

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

RLJ-1601

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PART 29: SHATTERED DREAMS

JEWISH PREJUDICE

The apostles and the rest of the 120 followers of Jesus were happy on the day of Pentecost. They were baptized in the Holy Spirit and then 3,000 Jews were born again when Peter preached the first sermon.

They had no intention of preaching the Gospel to the Gentiles since the Talmud teaches that Gentiles are subhuman and likened to animals. When the Holy Spirit compelled Peter to preach the Gospel to Cornelius and his family and friends, Peter was astonished that Jesus had also died for a hated Roman Centurion and he had to defend his actions before the church in Jerusalem. **Acts 11:1-18**

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

When Jesus set up the church, it was different from the synagogue system. Each church was to be autonomous and led by apostles, bishops or pastors, with elders, deacons, teachers, prophets and evangelists.

In the synagogue system, all the members were Jews, but the church was a melting pot for all nationalities to work in harmony. **Romans 15:1-3**

Paul was quoting the Old Testament when he stated that Jesus was not looking out for Himself, but took on the sins of humanity. **Psalms 69:9**

Paul stressed that the Old Testament was written and preserved for future generations so they could learn from the mistakes of the past and not repeat them. **Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:1-11; Hebrews 3:12-19**

A MELTING POT

Every believer in Christ should strive to be likeminded with other Christians and treat one another like Jesus treats us. **Romans 15:5-7**

Jesus came from the bloodline of Judah to fulfill the promises given to Abraham. **verse 8; Genesis 12:1-3; 2 Corinthians 1:19-22**

GENTILES AND GOD

Gentiles are to be thankful and continually praising God that the mercy to Abraham and his offspring has also extended to everyone else regardless of race or gender. **Romans 15:9-14; Psalm 18:49; Isaiah 11:1-5; Galatians 3:28-29**

PAUL AND THE GENTILES

In the beginning of his letter to the Romans, Paul stated that he had been called by God to be an apostle to the Gentiles. **Romans 1:5**



Paul reminds the church in Rome a second time that he has been called to be an apostle to the Gentiles, commissioned to preach Jesus Christ and teach them to live a holy life. **Romans 15:15-18; 2 Timothy 1:7-12**

Paul wanted the church in Rome to know that he had not gone into areas where other apostles had previously been; instead, he went where no churches existed, and as a pioneer, he founded churches through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Romans 15:19-21; Isaiah 52:13-15**

There had been many hindrances for Paul to come to Rome. **Romans 15:22-24**

ANOTHER TRIP TO JERUSALEM

Paul shared the need of Jewish Christians in Jerusalem with different Gentile churches. Money was collected and Paul wanted to deliver it in person.

Paul did not know that events in Jerusalem would not go the way he had planned, instead he was almost murdered, arrested, and after two years he was brought to Rome as a prisoner.

There is no record in the Book of Acts that Paul was able to travel to Spain; instead, his dreams were shattered when he came to Rome as a prisoner and did not know he only had about four more years to live before he was beheaded. **Romans 15:25-33**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?