

Sunday, September 11, 2022—Galatians 1:12 Paul’s Gospel & The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Introduction/Review

- Last Sunday we looked at Galatians. 1:10-11. In doing so, we observed the following.
 - Galatians 1:10—Paul was the servant of Christ and therefore not seeking to please men.
 - Galatians 1:11—Paul begins his “certification” i.e., to present in formal communication i.e., in writing his credentials as an apostle and the veracity of his gospel.
 - Identified the gospel Paul preached and compared it with the Gospel of the Kingdom.
 - **is not after man**—Paul clearly could not have received his gospel from any human source since no one preached it before Paul. That is to say, it did not originate from any human source. No human being contributed anything to it. It was not something conjured up in the mind of man.

Galatians 1:12

- **For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.**
- **For I neither received it of man**—in verse 11, Paul emphasized that his gospel did not originate with man. Here in verse 12, he emphasizes the fact that he did not receive it of a man.
- That is to say, that no human being taught or communicated this gospel to Paul.
- **neither was I taught it**—it was not impressed upon his mind through the process of teaching.
- In this phrase, Paul is dealing with the potential argument that his gospel could have been divine in its origin and passed on to Paul via the process of teaching.
- In verse 12, there is an interesting comparison with verse 1. In verse 1, he introduced himself as “Paul, an apostle, not of men, neither by man.” In verse 12, he says of his message, “I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it . . .” Thus, it is evident that Paul’s gospel and apostleship did not originate in the mind of any human being, he did not receive it from any man, and no human agent taught it to him. All of this means that Paul was the first one to know this message.
- I Timothy 1:16—Paul says that he was the first one to receive this information. So then how did Paul receive the understanding of this new and different gospel?
- **but by the revelation of Jesus Christ**—the word “but” emphasizes the contrast to the human origin discussion at the beginning of the verse.

- The source of the content for Paul’s gospel was Jesus Christ Himself. The Gospel of the Grace of God was made known unto Paul via special revelation of Jesus Christ.
- Notice Paul’s exact words, “by the revelation of Jesus Christ”. In other words, Paul did not merely receive information from Christ. Paul actually had Christ revealed to him. That is why he went blind in Acts 9.
- Acts 9:1-8—the risen and glorified Christ appeared to Saul/Paul on the road to Damascus.
 - Acts 26:16—Christ appeared to Paul and told him that He would continue to do so.
 - Acts 22:17-19—Paul literally talked with Christ face to face.
 - Ephesians 3:1-3—Jesus Christ Himself made known unto Paul the revelation of the mystery.
 - Romans 16:25-26—“. . . which was kept secret since the world began.”
 - Acts 3:19-21—“. . . spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.”
 - I Corinthians 2:6-8
 - Colossians 1:25-26
 - II Corinthians 12:7—Paul was given a “throne in the flesh” on account of the “abundance” of revelation he was receiving.
- Galatians 1:12—understand that when Paul saw and talked with the Lord Jesus Christ, he did not walk with Jesus in his humiliation on earth as the twelve had done, but he talked with Christ in His glory from heaven.
- Paul’s apostleship and gospel were the result of the “revelation of Jesus Christ.” Instead of showing up the judge the world according to prophecy, Jesus Christ revealed himself to the “chief of sinners” and ushered in the dispensation of grace.
 - I Timothy 1:11—Paul had a gospel that he received by the “revelation of Jesus Christ” that he been committed to his “trust.”
 - Romans 16:25—“my gospel”
 - I Timothy 1:12-16—Jesus Christ did something through Paul that set a pattern for how he would deal with mankind “hereafter.”
 - I Corinthians 9:17—a “dispensation of the gospel” was committed to Paul.
 - Ephesians 6:19—Paul was preaching “the mystery of the gospel.”

- Galatians 1:12—explains Paul’s strong words and stern warning in verses 8 and 9. Teacher’s teaching contrary to the gospel revealed to Paul by the glorified Christ were opposing Christ Jesus Himself.