### LESSON NO. 4 - Read Galatians 1 + 2 and Romans 1

The Holy Spirit gives Saul of Tarsus a new name, Paul the Apostle. He is now sent out as Paul to declare Jesus Christ to be the Son of God who died to redeem and reconcile sin-filled men and women back into a love-filled relationship with God.

Where was Paul sent? To whom was Paul sent to preach? What did Paul preach to all people?

Paul was declared to be an Apostle [one who had seen Jesus Christ alive]. He was sent and commissioned by the Holy Spirit to go into all the Gentile world to preach Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:11-24 - Call to Apostleship, given the Gospel then to preach Christ to the Gentiles.

- **11** But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. **12** For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.
- **13** For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. **14** And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers.
- **15** But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, **16** to reveal His Son in me, that **I might preach Him among the Gentiles**, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, **17** nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

### At Damascus, Jerusalem and to all the Gentile world.

- **18** Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. **19** But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother. **20** (Now concerning the things which I write to you, indeed, before God, I do not lie.)
- **21** Afterward I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. **22** And I was unknown by face to the churches of Judea which were in Christ. **23** But they were hearing only, "He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith which he once tried to destroy." **24** And they glorified God in me.
- **Galatians 2:7-21** But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised [Gentiles] had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter 8 (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), **9** and when James, Cephas [Peter], and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. **10** They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

#### Paul Preached that Grace not Law Saves the Sinner

**11** Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; **12** for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. **13** And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews? 15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, 16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

17 "But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! 18 For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

What did Paul preach to the Gentiles? Jesus Christ crucified, resurrected and now sovereignly ruling over all. Sinners are saved by Grace and delivered from the wrath of God through saving trust in Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:1-6 Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God 2 which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, 4 and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. 5 Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, 6 among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:16-31 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek [Gentile].

17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

### **God's Wrath Against All Sin**

**18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, **19** because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. **20** For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, **21** because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts,

and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Professing to be wise, they became fools, **23** and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

- **24** Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, **25** who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.
- **26** For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. **27** Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.
- 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Paul preached that all mankind is guilty! We have all sinned against Holy God and harmed our neighbor. None of us have perfectly kept the two greatest commandments for even five minutes, much less over our entire life. Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Paul declares, as did all the apostles, that we must have a perfect righteous substitute who took our just penalty of death for our sins.

#### **Christ Died in Our Place**

Romans 5:6-11 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. 11 And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

Peter, likewise with all the Apostles, preached this very same Gospel to all.

**Peter 3:18** For Christ also **suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust**, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.

**Application:** Have you recognized your sins and your need for a Savior? Have you repented of your sins and confessed the Lord Jesus Christ to be your all-sufficient Savior for all your sins? Have you trusted Him to save you by faith in Him and His death on the Cross?

Have you trusted that He was resurrected from the dead and that He went into the heavens to prepare a place for you in the Father's house?

**John 14: 1-3** "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

Such a great salvation simply cannot be enjoyed in silence!

Have you been so overwhelmed by the love of Jesus Christ, who died for you, that you cannot help but Tell Somebody today and every day about Him? Will tell others at every opportunity about Jesus' Incredible / Immeasurable / Infinite / Magnificent / Marvelous / Matchless / Unimaginable / Unlimited / Unfathomable / love for all of us?

Please write down any questions and forward to <a href="write2stm@gmail.com">write2stm@gmail.com</a> or <a href="write2stm@gmail.com">WasItForMeRom832@gmail.com</a>. We will attempt to answer your questions as we are given clarity, time and opportunity.

All our love to you in Christ - Jon + Philis