

**The Main Point:** Paul lists people whose names are written in the book of life.

He speaks a good word about everyone of mutual knowledge to the Roman church. Every person is known by name by the Lord. The Lord, in particular, knows his people. "I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, . . ." John 10:14

### Overview

A greeting and good word is spoken over about every one of mutual knowledge. Can you imagine how good it felt to have your name publicly read?

- 1-V1 Phoebe is a \_\_\_\_\_, worthy of high \_\_\_\_\_. She has \_\_\_\_\_many.
- 2-V3 Priscilla and Aquila are Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ and risked their \_\_\_\_\_ for him. Greet the church (the kinship) that meets in their \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3-V5 Epenetus was the \_\_\_\_\_ one who became a Christian in Asia (Turkey).
- 4-V6 Mary has \_\_\_\_\_ so hard for your benefit.
- 5-V7 Andronicus and Junia were Paul's blood \_\_\_\_\_. They ended up in \_\_\_\_\_ for preaching the gospel. They became \_\_\_\_\_ before Paul –possibly witnessed to him.
- 6-V8 Ampliatius. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ him as one of the Lord's own \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7-V9 Urbanus, our \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.
- 8-V9 Stachys is called a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9-V10 Apelles is a \_\_\_\_\_ man, one Christ \_\_\_\_\_ of.
- 10-V10 Aristobulus. Greet the members of his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 11-V11 Herodian, another \_\_\_\_\_ of Paul.
- 12-V11 Narcissus. Greet the Christians in his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 13-V12 Tryphena and Tryphosa, the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_. Say \_\_\_\_\_ to them for me.
- 14-V12 Persis. He has worked so hard for the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 15-V13 Rufus. The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ him to be his very own; and his \_\_\_\_\_, who has been as a mother to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 16-V14 Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas. My \_\_\_\_\_ to them and the brothers and sisters who \_\_\_\_\_ with them in the church and ministry.
- 17-V15 Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his \_\_\_\_\_, and to Olympas and all the \_\_\_\_\_ who meet with them.
- 18 -V16 Greet each other in Christian \_\_\_\_\_ (the holy kiss).

### Exhortations and Warnings

- 19-V17 Watch out for people who cause \_\_\_\_\_ and upset people's \_\_\_\_\_.
- 20-V17-18 \_\_\_\_\_ from such people because they are not serving \_\_\_\_\_; they are serving their own personal \_\_\_\_\_. They \_\_\_\_\_ innocent people by \_\_\_\_\_ talk and glowing words.
- 21-V19 If we are wise and do what is \_\_\_\_\_ and stay \_\_\_\_\_ of any wrong, the God of \_\_\_\_\_ will soon crush \_\_\_\_\_ under your feet.

**22-V21 Greetings from the people with Paul.** Greetings from Timothy, Paul's assistant, and some more of Paul's \_\_\_\_\_, Lucius, Jason, and Sosipater. From Tertius, who is \_\_\_\_\_ this letter. Gaius says \_\_\_\_\_. We are \_\_\_\_\_ in his home. Greetings from Erastus, who is the city \_\_\_\_\_, and our \_\_\_\_\_, Quartus.

- 23-V25 The Good News assures us that it is \_\_\_\_\_ who makes us \_\_\_\_\_.
- 24-V25 The message about Jesus Christ and his plan for the Jews and \_\_\_\_\_ alike, which was spoken of by the \_\_\_\_\_, is now being made \_\_\_\_\_ to all.

25-V27 To God, who alone is \_\_\_\_\_, be \_\_\_\_\_ forever through Jesus Christ. \_\_\_\_\_.

### Word Study

• CRUSH SATAN • DIVISIONS • HOME • GREET • PHOEBE • RELATIVE

1. V1 \_\_\_\_\_ She was a deacon in the church, in the same category as the 7 men appointed in Acts 6:1-6. • There has always been some discussion about the place of women leaders in the church. Psalm 68:11 Paul says in I Timothy 2:12, "I do not let women teach men or have authority over them." Also, the deacon requirements of I Timothy 3:12 do not seem to fit a woman. However, it is obvious from Scripture that women were in leadership positions in the early church. For example, Priscilla is mentioned in this chapter before Aquila, her husband, indicating that she was probably the one most gifted with ministry. Also Lydia in Philippi -- the church met in her home. She was the home group pastor. Acts 16:14-40 • The Vineyard has decided that each congregation can decide if they want to ordain women as pastors or not.

2. V3 \_\_\_\_\_ Paul shows us how to greet and treat each other in the church and in the world as well. He remembers each person by name and has something true and edifying to say about each one. Edification and affection create relationships, which make it much easier to deal with the truths, disagreements and such of our life together. Their names are written in heaven. Luke 10:20

3. V5 \_\_\_\_\_ The early community of Christians did not have church buildings to meet in. That came hundreds of years later for two reasons: (1) The small group in the homes allowed people to be family to each other and give each one a chance to share, to prophecy, to share wisdom and knowledge, to pray for the sick and such. (2) The church was persecuted for the first 300 years of its existence. The Christians needed to have hidden places to worship. Vineyards all have Kinships, where small groups of brethren meet in the homes. Commonly there were many of these small churches in homes. Galatians 1:2

4. V7, V11, V21 \_\_\_\_\_ Paul had relatives in the church at Rome and relatives who traveled with him. The most natural way for the church to grow is that people who have been transformed by Jesus draw their friends and relatives, co-workers and neighbors into the kingdom of God.

5. V17 \_\_\_\_\_ Every church has to come to the place of maturity where its leaders and people recognize wolves who come to eat the sheep. (Acts 20:29) Then they should refuse to empower them to speak or lead.

6. V20 \_\_\_\_\_ We are not contending with flesh and blood but with evil spirits who work on all people -- especially Christians. Ephesians 6:10f. They come to steal, kill and destroy by deception, depression, temptation and oppression, stirring up fear, anger and pride. Jesus is the only one who is wiser and stronger than the devil and his servants. "He who is in you is greater than he (Satan) who is in the world." I John 4:4 We say, "Jesus, You compel every spirit that is not subject to You to leave."

What does this Scripture say to you? \_\_\_\_\_