

**Romans Completed**  
**– Volume 4:**  
**Walking Out Your Faith**  
**Under Pressure**  
by Derek Prince

— Study Note Outline —  
RP4

*Four Tape Series*  
*Romans 12:1 – 12:21*  
*Romans 13:1 – 13:14*  
*Romans 14:1 – 15:6*  
*Romans 15:7 – 16:27*

Dear Friend,

God has richly blessed “The Roman Pilgrimage” (Chapters 1 through 8), which was taped at Ridgecrest, N.C., in 1988. Now I would love to share with you the insights which God has been giving me into the second half of this wonderful epistle.

Chapters 9 through 11 focus on the destiny of Israel. Without an understanding of these chapters, the revelation of the gospel is incomplete. For too long, God’s people have been denied the precious truths which they contain. Yet, without them, the Church can never fully understand her own destiny.

Chapters 12 through 16 are “where the rubber meets the road”—nitty-gritty, down-to-earth truth on how to live what you believe. As you face the mounting pressures of evil in these closing days, you will find that these truths are nothing less than **your key to survival!**

In the Master’s service,

Derek Prince

## Walking Out Your Faith Under Pressure

Romans 12 – 16

### A. 12:1–8 Our first practical response to God’s mercy

- 12:1 Present our *body* as a *living sacrifice* on God’s altar  
Results of this sacrifice:
- 12:2
1. Our mind renewed
  2. Our lifestyle changed
  3. Able to discern God’s will in 3 phases: good, acceptable, perfect
- 12:3 (The renewed mind is *humble* and *realistic*)
4. Discover our allotted *measure of faith*
- 12:4–5
5. Discover our *place* and *function* in the Body of Christ  
(Our measure of faith is suited to our function)
- 12:6–7
6. Begin to exercise appropriate *gifts (charismata)* within the limits of our faith: e.g. prophecy, serving, teaching, exhorting, giving, leading, showing mercy

### B. 12:9–21 Fruits that grow from the root of love

- 12:9a Sincere love is the root of all Christian service (compare 1 Tim. 1:5)—producing many kinds of fruit—e.g.:
- 12:9b
1. Hate evil, love good—no neutrality (compare Ps. 45:7; 97:10)
- 12:10
2. Devoted to one another; preferring one another
- 12:11
3. Not lazy, diligent; serving the Lord with *passionate dedication* (compare Rev. 3:16)
- 12:12
4. Cheerfully optimistic; holding out under pressure; loving to pray
- 12:13
5. Sharing with fellow believers; practicing hospitality
- 12:14
6. Blessing our persecutors
- 12:15
7. Equally sympathetic with those who rejoice and those who weep
- 12:16
8. Living in harmony; humble; not conceited or arrogant (compare Prov. 13:10)
- 12:17
9. Never returning evil for evil; maintaining a reputation for right dealing
- 12:18
10. Sincerely seeking peace with all
- 12:19–20
11. Never repay evil with evil, but with good
- 12:21
12. Meet and overcome evil with good—respond in the *opposite spirit*: e.g. hatred with love; bitterness with sweetness; anger

with gentleness, etc. Only *good* is strong enough to overcome evil

**C. 13:1–7 Relating to governmental authority**

- Matt. 28:18 All *authority* comes from God through Jesus (see Col. 2:10)
- 13:1–4 Rulers are responsible to restrain evil and maintain good order—but laws cannot change people’s hearts—only the gospel can do that
- 1 Tim. 2:1–6 Christians should uphold their rulers by prayer because good government facilitates the preaching of the gospel
- 13:5 Resisting governmental authority is resisting God who ordained it—God does not necessarily set aside authority when it is abused—even abused authority is better than none (anarchy)
- John 19:11 Compare the attitude of Jesus to Pilate
- Eph. 2:1–3; 6:12 Even Satan retains authority received from God over all rebels, angelic or human (compare Col. 1:13: *authority* of darkness)
- Acts 5:29 When rulers demand direct disobedience to God, Christians must refuse—but *submit*—the issue here was *preaching the gospel*—ultimately each believer must answer to God and his own conscience
- Mark 16:15 Jesus had specifically commanded to *preach the gospel to every creature*
- 16:20 Submission plus prayer, testifying and preaching opens the way for “*the God of peace*” to *intervene*—in this way, in 300 years, the early church conquered the Roman Empire
- 13:6–7 Christians should fulfill all obligations to government (compare Matt. 22:21)

**D. 13:8–10 One debt we can never pay off: To love**

- 13:8a All other indebtedness is wrong (compare Prov. 22:7)
- 13:8–10 Love produces obedience to all other commandments
- Matt. 24:12 *Lawlessness* all around us is producing *lovelessness* (compare 2 Thess. 2:3–7)
- John 13:34 The new commandment
- James 1:25 The perfect law of liberty
- James 2:8 The royal law
- 8:4 Love is the *righteous requirement of the law* (compare Gal. 5:14)

**E. 13:11–14 Live in anticipation of Christ’s return**

- 13:11–13 Satan’s kingdom of darkness will soon be overthrown—we must live like those who belong to the kingdom of light

Titus 2:11–14 Expecting Christ’s return motivates us to *holiness*

13:14 We have all we need in Christ—we do not need to make concessions to our fleshly nature (compare Col. 3:3–5)

