

“All Glory, Laud And Honor”
Romans 16:25-27

Introduction:

1. Well - For This Last Sunday:
 - Of The Year:
 - Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles To:
 - The Last Chapter:
 - Of The Book Of Romans:
 - Romans 16!
 - And - Really:
 - What A Great Way To End:
 - The Year!
 - By Ending Our Series:
 - Through Romans!
 - But - What A Way To End!
2. Because - After All:
 - The Explanation:
 - Of The Doctrine Of The Gospel:
 - That We Heard:
 - In The First Part Of The Letter!
 - And After All:
 - The Exhortation:
 - In The Duties Of The Gospel:
 - That We Discovered:
 - In The Second Part Of The Letter!
 - And Even After All:
 - The Encouragement:
 - As A Christian Family:
 - That We Just Went Through:
 - In This Final Chapter!
3. In The Last Three Verses:
 - The Apostle Paul Wants Us To Know:
 - That Nothing He Wrote:
 - Was Meant For **His** Gain Or For **His** Glory!
 - But For **God's** - And:
 - For God's **Alone!**
 - So - He Ends With:
 - One Of The Longest Doxologies:
 - That We Find In The New Testament!
 - A “Word Of Praise” That Exhibits To Us:
 - As Christians:
 - Who - We Are To Praise!
 - Why - We Are To Praise!
 - And Even:
 - When - We Are To Praise!
 - Let's Read These Verses Together!
 - 16:25-27 - “Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, / But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith: / To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen!”
4. This Great Doxology:
 - All Begins - In 16:25 - With The Word:
 - “Now” - With Which Paul Transitions To:
 - The *Final* Ending Of His Letter!
 - The End Of The Ends:
 - Which He Started Back In:

- 15:33 - And Then In:
- 16:20 - And Then Again In:
- 16:24!
- Paul Just Had So Much To Say:
 - To Those Congregations There In Rome!
 - But - This Time:
 - He Really Does End:
 - In A “Blaze Of Glory!”
 - That Is - Glory To God!
- And Shows To Us - Even Today:
 - How - We Ought To Strive:
 - In All Of Our Lives:
 - To Give “All Glory, Laud And Honor” To:
 - Our “Redeemer, King!”
 - As We Just Sang!

* And So - The First Thing That Stands Out In These Verses Is:

1. *Who We Are To Praise!*

- And That Is:
 - God Alone!
 - And In These Three Verses:
 - We Are Reminded As To:
 - ***Who*** This God Is!
 - Because Paul Focuses On:
 - Three Of His Attributes:
 - Including:
 - His Power!
 - His Eternal Nature! And:
 - His Wisdom!
 - And - Because Of:
 - ***Who*** God Is:
 - He Alone:
 - Deserves Our Praise & Glory!
 - In 16:25 - Paul Describes Him As:
- The Powerful God!
 - The God “That Is Of Power” - Or:
 - The God - “Who Is Able!”
 - And - The Power That God Possesses:
 - Is Infinite!
 - He Is “All Powerful!”
 - And - “Omnipotent” - As Theologians Would Say!
 - And - One Of The Greatest Displays:
 - Of His Power Is:
 - His Creation - All Around Us!
 - In Revelation 4:11 - In The Heavenly Chorus Of Praise - We Hear This Truth!
 - “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created!”
 - God Is All Powerful!
 - And When His Limitless Power:
 - Is Compared To Our Limited Power:
 - We Need To Remember That:
 - Any & All Power Or Strength That We Have:
 - Is Derived From God!
 - After All - It Is:
 - “In Him We Live, And Move, And Have Our Being!” (Acts 17:28)
 - And That Is Why:
 - God & God Alone:

