

## 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.