asia, Rome—by joining them in this common project.
  - d. In Rom. 16, he will close the gap between himself and the Romans through this Letter and his and their co-workers in Christ.
  - 2. The view from the mountain top of Rom. 15:



- 3. Rom. 15:20-21; Is. 52:15-53:1:
  - He earnestly desired to preach the Gospel of Christ to those who did not name or glorify Christ thru the ministry of Peter and 12 because Israel abrogated its responsibility by rejecting Christ.
  - a. Building on the wrong foundation or on the right foundation with the wrong materials displeases God, whether on Peter's or Paul's:
    - --God through Paul withstood Peter, James and John to the face for doing this in Antioch when they rebelliously tried to erect a wall between Jews and Gentiles that was appropriate on Peter's foundation onto Paul's foundation. But this was building with the wrong materials—the Law, the clean and unclean food regulations, and God through Paul WITHSTOOD HIM TO THE FACE! (Gal. 2).
    - --Paul is the official servant of the Lord for the Mystery Program, ministering on Lord Jesus Christ's behalf, in His stead (Rom. 15:16; 2 Cor. 5:20).

- 4. Is. 52:15—What Isaiah prophesies about the fulfillment of God's Prophetic Program with believing Israel, the Lord's servant. They were supposed to take Christ out to the nations after her national salvation and restoration—the nations would be blessed and have hope WITH ISRAEL AND THROUGH HER RISE (Is. 52:6-12).
  - a. But because of national Israel's rejection of Christ, Israel's salvation and restoration has been postponed and is yet future (Rom. 9-11).
  - b. But God did not leave the Gentiles hopeless. He raised up Paul, the Lord's servant (Rom. 15:16), and through his ministry is now taking Christ out to the nations in accord with God's Mystery Program for the Body of Christ APART FROM ISRAEL AND THROUGH HER RISE!

- 5. Peter and the 12 preached the Gospel of the Kingdom but their ministry remained primarily to Israel in Jerusalem because Israel rejected that Gospel (Is. 52:7; 53:1; Rom. 10:15).
  - a. Paul's ministry went to those who had rejected the Gospel of the Kingdom or had never heard it (To the Jews first and the Gentiles). To those left in darkness because of Israel's rebellion against God.
  - b. After Israel once-and-for-all rejected Christ in Acts 7 at which point the Gospel of the Kingdom ceased (the Kingdom was put in abeyance), transforming it into the Gospel of the Circumcision, which limited Peter to the Believing Remnant until that generation died off (Gal. 2:7).
  - c. If they engaged with people outside the Bel. Rem. they were to minister in accord with Paul's Mystery Program (Rom. 16; Gal. 2; 2 Pet. 3:15-18).

- 6. This situation may have contributed to the confusion in Rome we read about in Rom. 14.
  - a. There were Jews in Jerusalem at Pentecost who heard Peter preach and may have been saved and members of the Believing Remnant of Israel years before (Acts 2:10).
  - b. But then Paul's co-workers came to town preaching to unbelieving Jews who had not heard unto faith Peter's message about Christ in God's Prophetic Program under Moses, but then they believed Paul's message, which placed them NOT in the Bel. Rem. of Israel under the Law but in the Body of Christ under Pauline Grace in accord with God's Mystery Program.
  - c. Then once saved through Paul, these believing Jews interacted with Peter's believing Jews and were being confused about what instructions they were to follow—Moses or Paul?

Believing Remnant
Synagogue
associated with Peter
and the 12

Unbelieving
Synagogue
associated with the apostate Nation of Israel

Believe Through Paul and His Co-Workers

The Body of Christ associated with the Apostle Paul

7. Rom. 15:21-24—Paul went to those who were deserted in darkness when the Nation of Israel fell so that there wasn't anyone to tell them about Christ, leaving them hopeless (esp. the Gentiles). They responded in faith to Paul's preaching, hearing and understanding. (Rom. 15:14; Col. 1:25-2:3).

- 8. By the time we get out of Rom. 15-16, Paul will bridge the gaps between:
  - a. Believing Jews and Gentiles in Rome (Rom. 14-15a).
  - b. All the disparate churches of the Body of Christ created through his wide-ranging missionary journeys.
  - c. The Body of Christ and the Believing Remnant of Israel.
  - d. Himself and the Romans.

### **Heaven Came Down**

O what a wonderful, wonderful day Day I will never forget; After I'd wandered in darkness away, Jesus my Savior I met. O what a tender Compassionate friend – He met the need of my heart; Shadows dispelling, with joy I am telling, He made all the darkness depart!

Heaven came down and glory filled my soul,
When at the cross the Savior made me whole;
My sins were washed away
And my night was turned to day
Heaven came down and glory filled my Soul!

### **Heaven Came Down**

Born of the Spirit with life from above Into God's family diving, Justified fully through Calvary's love, O what a standing is mine! And the transaction so quickly was made When as a sinner I came, Took of the offer of grace he did proffer-He save me, O praise His dear name!

Heaven came down and glory filled my soul,
When at the cross the Savior made me whole;
My sins were washed away
And my night was turned to day
Heaven came down and glory filled my Soul!

### **Heaven Came Down**

Now I've a Hope that will surely endure After the passing of time; I have a future in heaven for sure, There in those mansions sublime. And it's because of that wonderful day When at the cross I believed; Riches eternal and blessings supernal From His precious hand I received.

Heaven came down and glory filled my soul,
When at the cross the Savior made me whole;
My sins were washed away
And my night was turned to day
Heaven came down and glory filled my Soul!