

PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES

Was Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles? If not, who was? Over the years I have known many people who once walked among the Congregations of Yahweh, then later deny the Son of Yahweh as the Messiah. In all cases their path to denial started with questioning if Paul's writings were inspired, and if he was a true or false Apostle.

The definition of an Apostle - Strong's Greek #652; from 649; a delegate; ambassador of the Gospel; Officially a commissioner of Messiah: (with miraculous powers): apostle, messenger, he that is sent. There are men today that would fit that description. They may not call themselves apostles, but they are serving in that calling. The original 12 literally walked with Yahshua before and after his death. When lots were cast to replace Judas, Matthias was chosen by lot over Barnabas. But both men walked with Yahshua. **Barnabas** later was chosen by the Spirit of Yahweh to go with Paul to preach to the Gentiles **Acts 13:2**. If Paul was a false teacher wouldn't Barnabas, who was filled with the Spirit at Pentecost have discerned such. Yet he ministered with him until they parted over a disagreement about John Mark **Acts 15:36-41**.

The original scriptures both Old and New Testament were inspired by the Spirit of Yahweh. Translators inserted their personal beliefs in some of the texts. If there are texts that seem to contradict other texts they may have been copied incorrectly or even changed by the translators to support their doctrine. But the originals were correct and perfect. Unfortunately we do not have access to the originals, all we have are not so perfect copies. I personally believe the Aramaic and The Word of Yahweh based on the KJV are probably the closest (not perfect). So we can compare these with other translations when they say something questionable, like using Easter for Passover in the KJV.

If Paul was a false apostle then all his writings and most of the book of Acts are uninspired and unreliable. That means almost ½ of the NT writings and 20% of the entire bible is false. Even Peter's writings will be suspect because he wrote about Paul. He did say his words would be twisted and misunderstood, as they are today. **2 Peter 3:15,16 And account *that* the long suffering of our Master is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all *his* epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as *they* do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.** Peter sends Paul with his approval. **Acts 15:25 It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our Beloved Barnabas and Paul.** He also warned of those that went out from among us pressuring new converts to be circumcised (**Acts 15:24**) but never once did Peter say Paul was a false teacher or false apostle.

Then there's Yahshua's words in Acts 9:4-6 – **4 And He fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? 5 And he said, Who art thou, Master? And the Master said, I am Yahshua whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. 6 And he trembling and astonished said, Master, what will thou have me to do? And the Master said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. Acts 9:11,12 - And the Master said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth. 12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Hananiah coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. Acts 9:15,16 - But the Master said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: 16 For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.**

Luke accompanied Paul on some of his travels **Col 4:14 Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you. 2 Tim 4:11 Only Luke is with me.** Luke is also believed to be the writer of Acts, and of course the gospel of Luke. If Paul was false, wouldn't Luke have discerned this? If so and he didn't warn others then all Luke's writings become suspect also.

Paul was given the commission to bring the message of Yahshua to the Gentiles. But first he ministered to the Jews. **Acts 9:22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is the Messiah.** Paul preached in both Jerusalem and Damascus to the Jews, even before Peter has the vision of the unclean animals. **Acts 9:27,28 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Master in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Yahshua. 28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.** Later the Spirit of Yahshua separates Barnabas and Paul. **Acts 13:2,3 As they ministered to the Master, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work where unto I have called them. 3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.**

In **Acts 13:4-47** they are in Gentile nations visiting with Jews and proselytes on the Sabbath in the Synagogues. **43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of Elohim. 44 The next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of Elohim. 45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spoke against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming. 46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of Elohim should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. 47 For so hath our Sovereign commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.**

It is proven fact many of the places mentioned in his writings were indeed early congregations. There is no evidence the congregations were started by other Apostles. When he was teaching the new Gentile converts, he had to bring the message of Torah to their level of understanding. Unlike the Jewish converts who grew up with Torah the Gentiles were coming into Israel from a Pagan background. Paul's emphasis was first and foremost on Yahshua. Bringing the Torah to them was secondary. He raised up leaders in the local congregations, then went on to the next preaching Yahshua. Sometimes those local congregations did things that to them seemed normal, but to someone who grew up with Torah would be sin. **1 Cor. 5** is a perfect example.

