

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER
1136 Baseline Road
Grand Island, New York
716-773-3748 www.bfcgi.org

THE LORD'S DAY
June 7, 2015 8:30 & 10:15 AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude Wendy Baldwin
Piano Joanne Lorenzo
Announcements Ron Mock

MEDITATION

Romans 16:10-16 (below and opposite page)

Scripture Reading and Prayer Psalm 116
Hymn 17 "Our Great Savior"
Pastoral Prayer
Hymn 562 "Be Thou My Vision"
Communion & Hymn 305 "Jesus Paid It All"
Message AT WAR
James 4 Pastor Cal VanderMey
Hymn 330 "Are You Washed in the Blood?" Benediction

THE MINISTRY OF MISSION

For the glory of God, Bible Fellowship Center is committed to spreading the Good News of salvation, equipping the believers, that they might become more Christ-like, worship God and enjoy Him forever.

¹⁰ Greet Apelles, approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the *household* of Aristobulus. ¹¹ Greet Herodion, my countryman. Greet those who are of the *household* of Narcissus who are in the Lord. ¹² Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, who have labored in the Lord. Greet the beloved Persis, who labored much in the Lord. ¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. ¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren who are with them. ¹⁵ Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. ¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Youth Group Monday 6:30-8pm. Ages 8 and up
Prayer Meeting and Bible study Tuesday at 6:30pm- Ernie Beck
Precept study Tuesday at 6:30pm - Wendy Baldwin
No Wednesday Bible study at 9:30am with Jim O'Rourke
Precept study Thursday at 9:15am. - Margaret Was
Adult Bible study Friday at 7pm - John Woodell leading

Thanks for joining us at the BFC this morning!

Sunday messages are available on CD or e-mail. See Bill Schultz

The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary

The word "approved" in verse 10 means in Greek "tested." Evidently Apelles had at some time passed through some affliction, and was found approved of God for his steadfast faith.

Verse 10 also mentions those who were of Aristobulus' household. Aristobulus himself was not a Christian, and was most likely a grandson of Herod the Great, and a friend of the Roman emperor. When a king died, his servants became the property of the Roman Emperor. They had evidently become Christians while serving in Rome—still with the title of belonging to Aristobulus.

Paul (vs. 11) singles out for commendation a man named Herodian (certainly part of Herod's household). Another household is also commended—that of Narcissus. Narcissus himself was wicked, and was put to death about three years before the epistle was written so the greetings are to those who belonged to his household. Tryphena and Tryphosa were sisters and perhaps twins. They had labored much in the Lord. Paul honors another woman—Persis—as "the beloved." Paul is careful not to say "My beloved" as he does with the men, but honors her as one that is beloved in the Lord.

Rufus, chosen in the Lord, is most likely a son of Simon the Cyrenian (who carried the cross of Christ after the Lord fell under its weight). Paul refers to Rufus mother (still living) as "his mother and mine." The woman had evidently treated Paul as a son.

Paul ends with the phrase: "Greet one another with a holy kiss." In the ancient world a kiss as it is today in many parts of the world was a common form of greeting. Richard Wurmbrand would on more than one occasion in church when I was a child, indicate that we failed to follow Paul's admonition—no one had greeted him with a holy kiss. Of course, he knew that this was not common in our part of the world, and Wurmbrand's comment always caught people which was a delight to him.