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**Romans: Theology 101**  
"Final Thoughts"  
Romans 16

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07-12-20

Introduction: After many weeks we have come to the end of our study.

1. We covered a lot of ground.
  - Theology From Condemnation to Glorification
  - Israel's Relationship With God & His Plan
  - How We Are to Love as Followers of Jesus
2. As Paul closes, he focuses on the very essence of Christianity.
3. By definition, Christianity is a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.
4. It is a relationship we share with all other followers of Jesus; they are our brothers & sisters.
5. Relationship is so important. Christ synthesized the commands of God into two simple statements:
  - Love God with all your heart, soul strength & mind.
  - Love your neighbor as yourself.
6. In the 25 years Paul had been walking with Christ, he had developed deep bonds of friendship. His understanding & appreciation of God had grown.
7. As he closes this letter he focuses on those relationships.
8. As we work through his text, we will learn two valuable lessons.

I. Friendship Development

A. Shared Service

B. Shared Stake

C. Shared Sacrifice

II. Trust Development

A. His Ability

B. His Wisdom

Conclusion: We all desire a rich, full life.

1. We live in a world that bombards us with messages on how to get there.
2. When we buy in, we are often disappointed.
3. The core issue is values.
4. When we invest in true value, we find satisfaction.
5. In many ways Paul had nothing, but in other ways he had everything!
6. When we invest in people & God, we have eternal riches!