**F. 14:1–12 Religious rules about diet, holidays, etc.**

14:1–3 Avoid doctrinal discussions that produce no positive results—e.g. about eating “kosher” or observing Sabbaths or other holidays

The one who is “free” must not despise the one who “observes”—the one who “observes” must not criticize the one who is “free”

14:4–6 Each of us must answer directly to the Lord—we are not free to judge others who differ—replace criticizing by giving thanks

14:7–9 “No man is an island”—we all live or die to Christ, who is Lord of the living and the dead

14:10–12 We will not be judged by one another, but by Jesus Himself—we need to live in readiness for this (compare 2 Cor. 5:9–10)

**G. 14:13–23 Be guided by love, not religious rules**

14:13–16 Food in itself cannot defile a person (compare Mark 7:15–19; 1 Tim. 4:4–5)—but we must not offend those who do not see this

14:17–18 3 essentials: righteousness, peace, joy—only possible in the Holy Spirit—righteousness must come first (compare Is. 48:22; 57:21)—this way of living is accepted by God and approved by men

14:19–21 Aim for peace and building up Christ’s Body—eating becomes evil if it offends others

14:22–23 Do not make your personal faith a controversial issue—anything not done out of faith is *sin* (compare 1:17)

**H. 15:1–7 The marks of true spiritual strength**

15:1–3 Spiritual strength is not putting people down, but lifting them up—definition of “apostles”

John 2:15–17 Pattern of Jesus: pleasing the Father, not Himself (Ps. 69:9; John 8:29)

15:4 The source of strength: the Scriptures—received with *patience* (compare Heb. 6:12–15; 10:36)

15:5–7 The outcome: harmony, unity and mutual acceptance

**I. 15:8–13 How the Gospel affects Jews and Gentiles**

15:8–9a Double outworking of Christ’s ministry:

1. to fulfill God’s covenant promises to Israel—thus producing fruit from seed already planted

2. to offer mercy to Gentiles not based on a previous covenant—  
thus sowing seed where it had not been sown before

15:9b–12 Old Testament Scriptures promising mercy to Gentiles: Ps. 18:49;  
Deut. 32:43; Ps. 117:1; Is. 11:10

15:13 The outcome: filled by the Holy Spirit with all joy, peace, faith,  
hope

#### **J. 15:14–21 Principles and accomplishments of Paul’s ministry**

15:14–16 Paul tactfully affirms his apostolic—and priestly—calling to  
present the Gentile church as a sanctified offering to God

15:17–19 Paul boasts of what Christ has done through the gospel “fully  
preached”—i.e. with miracles and supernatural power—producing  
wholehearted obedience from the Gentiles (compare 1 Cor. 2:1–5)  
It is right to boast in Christ and the cross (Phil. 3:3; Gal. 6:14)

15:20–21 Paul’s motivation: to reach the unreached (compare Is. 52:15)

#### **K. 15:22–29 Paul’s projected “itinerary”**

15:22–28 First, to bring an offering from Gentiles to poor Jewish believers  
(material repayment of a spiritual debt)—then to visit Rome on his  
way to Spain

15:29 Paul’s confidence in his God-given ministry

#### **L. 15:30–33 Personal request for prayer**

15:30–32 Specific *needs* explained

Acts 21–28 Specific *answers* recorded

Intercessors and proclaimers must *strive (agonize) together*—  
Paul’s life depended on the outcome

15:33 Recurring emphasis: the God of *peace* (compare 16:20; 2 Cor.  
13:11; Phil. 4:9; 1 Thess. 5:23; 2 Thess. 3:16; Heb. 13:20)

Peace (*shalom*) = harmony, wholeness, completeness, every  
account settled

#### **M. 16:1–23 Personal greetings and news**

16:1–16, 21–23 Paul mentions *36 individuals*—all but 2 by name

*Right doctrine* must produce *right relationships*—God is concerned  
for individuals and we must be too

Associated with Paul in ministry:

Phoebe (1–2); Prisca, Aquila (3–4); Epaenetus (5); Andronicus,  
Junias (7); Urbanus (9); Timothy (21); Tertius (22)

Relatives of Paul:

Andronicus, Junias (7); Herodion (11); Rufus (13); Lucius, Jason, Sospater (21)

Heads of households:

Prisca, Aquila (3–4); Aristobulus (10); Narcissus (11)

Hard workers:

Mary (6); Persis (12)

Referred to elsewhere:

Prisca, Aquila: Acts 18:2, 18, 26

Rufus: Mark 15:21

Timothy

Lucius: Acts 13:1

Jason: Acts 17:5

Sospater: Acts 20:4

Gaius: Acts 20:4; 1 Cor. 1:14

Erastus: Acts 19:22

Mark 10:29–30 Fulfilled in Paul's life

16:17–19 Warning against those who peddle false teaching for the sake of personal gain (compare 2 Cor. 2:17)

16:20 Feet are *last* and *lowest*—a promise to the end-time Church

**N. 16:25–27 The eternal purpose and power of the gospel**

16:25–26 *The gospel*: a secret long kept hidden—specially revealed to Paul—fulfilling Old Testament Scriptures—able to establish those who believe—to be proclaimed to all nations

16:27 Paul closes with *worship*