

ROMANS

SEEING WHAT IS RIGHT • THROUGH GOD'S EYES

Changing Standards



Sir John A Macdonald

Hero?

Scoundrel?

Both?



Changing Standards

CBC | MENU

news Sir John A. Macdonald's legacy to be recast in his native Scotland amid raging debates over historical figures

Sir John A. Macdonald's legacy to be recast in his native Scotland amid raging debates over historical figures



The Scottish government has removed all references to Canada's first prime minister from its website



Nahlah Ayed · CBC News · Posted: Aug 26, 2018 5:00 AM ET | Last Updated: August 26



Changing Standards



The statue of John A. Macdonald was removed from the front steps of Victoria City Hall in British Columbia in August. (Mike McArthur/CBC)



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Changing Standards



21st century culture is judging people of the 19th century culture.

The standard of measure and judgment has changed.

Problem – man's standards are faulty and they change.



Changing Standards

- **How will the 22nd century judge us?**
- What history will say – is the least of our problem. What does Sir John A care about what we say now?
- Big question is: “How will God judge us?”

“It is written: “ ‘As surely as I live,’ says the Lord, ‘every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.’ ” So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.”
(Romans 14:11–12, NIV84)



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SEEING WHAT IS RIGHT • THROUGH GOD'S EYES

"Who is on the Lord's Side?"

Romans 16:1-27

Pew Bible pg. 806

Today's Outline

- 1. The Goal – what was Paul's objective for Romans?**
- 2. The Models - Who in chapter 16 are our models?**
- 3. The Opposition – Who/What, should we be wary of?**



1 The Goal

- Paul's goal in writing:

*“For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, **that you may be established**,” (Romans 1:11, NASB95)*

*“Now to Him **who is able to establish you** according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past,” (Romans 16:25, NASB95)*



1 The Goal

Establish

- To be confirmed, fixed, secure, be strong,
- “expresses an absolutely firm resolve, an unshakable decision or attitude, a definitive intention. This is exactly the meaning in Luke 9:51”

*“Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that **He steadfastly set His face** to go to Jerusalem,” (Luke 9:51, NKJV)*



1 The Goal

All the names Paul speaks well of in Romans 16 are examples of people established in their faith.

“Would my name be among them if Paul had thought of me?”



The Goal

The Mercy of God! “Done!”

- ❖ Module 1 – “Condemned” God’s Righteous Judgement Ch. 1-3
- ❖ Module 2 – “Credited” Righteousness through Faith Ch. 4-5
- ❖ Module 3 – “Resurrected” Living Righteously through Christ Ch. 6-8
- ❖ Module 4 – “Secured” God Righteously Determines Ch. 9-11

Responding to The Mercy of God! “Do!”

- ❖ Module 5 – “Transformed” Righteousness Through Christ Ch.12-16



1 The Goal

Have we learned? Grown? Deepened? Are we on the road to being established?

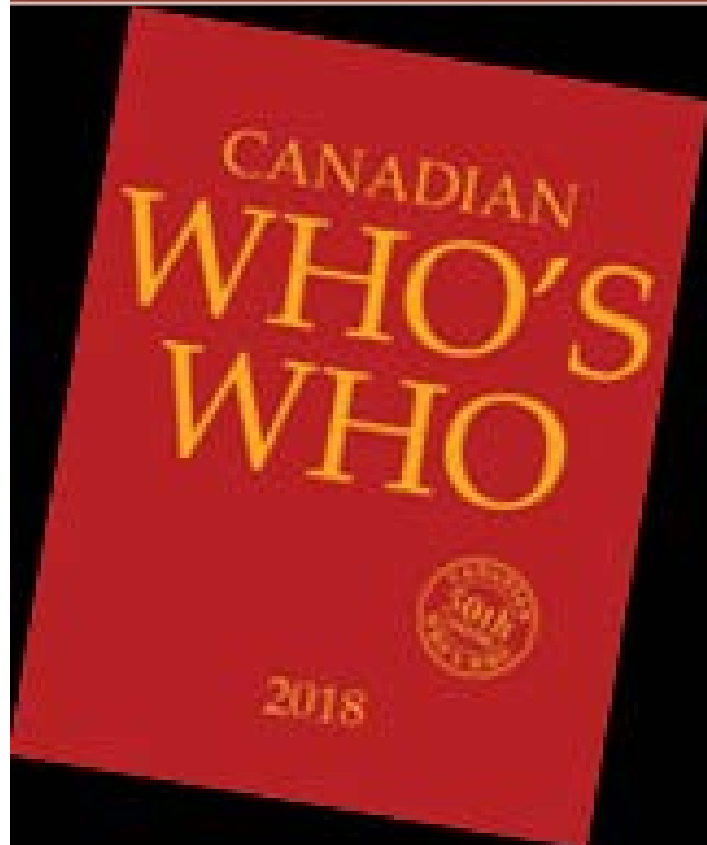
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2. The Models

