

## SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>

### **Strategy**

Paul's base in Antioch

3 missionary journeys

Long term plan – Isa 66.18-20 (Thessalonian studies)

### **Purpose of the letter**

A Jewish theology for the Gentile world

And a welcome for the Gentiles designed to make the Jewish world jealous.

*NTW Romans and the Theology of Paul p30*

Rom 15 and the purpose of the letter

### **Occasion of the Letter**

Acts 17.1-10

Suetonius

Since the Jews constantly made disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, Claudius expelled them from Rome.

*(Nanos Mystery p374)*

Acts 18.1-3

### **Summary of the letter**

See separate sheet

## **26 names**

Gender	9 women and 17 men
Jew/Gentile	4 Jews (kin + Aquila [Acts 18.2]) and 22 Gentiles
Immigrant/Native	14 immigrants and 12 (?) natives
Slave/Free	2/3 slave and 1/3 free

## House Groups:

- Aquila (j) and Prisca (f) (**'the church in their house'** v5)

Aquila was from Pontus, (northern Turkey) and Prisca probably from Rome. Aquila has moved at least from Pontus to Rome, Rome to Corinth (Acts 18.1-3), to Ephesus (1 Cor 16.19) and back to Rome again.

Who worked with me, who risked their necks

- Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas & Hermas ('and the brothers and sisters who are with them' v14)

Hermes likely to be Roman, the others immigrants. Hermes was probably a slave.

- Philologus, Julia (f), Olympas, Nereus, and his sister (f)('and all the saints who are with them' v15)

Julia, Nereus and his sister may have been born in Rome, Philologus and Olympas are most likely to have been immigrants. Nereus and his sister were probably slaves and Julia a freedwoman (=ex-slave) though the name is also associated with nobility (Lampe *From Paul* p175)

- The Christians in Aristobulus' household (v10)

Slaves or freedmen/women. Aristobulus is a rare name. He probably moved to Rome from the East bringing his Christian slaves with him.

- The Christians in Narcissus' household (v11)

Slaves or freedmen/women

+ 14 others from Rom 16, therefore at least +2

Rufus and his mother (f) (13) likely to be from Rome, chosen mother to me also  
Junia (fj) and Andronicus (j) (7) my relatives, in prison with me 'in Christ before I was'

Maria (6) f ?from Rome, freedwoman 'who has worked hard among you'

Urbanus (9) from Rome, our co-worker

Ampliatius (8) from Rome, slave, beloved

Tryphaena (12) f from Rome, slave, worker in the Lord

Tryphosa (12) f from Rome, slave, worker in the Lord

Appelles (10) approved in Christ

Stachys (9) beloved

Persis (12) f slave, beloved, worked hard

Herodion (11) j slave, my relative

Epaenetus – first convert in Asia my Beloved

+ Paul (Acts 28.30-31)

From 1 Clement

Claudius Ephebus and Valerius Biton (inscription to a Valeria Maria a freed slave from the Valerian Household, of Jewish origin)