

The Messenger's Final Warning: Mark Divisive People

Romans 16:17–20

1. ***Mark divisive people and avoid them***

- a. Because they cause division
and are stumbling blocks
- b. Because they do not serve Christ,
but their own desires
- c. Because they use smooth talk

2. ***Mark what is good and untainted with evil***

- a. Because you have been obedient
till now
- b. Because you must be wise
to know what is good
and innocent concerning evil
- c. Because God will soon give victory
over Satan

17 I urge you, brothers,
to watch out for those who cause divisions
and put obstacles in your way
that are contrary to the teaching you have learned.
Keep away from them.

18 For such people are not serving our Lord Christ,
but their own appetites.
By smooth talk and flattery
they deceive the minds of naive people.

19 Everyone has heard about your obedience,
so I am full of joy over you;
but I want you to be wise
about what is good,
and innocent about what is evil.

20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.
The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

The Messenger's Companions

Romans 16:21–23

1. **Timothy:**
A right-hand man, a fellow worker

2. **Lucius, Jason and Sosipater:**
Relatives who were believers

3. **Tertius:**
A humble helper

4. **Gaius:**
A man of hospitality

5. **Erastus:**
*A civil servant,
the city director of public works*

6. **Quartus:**
A Christian brother

21 Timothy,
my fellow worker,
sends his greetings to you,
as do Lucius, Jason and Sosipater,
my relatives.

22 Tertius,
who wrote down this letter,
greet you in the Lord.

23 Gaius,
whose hospitality I and the whole church here enjoy,
sends you his greetings.

Erastus,
who is the city's director of public works,
and our brother Quartus
send you their greetings.

24 *

v. 24 not in NIV.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with all of you.
Amen. (KJV)

The Messenger's Benediction: God Is Able to Establish You

Romans 16:25–27

1. **Establish you by the gospel**

2. **Establish you**
by the proclamation of Christ

3. **Establish you**
by God's revelation of the mystery

a. It was a secret

b. It is now revealed in the Scriptures

c. It is revealed for one purpose:
To lead all to be obedient to Christ

4. **The benediction**

25 Now to him
who is able to establish you by my gospel
and the proclamation of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of the mystery
hidden for long ages past,

26 But now revealed
and made known through the prophetic writings
by the command of the eternal God,
so that all nations might believe and obey him —

27 To the only wise God be glory forever
through Jesus Christ! Amen.