

Romans 1:8-15

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. 9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you 10 always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. 11 For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— 12 that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. 13 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. 14 I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. 15 So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

Start w/ God

through JC
God is my witness
His gospel
God's will determines direction

thankful you

you! just for being you
your faith proclaimed
mutual encouragement of faith

Paul's concerns

a heart of gratitude
Serving God
consistent in prayer
wants to see them in person
wants to strengthen them by
imparting a spiritual gift
mutual encouragement of faith
intended to visit (but kept from it)
a harvest of souls
bound by duty (to all kinds of people)
eager to preach the gospel

1 Corinthians 1:4-9

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, 5 that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— 6 even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— 7 so that you are not lacking in any

made firm
proved its truth & divinity

Start w/ God

grace given in Christ
reveals Christ
sustains until the end
faithful
calls into fellowship w/ this Son

thankful you

you! the believer
enriched in Christ in all speech
" " in all knowledge

gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,
8 who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

return
not convictable
participating in the dignity & blessings of the Son

Thankful for cont.

testimony of Christ confirmed
not lacking in any gift
Waiting for revealing of Christ
God's sustaining
status of not being convictable
fellowship w/ the Son

Paul's concerns

A heart of gratitude for the above list

Start w/ God

He began a good work
He'll complete the work @ Christ's return (consummation)
He acts as a witness
Christ has affection for us
fruit of righteousness comes thru JC
God gets the glory & praise

Thankful for...

their partnership in the gospel
partakers w/ Paul of grace
abounding love
knowledge
discernment
fruit of righteousness thru JC

Paul's Concerns

heart of gratitude
remembering
praying w/ joy
confidence in Christ
intimate connection
grace
confirmation of the gospel
yearning w/ affection
abounding love
knowledge
discernment

discerning what is excellent
not mixed up in sin for JC return
filled w/ fruit of righteousness
God's glory

Philippians 1:3-11

3 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, and both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. 9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

test to see whether it's genuine

judged by sunlight - not stumbling or led into sin

Colossians 1:3-14

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, 5 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, 7 just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf 8 and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us

Start w/ God

Father of our Lord JC
Stores up hope in heaven
Offers grace in truth
enables love in the Spirit

Thankful for...

faith in JC
love for all the saints
that the gospel is bearing
fruit & increasing
love in the Spirit

Paul's concerns

grateful heart
habit of prayer
testimony / witness of the saints
the word of truth—the gospel
the gospel bearing fruit & increasing
Epaphras & his relationship w/
the Colossians

from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

2 We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 3 For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, 4 because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. 5 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, 6 so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 7 For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. 8 For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 9 and

Start w/ God

loves His children
chooses His children
empowers the gospel in the HS
provides an example for life
gives joy in affliction
living & true
JC returning from heaven
God raised from the dead
delivers us from wrath to come

Thankful for...

work of faith
labor of love
steadfastness of hope
imitators of spiritual fathers & JC
received the word (in affliction w/ joy)
became an example to believers
sounded forth the word of the Lord
faith in God gone forth
turned from idols to serve the living & true God
waiting for Christ's return

Paul's concerns

heart of gratitude
constant prayer
remembering - making mention
the things he's thankful for
the gospel
 ↳ in word
 ↳ in power
 ↳ in the HS
 ↳ most certain confidence

to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the

dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

2 Thessalonians 1:3-4

3 We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers,

as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and

the love of every one of you for one another is increasing.

4 Therefore we ourselves boast about you in the churches

of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your

persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring.

2 Timothy 1:3-18

3 I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a

clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my

prayers night and day. 4 As I remember your tears, I long to

see you, that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of

your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your

grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am

sure, dwells in you as well. 6 For this reason I remind you

to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through

the laying on of my hands, 7 for God gave us a spirit not of

fear but of power and love and self-control.

Start w/ God

The recipient of our thanks
b/c He is the provider

The churches belong to God

Thankful for

abundantly growing faith

love for others increasing

steadfastness & faith

while enduring persecution
& affliction

Paul's concerns

The habit of thankfulness

The testimony to the churches
of God