CANADIAN
WHO'S WHO 



“Now in its 108th year, *Canadian Who's Who* is the only publication of its kind in Canada.”



2. The Models

- Romans 16 is God's Who's Who of Rome and some of Paul's helpers.
- Paul mentions 26 people by name and refers to many others
- 1/3 are women, many in prominent roles,
- Jews, Gentiles
- All demographic and economic levels, rich , poor, slave, freedmen, Roman citizens , people with political connections



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2. The Models

How would I be described? How will I be described at the final judgement? **(not salvation- DONE- but service DO!)**

- Deacon – (Phoebe) – she likely carried the letter! Wow- the book of Romans entrusted to her care!
- Servant, helper, fellow workers, risked their necks!
- Worked hard (toiled), kinsmen, fellow prisoners
- Apostles (sent ones – missionaries) , beloved in the Lord
- Fellow worker, my beloved, approved in Christ
- Kinsmen, in the Lord, workers in the Lord
- Worked hard (toiled), a choice man, brother,
- Saints (holy ones),
- Fellow worker, kinsmen
- Host, brother



2. The Models

How would I be described? How will I be described at the final judgement? **(not salvation- DONE- but service DO!)**

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3. The Opposition

- No ‘Who’s who’
- Interesting – in contrast no names at all

V 17

- “I urge you” I beseech you”
- Keep your eye on. Watch out.. Observe, be concerned about, pay careful attention
- **Literally scope them out, spy on them!**



3. The Opposition

- **Cause dissentions** – divide, it's about me, I have the truth , I want it my way
 - Anyone who needs to talk and it is not public, “let me fill you in” backbiting, gossip, slander, cliques
- **hindrances, cause stumbling** – different teaching than what we learned – Romans 1-16!
 - Remember Gord's message Roman's 14 – not arguing about secondary items, take a stand on core issues of the gospel
- Slaves of their own lusts, desires, personal interests – selfish!



3. The Opposition

- We focus on and argue and divide on outward - dress, music, can I drink alcohol.....
- The severe warning is about the selfish, the self serving, people who cause problems, complain, the gossiper, the one who opposes the core truths of scripture
- What would be said of me???
- Am I established in the faith? Or am I actually in opposition?
- Is it all about me, what I want, my attention, my agenda, ?



3. The Opposition

- Very serious – aligned with the enemy

“The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.” (Romans 16:20, NIV84)

Sober thought- they would not see themselves this way! Deceived!

- What about us?



Today's Outline

- 1. The Goal – Am I established in Christ?**
- 2. The Models – What will be said of me? (judgement)**
- 3. The Opposition – Is it about the kingdom or about me?**



“It is easy to read the New Testament and gloss over the many names of individuals who contributed to the spread of the gospel and the building of the church in the first century. The temptation now is the same as it was then, to think that history will not record or remember what we do for Christ in our corner of the kingdom. That is correct—“history” will know little and care less of what the average believer does in his or her life of faith”

Boa, K., & Kruidenier, W. (2000). Romans (Vol. 6, p. 463). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.



Changing Standards



A much greater than 'history' judging us is coming.

God's standards do not change!

**What will be said by God about whose side we were on?
Did we build or oppose His kingdom work?**



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