

Sermon Title: The God Directed Prayer Request of a Called Leader

Sermon Text: Romans 15:30-33

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to understand how to partnership with their leaders in prayer.

Sermon Proposition: There are 5 aspects of a God directed prayer request of a called leader.

- I. The **anchors** of the prayer request. V.30
- II. The **affliction** of the prayer request. V.31a
- III. The **aim** of the prayer request. V.31b
- IV. The **ambition** of the prayer request. V.32
- V. The **amen** of the prayer request. V.33

I. The **anchors of the prayer request. V.30**

- A. The **mediator** is the Lord Jesus Christ. V.30a
- B. The **moderator** is the love for the Holy Spirit. V.30b
- C. The **membership** is the Christians of the church of Rome. V.30c

II. The **affliction of the prayer request. V.31a**

There were many Jews who had rejected Paul's gospel message throughout his travels. They were also awaiting Paul's return trip. Paul was aware of the enemies of the gospel and was aware that trouble awaited him.

Acts 20:22-24 "And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, **23** "except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. **24** "But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

But we must notice that Paul's personal concerns were not the issue, he wanted the Christian in Rome to pray for his protection only so that he may complete the purpose, plans, and priorities of God, which were delegated to him by God. Therefore, the prosperity of the fruit of his ministry would not be hindered. Mere prayers were made and answered according to:

Acts 21:10-11 And as we stayed many days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. **11** When he had come to us, he took Paul's belt, bound his *own* hands and feet, and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, `So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and deliver *him* into the hands of the Gentiles."

Acts 23:11 But the following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul; for as you have testified for Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome."

Paul was delivered and preserved from death, but not persecution and imprisonment.

Galatians 6:17 From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake.

2 Corinthians 4:11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

1 Corinthians 9:23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with *you*.

III. The aim of the prayer request. V.31b

The financial and faithfulness expressed by the Gentile Christians, was to be recognized by the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem, with gratitude, grace, and generosity in return. This is the actions of brotherly love and mutual acceptance Paul has been discussing in Chapter 12-15.

Acts 21:17 And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly.

Acts 21:19-20 When he had greeted them, he told in detail those things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. **20** And when they heard *it*, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law;

IV. The ambition of the prayer request. V.32

Romans 15:14 Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

1 Corinthians 16:17-18 I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. **18** For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men.

2 Corinthians 8:5 And not *only* as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and *then* to us by the will of God.

V. The amen of the prayer request. V.33