

## ***Apostolic Prayers - Romans 15:5-6;13***

***(NASB), “5 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”***

### **I. Book of Romans Context**

- a. The book of Romans is a letter written by Paul to the church in Rome. He wrote this letter between 56-57 A.D. from Corinth.
- b. Rome was the center of the Empire and was ethnically diverse. In the first century A.D. it had a population of around one million people. It is estimated that 40,000- 50,000 were Jesus. It's unclear how the church in Rome originally began, the best explanation is that the Romans who were present at Pentecost eventually made their way back to Rome and started a church in one of the synagogues.
- c. Paul had not been to Rome at the time of writing this letter, and was not writing this letter in response to situational issues. It's interesting that Paul, writing to ones who are already believers, explains so much about salvation. Paul wanted to preach that the Gospel of Jesus displayed His righteousness.

***(Romans 1:16-17 NASB), “16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written: “But the righteous one will live by faith.”***

### **II. Basic Outline of the Apostolic Prayer**

- a. Now May the God who gives perseverance and encouragement
  - i. Grant you to be of the same mind
    1. So that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- b. Now may the God of Hope
  - i. Fill you with all joy and peace in believing
    1. So that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **III. Chapter 15 Verse 5**

***(NASB), “5 Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus,***

***(NIV), “5 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had,”***

*(AMP), “5 Now may the God who gives endurance and who supplies encouragement grant that you be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus,”*

*(TPT), “5 Now may God, the source of great endurance and comfort, grace you with unity among yourselves, which flows from your relationship with Jesus, the Anointed One.”*

- a. Key Words
  - i. **Endurance** - *Hupomene* – Cheerful (hopeful) endurance, constancy: - enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting).
  - ii. **Encouragement** – *paraklesis* – an exhortation, a calling upon, persuasion, (Can be used as an incitement).
  - iii. **Mind (Harmony ESV)** – *Phroneo* – to think, to be of opinion, be of the same frame of mind.
- b. Verses 1-3 give context to this prayer as they speak of bearing the weaknesses of those without strength as Christ has done. This prayer is a prayer for believers to live in unity according to the example and empowerment of Christ. Verse 4 reminds the romans that whatever was written in earlier times was for their instruction so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the scriptures they would have hope.
- c. Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement (consolation) - He is the God who is himself long suffering, who bears patiently with the errors and faults of his children. May He impart to you by His Spirit the grace to bear patiently the errors and faults of each other. Jesus is the example and the enabler of perseverance and encouragement. Perseverance and encouragement are necessary forerunners for unity.
- d. May be of the same mind with one another - True unity in Christ is only achievable as believers get a revelation of His heart for the church. He imparts to believers the mind of Christ until it consumes their culture and produces unity. Unity in the bride then, becomes a testimony of the love of Jesus to the rest of the world.

*(1 Corinthians 2:16 NASB), “16 For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.”*

*(Romans 12:2 NASB), “2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

*(John 17:20-23 NASB), “20 “I am not asking on behalf of these alone, but also for those who believe in Me through their word, 21 that they may all be one; just as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 The glory which You have given Me I also have given to them, so that they may be one, just as We are one; 23 I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and You loved them, just as You loved Me.”*

IV. Chapter 15 Verse 6

*(NASB), “so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*(NIV), “6 so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*(AMP), “6 so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify and praise and honor the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*(TPT), “6 Then, with a unanimous rush of passion, you will with one voice glorify God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

a. Key Words

- i. **With one accord (together)** – *Homothumadon* – with one mind, unanimously, with one passion
- b. With one accord – to be of one accord means to be united with one purpose without contentions or strifes. Being of one accord speaks of not just setting aside differences, but correctly dealing with them for the sake of honoring Jesus. While the patience and encouragement forerun unity, the saints should wait to receive the exhortation of God and in spite of differences rally around the Word in unity.
- c. You may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus – The center of everything the church should do together should be unto the glorification of Christ. As the saints together move in unified worship God receives glory. Paul’s prayer for the church not just to put up with one another but to actually receive and accept one another as family.

*(Romans 15:7 NASB), “7 Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us, for the glory of God.”*

V. Chapter 15:7-12

*(Romans 15:7-12 NASB), “7 Therefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us, for the glory of God. 8 For I say that Christ has become a servant to the circumcision in behalf of the truth of God, to confirm the promises given to the fathers, 9 and for the Gentiles to glorify God for His mercy; as it is written: “Therefore I will give praise to You among the Gentiles, And I will sing praises to Your name.” 10 Again he says, “Rejoice, you Gentiles, with His people.” 11 And again, “Praise the Lord all you Gentiles, And let all the peoples praise Him.” 12 Again Isaiah says, “There shall come the root of Jesse, And He who arises to rule over the Gentiles, In Him will the Gentiles hope.”*

- a. These verses provide more context for the prayer and demonstrate the practical working out of what it means to be of one mind by enduring patiently with one another. The great divider at this time was between Jews and Gentiles and Paul speaks directly to this issue.

VI. Chapter 15 Verse 13

*(NASB), “13 Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

*(NIV), “13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

*(AMP), “13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing [through the experience of your faith] that by the power of the Holy Spirit you will abound in hope and overflow with confidence in His promises.”*

*(TPT), “13 Now may God, the inspiration and fountain of hope, fill you to overflowing with uncontainable joy and perfect peace as you trust in him. And may the power of the Holy Spirit continually surround your life with his super-abundance until you radiate with hope!”*

a. Key words

- i. **Hope** – *Elpis* – expectation; hope, the object of hope, thing hoped for. To anticipate, usually with pleasure.
  - ii. **Fill** – *Pleroo* – to fill, to make full, fill up, To possess fully
  - iii. **Joy** – *Chara* – gladness, joyfulness, occasion of rejoicing, bliss
  - iv. **Peace** – *Eirene* – tranquility, by implication, prosperity: one, peace, quietness, rest, set at one again. To be whole
  - v. **Power** – *dynamis* - power; strength, ability, force, miraculous power (Translated 7 X in the bible as Miracle)
  - vi. **Abound** – *perisseuo* – to be over and above, to be superabound (in quantity or quality), to be better
- b. Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. – The overarching theme of this portion of scripture is God’s intention to extend hope to the church. In verse 4 He mentions hope coming through the scriptures and now Paul prays for the God of hope to fill unified believers with joy and peace so that they would abound in hope. Unity in the midst of a culture that opposes God causes the saints to abound in hope arriving to a full assurance of hope that would be an anchor for their souls with joy and peace.