

STUDY OF GALATIANS

Lesson Three – The Call of Apostleship

January 26, 2021

Apostle – from the Greek apostolos – a person sent – any of the 12 disciples chosen by Jesus Christ. The term is sometimes also applied to others, especially Paul, who was converted a few years after Jesus’s death. This is often described as a “commission”. This term Apostle is used more than 80 times in the New Testament and was applied to Jesus Christ who was sent by God.

Hebrews 3:1

“Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was faithful in all His house.”

Hebrews 3:1-2 NKJV

1. Apostleship

A. Paul’s commission originated with God and not men!

B. Paul’s message originated with God and not men!

1. Gospel (Good News)

C. Paul’s learning came not from men but came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1. Being Called to God is a Call from the world.

- A. Worldly Conduct (former life)
- B. Judaism – persecuted the church beyond measure.
- C. Sought to destroy the Church (exceedingly zealous)

1. Being Called by God is by His GRACE.

- A. Timing – when it pleased God
- B. God’s Will – “to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him”
- C. Recognition of Sovereign God – did not go seeking the affirmation of men

1. Unexpected Apostles (servants)

A. John Brown – “Beginning with the Damascus road experience, Christ took Paul under His own immediate tutoring (similar to the original 12).

B. Paul was not taught by the other apostles but was fully equal to them.

1. 1Corinthians 2:10-12

“But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God’s deep secrets. No one can know a person’s thoughts except that person’s own spirit, and no one can know God’s thoughts except God’s own Spirit. And we have received God’s Spirit (not the world’s spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.”

1 Corinthians 2:10-12 NLT

C. Sent to Syria and Cilicia (Tarsus was his hometown)

1. Unseen /Unknown but was heard of among these Gentiles

2. "He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith he once tried to destroy."

Conclusions:

A. God's commission is driven by His sovereign will!

B. No one is beyond the long reach of God's grace.

C. Let us not be guilty of discarding persons, for God alone knows the plans
He has for each individual.