

Paul's Gospel Came Directly from Christ

Galatians 1:11 - 17

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The Prominence of the Gospel

Galatians 1:11 (NASB)

For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man.

- "Gospel" is *euaggelion*
- "Preached" is *euaggelizo*
- "Not according to man" refers to verse 10: not a man-pleaser

2

Paul received the Gospel NOT from man
BUT from the Resurrected Christ

Galatians 1:12 (NASB)

For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

- "Received" is a term for the transmission of tradition
- Paul's gospel was not from human tradition

3

Paul's extreme devotion to Pharisaical Judaism was evident

Galatians 1:13

For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it;

- > Paul persecuted the *ekkle_sia* of God. Meeting the resurrected Christ was divine intervention
- > "Destroy" means to pillage or plunder

4

Paul was a rising star among the Pharisees

Galatians 1:14 (NET)

I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my nation, and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.

- > Paul thought he was pleasing God
- > "Advancing" is *prokopto_* came to mean "the process of moral and spiritual development in an individual" TDNT

5

Paul was set apart and called

Galatians 1:15a

But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace,

- > Paul's calling was like that of Jeremiah
- > Romans 1:1 "set apart for the gospel of God"

6

God's Purpose was fulfilled in Paul's conversion and calling

Galatians 1:15b. 16a (NRSV)

was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles,

- God revealed His Son to Paul at his conversion
- This was an objective meeting with the resurrected Christ, not merely a mystical encounter

7

Paul Did not need human affirmation of his calling

Galatians 1:16b

I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood,

- "Flesh and Blood" reminds us of Matthew 16:17
- Paul did not question that he met the Resurrected Christ and was called as an apostle.

8

Paul went away to Arabia

Galatians:1:17

nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went away to Arabia, and returned once more to Damascus.

- "immediately" (vs 16) modifies "not go up"
- Paul went to Arabia which is mentioned in Galatians 4:25 where it is connected with Sinai
- What happened during this time is cryptic and disputed

9

Implications and Applications

- > The gospel is more important than what we might consider personal profit
- > The traditions of men are not worthy of our zeal and sacrifice
- > The Scripture must be understood through the hermeneutic of authorial intent

10

The gospel is more important than what we might consider personal profit

Philippians 3:7, 8a (NET)

But these assets I have come to regard as liabilities because of Christ. More than that, I now regard all things as liabilities compared to the far greater value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord

11

The traditions of men are not worthy of our zeal and sacrifice

Colossians 2:8 (NRSV)

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ

12

The Scripture must be understood through the hermeneutic of authorial intent

Acts 1:8

“but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

13

The Scripture must be understood through the hermeneutic of authorial intent

Isaiah 49:6

He says, “It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

14

Authorial intent: Isaiah 49:6 applied

Acts 13:46b-48

...since you repudiate it, and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For thus the Lord has commanded us, “I have placed You as a light for the Gentiles, That You should bring salvation to the end of the earth.” And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.

15

The Scripture must be understood through the hermeneutic of authorial intent

Acts 26:17, 18

“rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.”

16

Benediction

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Jude 1:24, 25

17
