

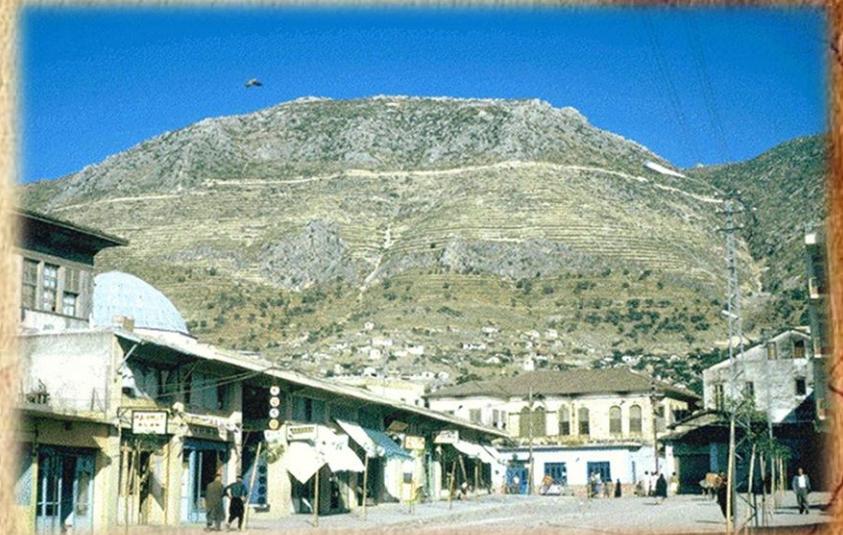
Paul & Gospel Truths

"I look at the Bible as a very human book written by human authors, many of whom were religious geniuses, who had brilliant things to say, but nevertheless were completely human and error prone."

– Professor Ehrman, University of NC

Paul and the Galatians

- Paul seeks to establish himself as an apostle
- Paul is an ambassador announcing God's grace and peace for sinners
- Paul seeks to defend the purity of the Gospel message

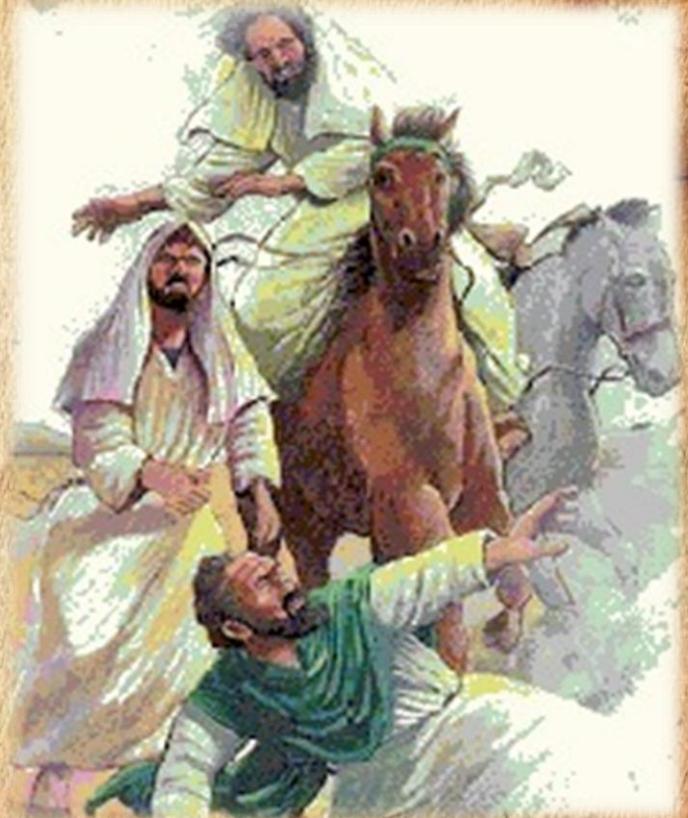


Antioch

Not From Men

Galatians 1:11-12

11 I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up. 12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.



Called by God

Galatians 1:13-17

13 For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. 14 I was advancing in Judaism beyond many Jews of my own age and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. 15 But when God, who set me apart from birth and called me by his grace, was pleased 16 to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not consult any man, 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went immediately into Arabia and later returned to Damascus.

