

Sermon Notes

Phoebe: A Deaconess

Romans 1:1, 5-12; 15:12-16:2

Intro.

Big Idea: Women have played a vital role in the building of Christ's church.

- I. The purpose of Paul's letter to the Romans.
 1. Rome was to be his base for the western spread of the gospel.
 2. The letter was to serve to clarify the message of the gospel.
- II. The messenger's credentials.
 1. "Commended" by Paul to the Romans. v.1
 2. She was called a diakonon. v.1
 3. She was to be treated with great respect. v.2
 4. She was to be aided in her task. v. 2
 5. She had proven her value in the past. v. 2
- III. Her description as a diakonon raises questions regarding formal church government.
 1. The meaning of the word diakonon.
 - 1) servant
 - 2) formal church office cf. Phil 1:1; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Tim 3:8
 2. Instructions in 1 Timothy 3:8-12.

Concl.