Because Paul was highly educated in Torah unlike the other Apostles, his writings were easily misunderstood. Why Yahweh allowed this to happen? I don't know. What I do know is believing Paul is a false Apostle leaves the rest of the New Testament suspect. I want to have childlike faith and believe that The Word of Yahweh Scriptures we have, even though there are translators' errors in them is still what Yahshua gave us to find him and how to walk.

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ADDENDUM
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Why was Paul hated and today is criticized by some?

The Apostle Paul, (Saul) was a revered and well respected man by the Pharisees and Sadducees in his time. He had been a student under Gamaliel, the foremost respected teacher of Torah. His zeal, knowledge and persecution of the New Testament Assembly brought him great respect among the Sanhedrin. He believed that this new way in Yahshua was to do away with the Torah and change the customs Israel had had for many generations. He believed his fight against the NT Assembly was righteous and correct.

After his conversion on the road to Damascus, and after Hananiah laid hands on him, Paul repented of his persecution of the Assembly. After that, he went out and boldly preached Yahshua as the savior prophesied to come. Yahshua gave him great knowledge and revelation far beyond the Apostles. His calling was to the gentiles of the time. Peter was sent to the Jewish people, and Paul was sent to the gentiles who were called by Yahweh to come in to the covenants. This was a new movement of evangelism that had not been accomplished before. Peter respected Paul and accepted his work and Apostleship.

The Pharisees of the time, who once respected Paul as a champion of righteousness, now saw him as a heretic and traitor due to the following reasons:

Paul went to the unclean gentiles and brought them into the synagogues.

Paul began to preach Yahshua, the Son of Yahweh for salvation.

Paul seemed to preach that Torah, through Yahshua, was done away.

The truth of the matter is this. The gentiles were prophesied to come in...

> Isa 11:10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be honorable.

Second, he received the revelation that Yahshua was the son of Yahweh that had come.

Third, and most significantly to the Sanhedrin, Paul new the difference between Ceremonial law and Covenant law. After he was immersed, Paul received the knowledge that there was a part of the 613 laws (Ceremonial) that was added to the Torah, That part was carnal, temporary and used as a teacher to bring Israel back to Covenant law and righteousness. (Animal Sacrifice, the Levitical Priesthood, and Temple worship, Heb 10:5)

> Heb 9:8 The Holy Spirit this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

Heb 9:9 Which *was* a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;

Heb 9:10 Which *stood* only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.

> Heb 7:11 If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, for under it the people received the law, what further need *was there* that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron?

Heb 7:12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law. (Ceremonial done away)

>Gal 3:19 Why the law then? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; *and it was* ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

And now, our righteousness is not of keeping Torah, but faith in Yahshua and His sacrifice. (Covenant Torah law was never done away)

>Heb 9:12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.

When we understand that Paul never preached against Torah or the truth of scripture, we see that the Jewish people did not understand or accept the renewed covenant in the New Testament. This situation is still true today. Today, the Jewish people being locked out of the calling, still do not associate with gentiles nor do they generally accept Yahshua as Savior and Son of Yahweh. They still hold the work of Paul as heresy. As we see in the beginning of this article, Paul never preached anything untrue or against Yahshua.

We need to be very careful who we believe. There are many enemies of Paul and Yahshua. Today, we are in the era of the Gentiles. Israel and Judah are temporarily cut off and do not understand the plan of salvation Father Yahweh is completing. Yahshua is the only way to the covenants and eternal life. He said that not one thing would be done away within the law. (Covenant law, Torah)

>Mat 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.

Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.