

# Setting The Record Straight: The Apostle Paul

Sunday PM 03/08/20

## Introduction:

I have heard some things said about Paul's conversion, his teaching on baptism, faith and works, and the Old Testament that need to be cleared up by the Bible and what it actually says.

### I) Paul's Conversion

#### A) Paul was not saved on the road to Damascus.

1. Paul did see a light from above, **Acts 9.3**.
2. Jesus did speak to him, **Acts 9.4-5; 22.8**.
3. Jesus did tell him what to do, **Acts 9.6**.
4. Paul was not saved at this point because of why he was to go to Damascus.

#### B) Paul was not saved before Ananias came to him.

1. Some believe Paul was saved during the three-day period he was by himself, **Acts 9.9**
2. Paul had been told to go to Damascus and he would be told what to do, **Acts 9.6**.
3. How do we know? Because of what Ananias told him.

#### C) The Message of Ananias, **Acts 22.16**.

1. Arise and be baptized- Paul knew Jesus because he spoke to him.
2. Why be baptized? To wash away his sins. Can a person be

saved before they know Jesus? Before they repent of their sins? **Luke 13.3**. Before they confess Christ, **Matthew 10.32-33**. Before they are baptized, **Acts 2.38**.

## II) Paul and Baptism

A) **Some would have you believe Paul condemned the purpose and practice of baptism.**

1. Why? Because of **1 Corinthians 1.14**.
2. Paul was thankful he did not baptize more. Why would he say that if he believed baptism was essential for salvation?

B) **What did Paul teach about baptism and its role?**

1. Paul did baptize some at Corinth.
2. The problem at Corinth was their dividing into subcategories of Christians. **1 Corinthians 1.15-16**.
3. They were placing undue emphasis on who was baptizing them.
4. There is importance on why one is baptized and not on who is doing the baptizing, **1 Corinthians 1.17**.

## III) Setting the Record Straight: What Paul said about the Law of Moses

A) **Charge was made in the first century that Paul was maligning the law of Moses. **Acts 21.20-21**.**

1. Key word here is the word "custom". There were certain Jewish customs based on the law of Moses.
2. Paul did have Timothy circumcised, **Acts 16.3**
3. Paul did not allow Titus to be forced to be circumcised,

***Galatians 2.3ff.***

**B) Paul did teach the purpose and relationship of the Law of Moses to the Law of Christ. *Romans 15.4.***

1. The Law of Moses did identify sin, ***Romans 7.7.***
2. To be a shadow of the law of Christ, ***Colossians 2.16, 17.***
  - a. Animal sacrifices a shadow of the sacrifice of the Christ.
  - b. Levitical priesthood a shadow the royal priesthood of all Christians.
3. To lead us to Christ, ***Galatians 3.24.***

**C) Paul warned any Christian of the fallacy of attempting to go back to the law of Moses, *Galatians 5.4.***

**IV) Setting the Record Straight: Paul and what he said about “works”**

**A) There are different kinds of works**

1. Works of the flesh, ***Galatians 5.19-21, esp. v. 21***
2. Works of Satan, ***John 8.44***
3. Self-righteous works, ***Romans 10.3***
4. Works of the law of Moses, ***Romans 4***
5. Work of God, ***John 6.28,29***

**B) Paul did not say man is saved by faith only**

1. Some believe that there is nothing except believe in order to be saved, ***Romans 4.2-8***
2. Abraham believed God and he was saved?

**C) What had Abraham done? What is meant by “believed God”?**

1. ***Romans 4.2ff*** is from ***Genesis 15.6***.
2. Abraham had works, ***Hebrews 11.8***
  - a. Built an altar to make sacrifice to God, ***Genesis 12.8***
  - b. Abraham would continue to obey God throughout his life, ***James 2.21-23***.
3. Abraham was not considered righteous by the Law of Moses for he lived 400 years before the Law of Moses.

**Conclusion:**

Paul instructed the brethren to continue to “work in the Lord” ***1 Corinthians 15.58***.