Serving, Welcoming, and Warning

Brent Moody · Romans 15:14–16:27

INTRODUCTION

- Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you for the glory of God.
- That what actually matters, the marker of God's covenant people is faith in Jesus Christ.
- The important thing here is that they learn to live in harmony with each other.

1 Humble Service Is an Offering

Romans 15:16; Romans 15:19; Romans 15:26–27

- He actually describes his ministry or his service in priestly language.
- So humble service, we need to understand, is an offering. It is something that we are offering to God for his glory because he is worthy.
- All the credit for whatever we do or whatever service we provide or we are a part of, all of that goes to Christ and to the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.
- So God can work through us if we are working for him.
- My service and my ministry, whatever it may be, is about what I offer.
- So we have fellowship both through spiritual things and through fleshly material things.

2 Welcome One Another

Romans 15:7; 2 Corinthians 8:9; Galatians 2

- It is a concept that has to do with being inviting or hospitable to people.
- He is modeling to them what this harmony between Jew and Gentile looks like.
- It doesn't matter if their ethnic background was Jew or Gentile, they all have value and purpose in the kingdom.
- Stop dividing over things that don't matter.
- And so the message for us is that we welcome each other as fellow servants of Christ, whatever our background is.
- It's pretty hard to live in harmony when we don't even actually know each other very well.

3 Be Warned About Those Who Cause Division

- So serve humbly, welcome other saints, but also be warned.
- Be warned about the people who don't do these things, who serve in self-interest, who present obstacles to unity.
- Don't let external noise cause division here.
- I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause division and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught. Avoid them.

- For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.
- They present plausible arguments that sound really good to people, but actually they're pulling people away from the truth.

THE CHALLENGE

Now you are at peace with God, and now you are in a place to be an instrument of righteousness, part of His army, to serve and to fight for Him. Will you do that this morning?

MY NOTES