

## The Apostle Paul: Servant of Christ Overview Study -- Interlaken 2012

**Lorin L Cranford** 

#### Phil. 3:4b-6:

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

#### Gal. 1:13-14:

13 You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. 14 I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.

#### Rom. 16:7, 11-12, 21:

7 Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives who were in prison with me; they are prominent among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was.... 11 Greet my relative Herodion. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of Narcissus. 12 Greet those workers in the Lord, Tryphaena and Tryphosa. Greet the beloved Persis, who has worked hard in the Lord.... 21 Timothy, my co-worker, greets you; so do Lucius and Jason and Sosipater, my relatives.

#### 2 Cor. 11:22:

Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I.

#### Acts 9:11:

The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul...".

#### Acts 21:39:

Paul replied, "I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of an important city; I beg you, let me speak to the people."

#### Acts 22:3:

I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, educated strictly according to our ancestral law, being zealous for God, just as all of you are today

#### Acts 23:6:

When Paul noticed that some were Sadducees and others were Pharisees, he called out in the council, "Brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. I am on trial concerning the hope of the resurrection of the dead."

## Paul: The Person

- I. Sources of understanding
  - A. Biography vs. βίος
  - B. Scripture & Other
  - C. Chronology Issues
  - D. Our Goal
- II. Paul's Family
  - A. Parents

Phil. 3:4b-6, 2 Cor. 11:22, Acts 23:6 Jerome, *De Viris Illustribus*, 5

B. Siblings
Acts 23:16

C. Relatives

Rom. 16:7, 11-12, 21

#### III. Paul's Birth & Childhood

Acts 9:11, 21:39, 22:3, 26:4

- A. Tarsus
- B. Jerusalem

#### IV. Paul's Education

Phil. 3:4b-6, Gal. 1:13-14 Acts 21:39, 22:3, 26:4

- A. Hellenistic
- B. Jewish
- C. Growing up years
- D. As a Pharisee

The Apostle Paul: Servant of Christ Introduction







Conclusion Bibliography

## Overview of our Study

Day One: The Person

**Day Two: The Christian** 

**Day Three: The Missionary** 

**Day Four: The Writer** 

Day Five: The Teacher

**YOUR NOTES:** 

Continued from column one:

#### Acts 23:16:

Now the son of Paul's sister heard about the ambush; so he went and gained entrance to the barracks and told Paul

#### Acts 23:25-28:

25 But when they had tied him up with thongs, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, "Is it legal for you to flog a Roman citizen who is uncondemned?" 26 When the centurion heard that, he went to the tribune and said to him, "What are you about to do? This man is a Roman citizen." 27 The tribune came and asked Paul, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?" And he said, "Yes." 28 The tribune answered, "It cost me a large sum of money to get my citizenship." Paul said, "But I was born a citizen."

#### Acts 26:4:

All the Jews know my way of life from my youth, a life spent from the beginning among my own people and in Jerusalem

#### Jerome, De Viris Illustribus, 5

Paul, formerly called Saul, an apostle outside the number of the twelve apostles, was of the tribe of Benjamin and the town of Giscalis in Galilee. When this was taken by the Romans he was removed with his parents to Tarsus in Cilicia.

#### Acts 9:1-16

1 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. 10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." 11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16 I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

#### Acts 22:4-8

4 I persecuted this Way up to the point of death by binding both men and women and putting them in prison, 5 as the high priest and the whole council of elders can testify about me. From them I also received letters to the brothers in Damascus, and I went there in order to bind those who were there and to bring them back to Jerusalem for punishment. 6 "While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me. 7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' 8 I answered, "Who are you, Lord?' Then he said to me, "I am Jesus of Nazareth whom you are persecuting."

#### Acts 26:9-18

9 "Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. 11 By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities. 12 "With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, 13 when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. 14 When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' 15 I asked, "Who are you, Lord?' The Lord answered, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. 16 But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. 17 I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you 18 to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

#### Gal. 1:13-17

13 You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. 14 I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. 15 But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased 16 to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being, 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were already apostles before me, but I went away at once into Arabia, and afterwards I returned to Damascus.