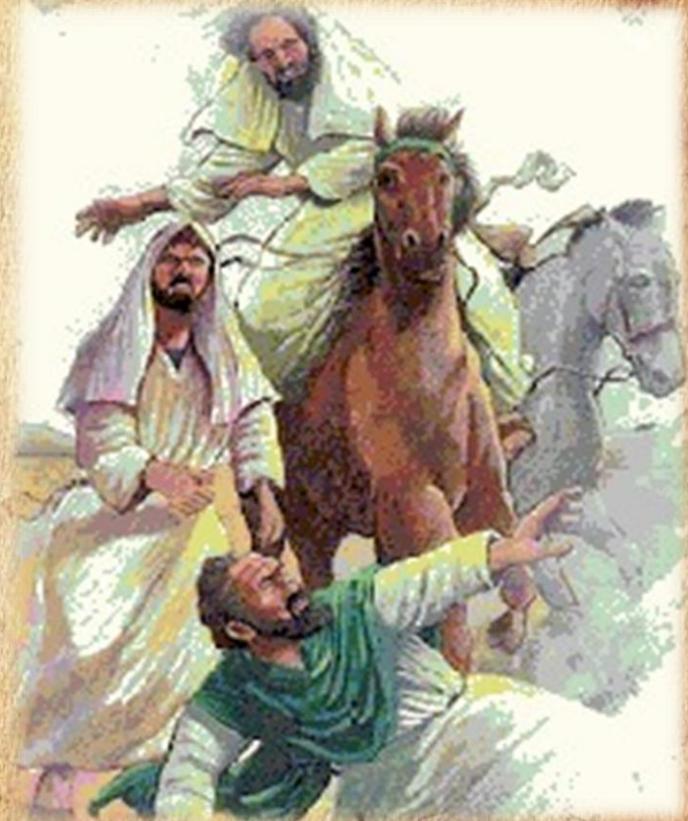
Paul as a Pharisee

- **Judaism**
 - A Law Religion
 - Moral, Ceremonial, Civil Law
- **Paul**
 - Student of Gamaliel
 - Extremely Zealous
 - Persecution of Christians



Paul's Conversion

- **Background**
 - Student of Word
 - Familiar with Christianity
- **Event**
 - God's Message
 - Paul's Repentance
 - Time in Arabia
- **Conversion**
 - Act of God – Not Paul



Paul's Spiritual Growth

Galatians 1:18-24

18 Then after three years, I went up to Jerusalem to get acquainted with Peter and stayed with him fifteen days. **19** I saw none of the other apostles—only James, the Lord's brother. **20** I assure you before God that what I am writing you is no lie. **21** Later I went to Syria and Cilicia. **22** I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ. **23** They only heard the report: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." **24** And they praised God because of me.

Paul & the Apostles

- **Trip to Jerusalem**
 - After 3 Years in Arabia
 - To Meet Peter / James
 - 15 Days
- **Not Taught by Apostles**
- **Preaching & Acceptance**
- **Persecution of Paul**



Paul in Jerusalem

- **Acts 9:28**

28 So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.

- **Acts 9:29-30**

29 He talked and debated with the Grecian Jews, but they tried to kill him. 30 When the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

- **Acts 22:17-18**

17 "When I returned to Jerusalem and was praying at the temple, I fell into a trance 18 and saw the Lord speaking. 'Quick!' he said to me. 'Leave Jerusalem immediately, because they will not accept your testimony about me.'

Paul's Theme

- **Point 1**
 - **As an apostle, Paul received the Gospel not from other men, but through revelation from Jesus Christ.**
- **Point 2**
 - **Paul was called as an apostle directly God.**
- **Point 3**
 - **Paul, as an apostle, did not learn the Gospel message from other men, not even from the other apostles.**

Paul and Christians Today

- **2 Timothy 3:16**
- **2 Peter 1:21**
- **1 Thessalonians 2:13**
- **John 10:35**

