



THINGS THAT MATTER AND THINGS THAT DON'T

"Mission Ambition"

"What is God's Ambition for You?" Romans 15:22-29 (Pt 3)

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible Page Number is 1048.
In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.
Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com

REVIEW:

1. The ambitious servant of God is driven to fulfill God's calling in her/his life by being fruitful, faithful, and focused.
2. Two significant principles stem from Romans 15:14-21: (a) Ministry is a gracious privilege—for all of us! and (b) The Gospel is a precious responsibility—for all of us!
3. Very soon, it will be "Time to meet your Mocha!" We must be ready!

What is God's ambition for you?

Paul gives us a holy ambition to shoot for:

1. Ambitious Servants Proclaim Christ.
2. Ambitious Servants Prioritize God's Calling.
3. Ambitious Servants Persist in Service to God.



We make our plans—and we ought to plan carefully for the future—but our plans do not equal God's will. The unexpected will come.

Six Certainties About Your Future:

- A. Your plans—even made with well-ordered priorities—will change.**

Romans 15:22, HCSB -²² *That is why I have been prevented [Gk: lit., hindered] many times from coming to you.*

- B. Your place in ministry will sometimes change.**

Romans 15:23, HCSB -²³ *But now I no longer have any work to do in these provinces, and I have strongly desired for many years to come to you....*

- C. Your personal preference should be held lightly.**

Romans 15:24, HCSB -²⁴ *whenever I travel to Spain. For I hope to see you when I pass through, and to be assisted by you for my journey there, once I have first enjoyed your company for a while.*

- D. Your 'delays' may lead to greater blessings.**

Romans 15:25–27, HCSB -²⁵ *Right now I am traveling to Jerusalem to serve the saints,²⁶ for Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.²⁷ Yes, they were pleased, and indeed are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual benefits, then they are obligated to minister to Jews in material needs [Josephus: "... persecution...and drought"].*

A Word about Giving:

- They gave joyfully (v. 25)
- They gave in order to discharge a debt (v. 27a)
- They gave because of what they had in common (v. 27b)
- They gave to those in great need (v. 27c)

- E. Your personal integrity must be guarded at all times.**

Romans 15:28, HCSB -²⁸ *So when I have finished this and safely delivered the funds to them, I will visit you on the way to Spain.*

- F. God's purposes always prevail.**

Romans 15:29, HCSB -²⁹ *I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.*

Proverbs 16:9, NIV84 -⁹ *In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.*

Jeremiah 10:23, NIV84 -²³ *I know, O LORD, that a man's life is not his own; it is not for man to direct his steps.*

Proverbs 19:21, NIV84 -²¹ *Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.*

May we humbly trust God and say, 'Your Will be Done!'