#### Phil. 3:4-11

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews: as to the law, a Pharisee: 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss Paul: The Christian

- I. Paul's conversion
  - A. Luke's description

Acts 9, 22, 26

B. Paul's description

Gal. 1:13-17 Phil. 3:4-17

1 Cor. 9:1, 15:8-10, 1 Tim. 1:12-17

- C. Paul's theology of conversion
  - 1. Vocabulary of conversion
  - 2. Concept of conversion
  - 3. Comparison with Jesus
- II. Paul's ministry calling
  - A. Paul's description
  - B. Luke's description
  - C. Paul's Theology of Ministry
    - 1. Divine Calling
    - 2. Ministry Directions

because of Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things. and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith, 10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, 11 if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

#### 1 Cor. 9:1

1 Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord?

#### 1 Cor. 15:8-10

8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with

#### Rom. 1:1-6

1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, 6 including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

#### Rom. 3:20-26

20 For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. 21 But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23 since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God: 24 they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; 26 it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

#### 1 Tim. 2:3-7

3 This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, 6 who gave himself a ransom for all - this was attested at the right time. 7 For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth

#### 1 Tim. 1:12-17

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. 16 But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ

## The Apostle Paul: Servant of Christ Introduction

The P ersonal Backo Conversion Calling from God

II.

The Writer **Early Wri** 0. Middle **12. Pastora** 13. Religious Thin

Conclusion **Bibliography** 

## Overview of our Study

**Day One: The Person** 

**Day Two: The Christian** 

**Day Three: The Missionary** 

**Day Four: The Writer** 

Day Five: The Teacher

YOUR NOTES:

might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. 17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### Chronology

1. Ministry in Damascus and Arabia, (AD I. Preparation, 33-46 33-36)

Acts 9:19b-25; 2 Cor 11:32-33; Gal 1:17

- 2. First visit to Jerusalem (AD 36), Acts 9:26-31; Gal 1:18-24
- 3. Ministry in Syria and Cilicia, Acts 9:30; Gal 1:21
- 4. Ministry in Antioch, Acts 11:25-30
- 5. Second visit to Jerusalem (AD 46), Acts 11:29-30; 12:25
- 6. First missionary journey (AD 46-47), Acts 13:1-14:28
  - a. Establishing Christian congregations,

Acts 13:4-14:20; (Gal 4:12-15)

- b. Discipling Christian congregations, Acts 14:21-28
- 7. Jerusalem council (AD 48),

Acts 15:1-35. Gal 2:1-10

- a. Problems at Antioch, Acts 15:1-3
- b. Victory in Jerusalem, Acts 15:4-29; Gal 2:1-10
- c. Ministry in Antioch, Acts 15:30-35; Gal 2:11-14
- 8. Second missionary journey (ca. AD 48-51),

Acts 15:36-18:22

- a. Ministry in Syria and Cilicia, Acts 15:41
- b. Ministry in Galatia and Mysia, Acts 16:1-10; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:5-6; 1 Cor.16:1
- c. Ministry in Macedonia, Acts 16:11-17:14; Phil 4:15-16
- d. Ministry in Achaia, Acts 17:15-18:17
- e. Return back to Antioch, Acts 18:18-22
- 9. The third missionary journey (ca AD 52-

Acts 18:23-21:16

- a. Ministry in Galatia-Phrygia (AD 52), Acts 18:23
- b. Ministry in Asia (AD 52-55), Acts 19:1-20:1; 1 Cor 1:11-12; 4:11-13,17; 16:10-12,17-18; 2 Cor 1:8-11, 15-17 (plans), 23; 2 Cor 12:18; 15:32
- c. Ministry in Macedonia and Achaia (AD 55-57),

Acts 20:1-3; 1 Cor 16:5-7 (plans); 2 Cor 2:12-13; 7:5-7,13-16; 8:1-7; 8:16-9:15 (plans); 13:1-3 (plans)

d. Return to Jerusalem (AD 57), Acts 20:3-21:16; 1 Cor 16:3-4 (plans); Rom 16:31 (plans)

## 10. Arrest and Captivity

a. Arrest in Jerusalem (AD 57), Acts 21:17-23:22

## Paul: The Missionary

- - A. Damascus Arabia Damascus
  - B. Jerusalem
  - C. Syria Cilicia
  - D. Antioch
- II. First Missionary Trip. 47-48
  - A. Establishing churches
  - B. Strengthening churches
  - C. Jerusalem Council
- III. Second Missionary Trip, 48-51
  - A. Syria and Cilicia
  - B. Galatia and Mysia
  - C. Macedonia
  - D. Achaia
  - E. Return to Antioch
- IV. Third Missionary Trip, 52-57
  - A. Galatia Phrygia
  - B. Asia
  - C. Macedonia and Achaia
  - D. Return to Jerusalem
- V. Captivity and Death, 57-64
  - A. Jerusalem and Caesarea
  - B. Trip to Rome
  - C. Rome
  - D. Resumption of ministry
  - E. Arrest and Execution



b. Imprisonment in Caesarea (AD 57-

Acts 23:23-26:32; Eph. 3:1, 4:1, 6:18-22; Col 4:7-18; Philm 22-24.