- Deserves Our Praise & Glory:
 - With All Of Our Might!
 - Then - In 16:26 - God Is Described As:
- The Everlasting God!
 - The God Who Is:
 - Above All Time:
 - Because He:
 - Created All Time!
 - And - The Eternity That God Inhabits:
 - Is Infinite!
 - In Isaiah 40:28 - We Are Asked:
 - “Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding!”
 - God Is Eternal!
 - And When His Limitless Existence:
 - Is Compared With Our Existence:
 - We Need To Recognize That:
 - *All* Of Our Time:
 - Is Given To Us By God!
 - King David Recognized This:
 - When He Wrote In Psalm 31:15 That:
 - “My Times Are In Thy Hand!”
 - And That Is Why:
 - God & God Alone:
 - Deserves Our Praise & Glory:
 - In All Of Our Lives!
 - Then - In 16:26 - God Is Further Described As:
- The Wise God!
 - And Even - The “Only Wise” God!
 - Which Not Only Describes:
 - What God *Knows* - But Also:
 - What God *Does!*
 - Of Course - In His Infinite Wisdom:
 - The Lord Knows All Things!
 - And - He Knows All Things:
 - At All Times!
 - But God Also:
 - Acts According To His Wisdom:
 - And Does “All Things Well!”
 - Earlier - In Romans 11:33:
 - Paul Was Overwhelmed By God’s Omniscient Wisdom When He Wrote:
 - “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!”
 - God Is The All-Wise God & The Only Wise God!
 - And When His Limitless Knowledge & Wisdom:
 - Is Compared With Our Limited Knowledge / Let Alone Our Limited Wisdom:
 - We Need To Realize That:
 - Anything & Everything We Know:
 - Is Granted To Us By God!
 - Any Truth We Might Ascertain!
 - Any Truth We Might Appreciate!
 - Any Truth We Might Apply!
 - Comes From “God Only Wise!”
 - And That Too Is Why:
 - He & He Alone:
 - Deserves Our Praise & Glory:
 - With All Of Our Minds!
 - This Is The One - This Is The God:

- Who We Are To Praise & Glorify:
 - With All Our Minds & With All Our Might:
 - Throughout All Our Lives!

* But - In Addition To Who God Is - We Find Other Reasons In These Verses:

2. **Why We Are To Praise** - Him!

- In 16:25 - We Are Told That:
 - God Alone "Is Of Power / Is Able / To Stablish You!"
 - Which Means That:
 - As Weak As We Are:
 - In Our Bodies & Spirits:
 - God Has Made Available To Us As Believers:
- His Transforming Power!
 - And He Has Done So:
 - Through The Gospel!
 - Which Is - According To The Rest Of 16:25:
 - "The preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began!"
 - Now - That's Power!
 - Life-Changing & Life-Transforming Power!
 - The Word Of God:
 - That Was Able To:
 - Create This Old World!
 - Is Able - Through The Gospel:
 - To Make Us Into:
 - New Creatures In Jesus Christ!
 - And This Instruction In The Gospel:
 - God Is Able To Use:
 - To Establish You:
 - On A Firm Foundation:
 - That Is Not Of Your Own Making!
 - To Establish You:
 - In A Faith:
 - That Is Foreign To You!
 - To Establish You:
 - To A Faithfulness:
 - That Comes Through His Own Spirit!
 - So That The One Who:
 - Saves You By His Transforming Power:
 - Is The One Who:
 - Sustains You By That Same Power!
 - As Jude Tells Us In:
 - Jude 1:24 - **He** Is The One Who Is "Able To Keep You From Falling!"
 - And That Is Why:
 - He Alone Deserves:
 - Your Praise & Glory! But Also:
 - Because Of The Illumination Of The Gospel:
 - Which Is - 16:25 - "The Revelation Of The Mystery!"
 - Now - In The Bible:
 - A "Mystery" Is Something:
 - That Only God Can **Reveal!**
 - Just Like A "Miracle" Is Something:
 - That Only God Can **Do!**
 - God's Transforming Power:
 - Through The Gospel:
 - Was Something **He** Had To Reveal To Us:
 - Otherwise We Would Have Remained Lost In Our Sins!
 - And - Praise To God - He Did!

