

*Series:* Community and Diversity; *Sermon:* **That All the Peoples May Praise Him**  
*Delivered by:* **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; *Date:* **January 8, 2017**

***Bible text explored: Romans 15:8–13***

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name.”

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup>And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him.”

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. [ESV]

***Review and application:***

*A month ago, the sermon based on the first half of this chapter, urged us to welcome one another in our Christian fellowship as Christ has welcomed us. In today’s passage, Paul expands our vision to see how mutual acceptance helps fulfill God’s cosmic plan.*

1. What purpose (vv. 8-9a) for the nations (“Gentiles”) did Christ’s coming to the Jews (“the circumcised”) anticipate?
2. How did God’s promise to the patriarchs embrace all humanity? (See Gen. 12:3, Acts 3:25, and Gal. 3:8.)
3. How does Paul’s quoting texts from all sectors of the Old Testament demonstrate the breadth of God’s cosmic plan? From the . . .
  - . . . historical books: 2 Sam. 22:50, repeated as Ps. 18:49 (v.9b)
  - . . . Pentateuch: Deut. 32:43 (v.10)
  - . . . poetical books: Ps. 117:1 (v.11)
  - . . . prophets: Isa. 11:10 (v. 12)How does “the root of Jesse” line extend to all nations?  
Why do you think praise is the common theme of these quotations?
4. Americans typically use the word *hope* to indicate wishful thinking. What is the danger (v. 13) that this will dilute our confidence in a guaranteed outcome?
5. If, as Pastor Josh said, we can’t generate this certainty of hope on our own, whose power must come into play? (See Rom. 5:5; 8:10-11 and 25-26.)
6. Hope, Pastor Josh reminded us, isn’t based on feelings but on who God is. How does worshiping together help us move beyond feelings to overflowing hope?
7. Instead of worrying about what’s in store in 2017, how could we concentrate on entering into God’s gospel plan of causing all nations to praise him?