- c. The Voyage to Rome (AD 60), Acts 27:1-28:13
- d. House Arrest in Rome (AD 61-62), Acts 28:14-31; Phil. 1:12-26; 2:19-30; 4:1-3, 10-19.
- e.Release from Imprisonment and Resumption of Ministry (AD 63-64), 1 Tim. 1:3-4; Titus 1:5, 3:12-13.
- f. Subsequent Arrest and Execution (AD 64),

2 Tim. 1:8, 15-18; 4:7-21.

## The Apostle Paul: Servant of Christ Introduction

Conversion Calling from God



III. The Writer **Early Wr** 13. Religious Thir

> Conclusion **Bibliography**

## Overview of our Study

Day One: The Person

**Day Two: The Christian** 

Day Three: The Missionary

Day Four: The Writer

Day Five: The Teacher

YOUR NOTES:



#### **Chronology of Letters**

1. Galatians

Location: Macedonia

**Major Themes:** defense of the apostolic Gospel over against the Judaizing version.

2. First Thessalonians

Date: 50 Location: Athens

Major Themes: Paul reflects on his ministry to the church (chaps 2-3) and gives instructions on some topics (chaps. 4-5).

3. Second Thessalonians

Date: 50
Location: Corinth

**Major Themes:** Describes the Man of Lawlessness (chap 2), prayers (chap 2), and encouragements (chap. 3)

4. First Corinthians

Date: 53

**Location: Ephesus** 

*Major Themes:* Responds to problems in church reported by Chloe's household (chaps 1-6) and answers questions from church (chaps 7-16).

5. Second Corinthians

Date: 56

Location: Macedonia

**Major Themes:** Reflects on his ministry to Corinthians (chaps 1-7), the relief offering (chaps 8-9), and defends his apostleship (chaps 10-13).

6. Romans

Date: 57

**Location: Corinth** 

*Major Themes:* Discussion of justification by faith (chaps 1-11) and its implication for living (chaps 12-15)

7. Ephesians Date: 58

Location: Caesarea

**Major Themes:** Discussion of spiritual live (chaps 2-3) and its implications for living (chaps 4-6).

8. Philemon Date: 58

Location: Caesarea

**Major Themes:** Appeal to Philemon to take back Onesimus, a run away slave.

9. Colossians Date: 58

Location: Caesarea

**Major Themes:** Paul's ministry promoting the Gospel (chaps 1-2) and its implication for living (chaps 3-4)

10. Philippians

Date: 60

Location: Rome

## **Paul: The Writer**

**Introduction: Letter Writing** 

I. Early Letters, 48-50 A. Galatians, 49

> B. First Thessalonians, 50 C. Second Thessalonians, 50

II. Middle Letters, 52-57

A. First Corinthians, 53

B. Second Corinthians, 56

C. Romans, 57

III. Later Letters, 57-64

A. Prison Letters, 57-60

1. Ephesians, 58

2. Philemon, 58

3. Colossians, 58

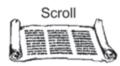
4. Philippians, 60

B. Pastoral Letters, 62-64

1. First Timothy, 63

2. Titus, 63

3. Second Timothy, 64



**Major Themes:** Paul's ministry with joyous message of life in Christ.

11. First Timothy

Date: 63

Location: Macedonia

**Major Themes:** Mixture of reflections and instructions for Timothy to help the church at Ephesus.

12. Titus

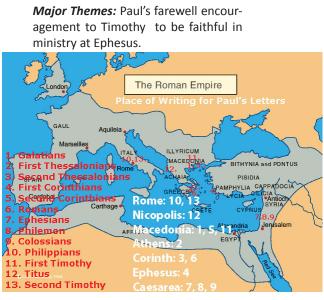
**Date: 63** 

**Location: Nicopolis** 

**Major Themes:** Instructions and reflections to Titus for helping the churches on Crete.

13. Second Timothy

Date: 64 Location: Rome



## The Apostle Paul: Servant of Christ Introduction







Conclusion Bibliography

## Overview of our Study

Day One: The Person

**Day Two: The Christian** 

**Day Three: The Missionary** 

**Day Four: The Writer** 

**Day Five: The Teacher** 

**YOUR NOTES:** 

#### Rom. 1:1-6

1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, 3 the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4 and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, 6 including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

#### Gal. 3:1-5

1 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! 2 The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? 3 Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? 4 Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. 5 Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

#### Rom. 1:16-17

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."

