



The Source of the Gospel Galatians 1:11-17

I. AN UNNATURAL SOURCE

Paul's gospel did not come from any human source including the other Apostles, nor was it according to man's intellect, knowledge, or logic (*11b, 12a, 16b, 17a*).

II. AN UNTAUGHT SOURCE

Paul's gospel was not communicated to him through any educational means nor from his upbringing as an orthodox Jew (*12b, 13,14,17a*).

III. AN UNVEILED SOURCE

- It was uniquely given to Paul through a direct revelation from the risen glorified Lord Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus (*vs. 12, 15, 16; Acts 9:3-5*).
- The details were confirmed by the Holy Spirit during his years in the Arabia wilderness (*verse 17; Acts 9:30; 11:25, 26; Gal .2:1; 2 Cor. 12:1; 1 Cor. 2:10*).
- Paul was **chosen** before birth, **called** by God's grace, **changed** into the likeness of Christ, and, **commissioned** to take the gospel to the Gentiles (*verses 15&16; Acts 9:15; 22:14,15; 26:16-18*).

Questions for Today

- What is your mission [God's purpose or will] in life?
- How do you find this mission? [An age old question]

Each believer has a unique commission from the Lord which is different than the one given to Paul.

- What is it and how do you find it?

Application

What is my mission in life and how do I find it?

1. **We don't get it from man**

Not from advice from other mature Christians, not from your pastor or elder, and, not from your own intellect, logic or analysis. While some of these may be helpful it is not found there.

2. **We don't get it from being taught it**

Not from university or even Bible School, and not from your church or denomination. Even though these institutions may be useful and beneficial in many ways, you won't find it there.

3. **We only get it from Heaven itself**

It comes from God alone. The revelation of God's mission for your life comes only from Him. It is through the living and written Word as directed by the Holy Spirit as you draw aside from the cares of life and spend time with Him.

Paul's example from Acts 16 on his 2nd missionary journey:

- His mission to the churches of south Galatia (*Acts 15:41*)
- Prevented by the Holy Spirit from going to Asia (*16:6*)
- Prevented by the Spirit of Jesus from going to Bithynia (*7*)
- Being boxed in he went to Troas (*16: 8*)
- Called to go to Greece in a night vision (*16: 9*)
- He immediately responded to the voice of God (*16: 10*)

The sailboat: Your life is like a sailboat on the sea of life, directed by the small seemingly powerless rudder – which only functions when you are moving. Likewise, the Lord (re)directs you when you are, by faith, actively moving ahead in your mission.

How do you find your mission? - by spending time with God.
How do you carry it out? - by moving ahead while listening to His voice.