

CHAPTER 20

GOD REVEALED THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH, THE BODY OF CHRIST, TO PAUL

PAUL, HIS MESSAGE

After Paul was saved, he went to Arabia. What gospel did he receive there? Ephesians 3:1-7
See: Gospels, Page 50.

Who revealed the secret message of the Mystery, the Church to Paul? Galatians 1:12; 2
Corinthians 12:1 See page 85 for a study of the Mysteries (secrets) of the Bible.

When did Paul first see Peter and James? Galatians 1:18

How many years passed until again Paul saw the apostles? Galatians 2:1

What did the Jewish brethren want to do to Titus? Galatians 2:3

Did Paul submit to their demands? Galatians 2:5-6

COMPARISON OF PETER AND PAUL'S MINISTRIES

Peter was an apostle sent to the _____. Galatians 2:8

Paul was an apostle sent to the _____. Galatians 2:8; Acts 26:16-17

Peter preached the gospel of the _____ to Israel. Matthew 4:23; 10:7

Paul preached the gospel of _____. Acts 20:24. See Page 52 for a review of the various gospels of the Bible.

Since Peter and Paul had different messages and were apostles to different groups of people, what did they decide to do? Galatians 2:9-10

a. _____ b. _____

Where did the apostles and the scattered believing Jews continue to preach?
Acts 11:19

Where did Paul preach? Romans 15:20

Did Peter fully understand the new message of the Church that God revealed to Paul?
2 Peter 3:15-16

What does the word "Scripture" mean? 2 Timothy 3:16

How did Peter endorse Paul's writings? 2 Peter 3:16

PAUL, HIS MINISTRY

Who accompanied Paul on his first missionary trip? Acts 13:2

Where did Paul and Barnabas go? Acts 13:4-5

What people did Paul and Barnabas attempt to reach with the gospel? Acts 13:5

What did Paul preach to the Jews? Acts 13:39,43

a. _____ b. _____

When the Jews refused to believe, to what people did Paul go? Acts 13:46

Read: Acts 13:8-11. What happened to Elymas? How was this a parallel to what happened to Israel? Compare Acts 13:8-11 and Romans 11:10-11,25

Name the kings to whom Paul preached. Acts 24:3; 25:1; 26:1

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____

Israel continued in unbelief. To what people only did God finally send Paul? Acts 26:16-18; 28:28

Paul went on three missionary trips. How many people did he reach with the gospel of the Grace of God? Colossians 1:23

Why were the miracles, sign gifts, tongues, and wonders evident during the early ministry of Paul? 1 Corinthians 1:22; 2 Corinthians 12:12

a. _____ b. _____

NOTE:

While Paul ministered to Israel, the miracles, signs, tongues, and wonders continued to prove his apostleship, but after God sent Paul only to the Gentiles and the Bible was completed, the tongues, miracles, and signs faded away.

LIFE APPLICATION

Bridges enable us to cross rivers, valleys, and gorges safely. In spite of how useful bridges are, no one builds a house on a bridge because it is unstable and shaky. Houses are built on both sides of the bridge, but not on the bridge. The book of Acts is a bridge taking us from the Kingdom to the Church. Some people build their foundation on Israel's Kingdom side trying to claim Israel's Kingdom promises in the Gospels. Others try to build their foundation on the transitional Acts bridge claiming the "last days" Pentecostal experiences for Israel. Still others cross over the bridge and build their foundation claiming the promises made to the Church.

Where are we to build our foundation today? 1 Corinthians 3:10

What else does the apostle Paul say? 1 Corinthians 11:1; 4:16

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Paul built his foundation on _____. 1 Corinthians 3:11

What will believers receive by building on the Church foundation?
1 Corinthians 3:12-14.

REMEMBER THESE POINTS

- (1) Paul was saved and went immediately to Arabia where Jesus Christ revealed the unprophesied message of the Church, the Body of Christ. Galatians 1:12
- (2) Paul did not learn about the Church, the Body of Christ, from the apostles. Galatians 1:12
- (3) Peter continued to preach the gospel of the Kingdom which Christ gave to him for Israel. Galatians 2:8
- (4) Paul preached the gospel of grace which Christ gave to him. Galatians 2:8
- (5) Peter did not fully understand the gospel of grace but recognized Paul's gospel was given to him from Christ and that Paul's writings were inspired. 2 Peter 3:16
- (6) Paul did miracles at first to prove his apostleship. 2 Corinthians 12:12
- (7) When God sent Paul only to the Gentiles and the Bible was completed, the sign gifts stopped. 1 Corinthians 13:8-10

LIFE APPLICATION

Do you remember how you acted as a small child? I am sure there were many changes as you matured. God wants Christians to grow spiritually but did you know it is possible to stay a baby Christian? The writer of Hebrews encourages believers to "leave the elementary teachings about Christ" and to go on to maturity. Read: Hebrews 6:1-2. Name the elementary teachings of Christ.

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____ d. _____ e. _____ f. _____

In what books do you read about the elementary teachings of Jesus?

That is right, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Maturity comes from knowing what the Pauline epistles teach about the glories of the Cross, the Church, our identity, position in Christ, and many other things. As you study the epistles and apply the principles to your life, you will begin to experience the maturity of which Hebrews speaks. Are you ready to discover more about the Church, the Body of Christ?