

A FINAL THOUGHT

Romans 16

INTRODUCTION

- A. Bits and Pieces

I. BRIEF HISTORY OF STAY IN MONTICELLO.

- A. My Beginnings.

1. Fifteen years ago...
 - a. Cold, drizzly Thursday night.
 - b. Early, so tried to locate building (Gabbert St.) fr. 278.
 - c. Past Young's and out of town...
2. Memories:
 - a. Roger calling about the Christmas lights.
 - b. Fall Festival.
 - c. Area wide.
 - d. The new building.

- B. Our Gratitude.

1. Allowed a "middle-aged" Timothy the first "full time" pulpit work.
2. Have shared tears of sorrow at passing of loved ones.
3. Tears of joy at weddings, births, baptisms, etc.
 - a. Played a part of two of our children's weddings.
 - b. You have been a part of welcoming our grandchildren.
4. A part of a church's growth process.
 - a. Building growth.
 - b. More important – Spiritual growth.
5. We have truly been blessed by you and we pray that in some way we have been a blessing in your life.

- C. Future Plans.

1. A good work at Ackerman – Excited!
2. Allow us to have easier access to our children and grandchildren.
3. Wherever the Lord leads.
 - a. When it was announced that we were leaving.
 - b. Song that morning/evening: "Where He leads, I'll Follow" (417).

II. FAREWELL THOUGHTS FROM PAUL (the Apostle).

- A. Romans 16.

1. A list of at least 28 individuals who influenced his life.
2. An influence that was not necessarily memorable except for Paul.

- B. Words of Warning.

1. Rom. 16:17-18, "*Keep an eye on dissension...*"
2. 1 Cor. 16:13, "*Be on the alert...*"
3. 2 Cor. 13:5, "*Test yourselves,...you are in the faith...*"
4. Specifically to the elders, Acts 20:28-31.

- C. Words of Encouragement.

1. Rom. 15:5-6, "*To be of the same mind...*"

2. Rom. 16:19, "*Wise in what is good...*"
 3. 1 Cor. 15:58, "*Be steadfast, immovable...*"
 4. 2 Cor. 13:11, "*Rejoice, be made complete...*"
- D. A Prayer from Paul, Eph. 3:14-19.
1. To know the love of Christ.
 2. To be obedient to the gospel of Christ, Rom. 10:1-10.

Bits and Pieces

Bits and pieces

People. People important to you, people unimportant to you cross your life, touch I with love and carelessness and move on. There are people who leave you and you breathe a sigh of relief and wonder why you ever came into contact with them. There are people who leave you and you breathe a sigh of remorse and wonder why they had to go away and leave such a gaping hole. Children leave parents; friends leave friends. Acquaintances move on. People change homes. People grow apart. Enemies hate and move on. Friends love and move on. You think on the many who have moved into your hazy memory. You look on those present and wonder.

I believe in God's master plan in lives. He moves people in and out of each other's lives and each leaves his mark on the other. You find you are made up of bits and pieces of all who ever touched your life, and you are more because of it, and you would be less if they had not touched you.

Pray God that you accept the bits and pieces in humility and wonder, and never question, and never regret.

Bits and pieces

Bits and pieces