

The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

WELCOME

Lorin Cranford
Session Seven
Topics 2.2.1-2.3.3

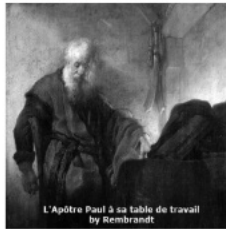


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The Apostle Paul, Servant of Christ

The Apostle Paul, *Servant of Christ*

An Overview Survey of the Contributions of this Christian Leader



by

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- ♦ Unit I: Paul the Person
- ♦ Chapter Two: Paul's Conversion
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 - ♦ **2.1.1.1 The Event at Damascus (Acts 9)**
 - ♦ **2.1.1.2 Paul's 1st recollection (Acts 22)**
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 - ♦ **2.3.0 Paul's Theology**
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 - ♦ **2.3.2 Concept of Conversion**
 - ♦ **2.3.3 Comparison to Others**



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- **Session Seven:**
 - Taken from Chapter Two of the book
 - Emphasis on Paul's religious conversion
 - How did Paul come to Christ?
 - What does that imply for us today?
- **Learning Goals:**
 - 1. Learning about his conversion from scripture
 - 2. Understanding how this information has been interpreted



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- **2.2.0: Paul's View**
- **2.2.2: Indirect References**
 - **2.2.2.1 First Corinthians 9:1**
 - Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? **Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?** Are you not my work in the Lord?
 - Οὐκ εἰμὶ ἐλεύθερος; οὐκ εἰμὶ ἀπόστολος; **οὐχὶ Ἰησοῦν τὸν κύριον ἡμῶν ἐόρακα;** οὐ τὸ ἔργον μου ὑμεῖς ἐστε ἐν κυρίῳ;
 - **Observations:**
 - **1. Paul 'saw' (ἐόρακα) Jesus in conversion**
 - **2. Stresses relational encounter, not experience.**



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- **2.2.0: Paul's View**

- **2.2.2: Indirect References**

- **2.2.2.2 First Corinthians 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 me.
- 8 ἔσχατον δὲ πάντων ὥσπερ εἰς ἐκτρώματι **ὤφθη κάμοι**. 9 ἐγὼ γάρ εἰμι ὁ ἐλάχιστος τῶν ἀποστόλων, ὃς οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς καλεῖσθαι ἀπόστολος, διότι ἐδίωξα τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ θεοῦ· 10 **χάριτι δὲ θεοῦ εἰμι ὃ εἰμι**, καὶ ἡ **χάρις αὐτοῦ** ἡ εἰς ἐμὲ οὐ κενὴ ἐγενήθη, ἀλλὰ περισσώτερον αὐτῶν πάντων ἐκοπίασα, οὐκ ἐγὼ δὲ ἀλλὰ ἡ **χάρις τοῦ θεοῦ** ἡ σὺν ἐμοί.

- **Observations:**

- **Jesus was 'seen' by Paul (ὤφθη κάμοι)**
 - **God's grace (ἡ χάρις τοῦ θεοῦ) was the spiritual dynamic for change.**



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- **2.2.0: Paul's View: 2.2.2: Indirect References: 2.2.2.3 First Timothy 1:12-17**

12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful ἡσοῦ τῷ κυρίῳ ἡμῶν, ὅτι πιστόν με ἡγήσατο and appointed me to his service, 13 even though I θέμενος εἰς διακονίαν, 13 τὸ πρότερον ὄντα was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a βλάσφημον καὶ διώκτην καὶ ὑβριστήν· ἀλλὰ man of violence. **But I received mercy because I ἡλεήθην, ὅτι ἀγνοῶν ἐποίησα ἐν ἀπιστίᾳ, 14 had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and the ὑπερεπλεόνασεν δὲ ἡ χάρις τοῦ κυρίου ἡμῶν grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the μετὰ πίστεως καὶ ἀγάπης τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.** 15 The ἡσοῦ. 15 πιστὸς ὁ λόγος καὶ πάσης ἀποδοχῆς saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that ἄξιός, ὅτι Χριστὸς ