

Theme: The Gospel of justification by faith alone was not of human origin, but was revealed by God directly to Paul.

I. Intro – The Unchanging Gospel?

- A. Last week – no change to Gospel
- B. Some say Paul changed it!
- C. ‘Jesus & Paul – “Founding religion” Did Paul change?’
- D. Where did Paul get his Gospel from?

II. The Gospel: Not From Man

- A. Not according to man (man made up) v11
 - 1. Literally “not according to man”
 - 2. Not mans way of thinking (Rom 3:5; 1 Cor 9:8)
 - 3. Not a cleverly invented fable (2 Peter 1:16)
 - 4. It is divine in nature – not human
- B. Not received from man (tradition) – 1 Cor 15:1; v9
 - 1. The term ‘received’ - tradition (1 Cor 15:1)
 - 2. The Galatians received tradition (v9)
 - 3. Paul did not receive it as tradition
- C. Not taught to Paul by men
 - 1. Did not sit at feet of others and learn it

- 2. No loopholes – not from men!

III. The Gospel: From God

- A. Revelation of Christ/from Christ
 - 1. Could be either of/from Christ
 - a. Of – not ἀπό ; Damascus road; v 16
 - b. From – source; Gospel revealed
 - 2. I think it is “of Christ” – from God
 - c. v16; He is the focus; He changed all
 - d. Jesus alive – Messiah – New age
 - e. Paul – life of law; persecutor; wrong!
- B. The Divine nature of the Gospel
 - 1. Gospel not what man would conceive
 - 2. Gospel not revealed by man – but by God
 - 3. Gospel reveals Christ – no credit to us

IV. Paul, Revelation, Tradition

- A. Paul - I received by revelation, not man
- B. Is Paul contradicting himself? (1 Cor 11:23; 15:3)
 - 1. 1 Cor 11:23 – received from Lord

2. 1 Cor 15:3 – tradition?

C. Paul, revelation, tradition

1. Gospel received, understood by revelation
2. Implications (faith alone, Gentiles) by revelation
3. Details of history filled in later (by Peter ? - v18)

V. Conclusion & Summary

A. Do you see the Divine nature of the Gospel?

1. This is not made by man!
2. The Gospel can not be changed!

B. Have you personally encountered Christ?

1. We do not encounter as Paul – we receive tradition
2. We still must encounter Christ personally
3. Not just about Him – we must encounter Him

C. Communion

The Divine Nature of the Gospel

Galatians 1:11-12
December 5, 2004
Communion
Hebrews 13:20-21

⁵ But if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say? That God is unjust in bringing his wrath on us? (I am using a human argument.) Romans 3:5

⁸ Do I say this merely from a human point of view? Doesn't the Law say the same thing? 1 Corinthians 9:8

¹⁶ We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 2 Peter 1:16

¹ Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 1 Cor 15:1

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread 1 Corinthians 11:23

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 1 Corinthians 15:3