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#### Rom. 12:1-2

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

#### Col. 3:1-4

1 So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Paul: The Teacher

I. His Gospel: εὐαγγέλιον

A. Christ

B. Conversion

C. Discipleship

D. Final Judgment

II. Christian Living: ζωή

A. In Christ union

B. Faith lived out

C. Community based life

III. His Ministry: διακονία

A. Calling from God

B. Role of apostle



Eph. 4:1-6

1 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to *lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,* 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

#### Gal. 1:15-16

15 But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased 16 to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles,

#### 1 Tim. 1:12-17

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15 The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. 16 But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. 17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

# The Apostle Paul: Servant of Christ Introduction

The Person
 Personal Background
 Conversion
 Calling from God

II. The Missionary

4. Beeparation

5. Nrst Missionary Trip

5. Second Missionary Trip

7. Third Missionary Trip

8. Capitoty & Death

III. The Writer

9. Early Writings

10. Middle Writings

11. Prison Writings

12. Pastoral Writings

13. Religious Thinking

Conclusion Bibliography

## Overview of our Study

**Day One: The Person** 

**Day Two: The Christian** 

**Day Three: The Missionary** 

**Day Four: The Writer** 

**Day Five: The Teacher** 

YOUR NOTES:

# The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

An Overview Survey of the Contributions of this Christian Leader



by

Dr. Lorin L. Cranford

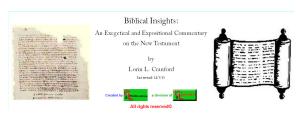
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#### About this project:

For most of my Christian life, that began in August 1949, and continued in my ministry as a preacher (1957) and a professor (1974), I have been fascinated with the life and ministry of the apostle Paul. During all those years I have studied his writings in the New Testament and the supplementary literature that originated in the ancient world. The history of the interpretation of Paul is another study of its own with literally mountains of publications over the centuries.

During all those years of seeking to understand Paul, I have learned a lot about him. But as every writer knows, you don't really learn your subject matter well until you begin writing about it. This project to write an ebook on Paul was conceived several decades ago, but needed the catalyst of several members of the International Baptist Church in Escazú, Costa Rica, pressing me to develop some materials on Paul's life and ministry for their enrichment.

The project was launched in October 2011 as a Wednesday evening study group, meeting at the church for discussion and study. Originally, I envisioned about three hundred pages would be enough space for the project. Once we began the study with a focus on *in-depth scripture study* as the center of the material, that length has continued expanding to where now it appears that the ebook product of





#### Philippi BITHYNIA AND Neapolis ${\sf lorin} @{\sf cranfordville.com}$ PONTUS THRACE cranfordville.com LESBOS. Mitylene Thyatira Smyrna KIOS-Jconium CILICIA Ephesus vstra. Derbe Athens PAMPHY Miletus Tarsus SAMOS Attalia Perga · Antioch COS LYCIA Seleucia CNIDUS/ Myra RHODES Salamis Cape Salmone Lasea Paphos Fair Havens Sidon/ Damascus Tyre **Molemais** Mediterranean Sea Caesarea 2 JUDEA-Joppa SAMARIA Jerusalem Alexandria Azotus

the study will be somewhere around 1,500 pages.

Once completed, the ebook with the supplementary study materials including video taping of the Wednesday evening sessions, will become a part of my commentary series entitled Biblical Insights Commentary. This will be an internet based commentary series of approximately thirty volumes available free of charge at cranfordville.com: http://cranfordville.com/Cranfordville/Commentary.html. Currently volumes 21 (First Peter) and 14 (Colossians) are in the final editing stages for posting. By the end of the summer, volume 20 (James) will be posted, and then soon afterwards this volume should be ready. For those desiring a CD copy and other electronic forms, these will be available through Amazon.com in the near future.

My sincere prayer is that these commentaries may encourage the study of God's Word among His people! A rediscovery of God's Word is key to renewal.