- Though God's Plan Of Redemption:
 - Has Existed As Long As He Has:
 - Eternally!
 - Only In Time:
 - Has He Revealed To Us!
- In The Old Testament:
 - The Gospel Was But A Whisper:
 - Through The Prophecies God Gave In His Word:
 - Which Pointed His Chosen People To Jesus Christ Through Types & Shadows!
- But Now - Through The New Testament:
 - The Gospel Is Heralded:
 - And Given To Us:
 - With Full Clarity!
- This Is Why Paul Told Timothy:
 - In 2 Timothy 1:9-10 - It Is God - "Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, / But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel!"
 - The Transforming Power Of God:
 - Through The Gospel:
 - Gives Us Reason To Praise Him! Also:
- His Timeless Mercy!
 - The Eternal Nature Of God:
 - Applies To All Of His Attributes!
 - And Especially:
 - The Attribute Of His Mercy!
 - And Though The Gospel:
 - Was An *Eternal* Plan Of Mercy:
 - It Became Expressed To Us:
 - In *Time!*
 - And - As We Are Told In 16:26:
 - That Plan Was:
 - Revealed Through The Word:
 - Through God's Own Inspiration!
 - Because - That Mystery - 16:26a - "Now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God!"
 - God's Entire Word:
 - Tells Us Of His Mercy:
 - Through The Gospel Of Christ!
 - Even As Jesus Said:
 - In John 5:39 - "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me!"
 - But Then - This Same Plan Has Been:
 - Revealed To The World:
 - Through God's Own Initiative!
 - Since It Has Been - 16:26b - "Made known to all nations!"
 - Even Our Own!
 - The Timeless Mercy Of God:
 - Through The Gospel:
 - Gives Us Reason To Praise Him! Also:
- His Towering Wisdom!
 - In Psalm 103:14 - We Read That:
 - God - "He knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust!"
 - And So - In His Great & Gracious Wisdom:
 - He Made Salvation Accessible To Us As Sinners:
 - Not Through Works:

- Which We Could Never Do!
- But Through Faith:
 - Which He Himself Would Provide!
- In 16:26c - We See That:
 - The Manifestation Of The Mystery:
 - Was “For The Obedience Of Faith!”
 - Even As Sinners Are Commanded To - In Acts 16:31:
 - “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved!”
- God - In His Towering Wisdom:
 - Has Made Faith Alone:
 - The Sole Condition For Salvation!
 - And Even Though:
 - Christian Fruit:
 - Will Eventually:
 - Reveal Saving Faith!
 - That Fruit:
 - Only Comes:
 - Through & After Faith!
- And God Did This:
 - So That - 1 Corinthians 2:5:
 - “Your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God!”
- And All These Are Reasons Why:
 - We Are To Praise & Glorify:
 - The Lord - Because:
 - Through The Gospel!
 - Through Jesus Christ!
 - He Displays:
 - His Transforming Power!
 - He Manifests:
 - His Timeless Mercy! And:
 - He Proves:
 - His Towering Wisdom!

* But Then - In 16:27 - We Even Find:

3. When We Are To Praise!

- “To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen!”
 - So:
- When **Can** You:
 - Bring Glory To God?
 - When You Do So:
 - “Through Jesus Christ!”
 - This Means That You Have:
 - Come To & Responded To:
 - “The Obedience Of Faith!”
 - You Have Personally Answered:
 - God’s Call To “Believe On The Lord Jesus Christ!”
 - Because - Truly:
 - God Is Glorified:
 - When You Believe In & Belong To:
 - His Son!
 - Only Then - Can You Honor & Glorify God:
 - “In Your Body, And In Your Spirit, Which Are God’s!”
 - But Then:
- When **Should** You:
 - Bring Glory To God?
 - 16:27 - “For Ever!”
 - As Much As This Will Be True:
 - In The **Future**:

- This Can Be True:
 - In The **Present**:
 - In Your Heart & Life:
 - As God's Child!
- You **Should** Bring Glory To God:
 - All The Time:
 - In All Things:
 - And - For All Time!
 - Even In Those Things:
 - Which May Seem To Be Rather:
 - Ordinary & Mundane!
 - But - As We Are Told In 1 Corinthians 10:31:
 - "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God!"
- But Now:
 - When **Will** You:
 - Bring Glory To God?
 - You Will - When You Say With Paul:
 - The Last Word Of This Book:
 - "Amen!"
 - Not Only Is This:
 - A Personal Word Of:
 - Affirmation & Agreement:
 - "May It Be So!"
 - It Can Also Be:
 - A Personal Word Of:
 - Resolution!
 - May God Be Glorified:
 - Not Just By Others!
 - But By Yourself!
 - Not Just Through Saints & Angels:
 - But Through You!

Conclusion:

1. May This Doxology:
 - Not Just Be On Our Lips:
 - But In Our Lives:
 - And From Our Hearts!
2. Because God Alone:
 - Is Worthy To Receive All:
 - "Blessing, And Glory, And Wisdom, And Thanksgiving, And Honor, And Power, And Might!"
 - (Revelation 7:12)

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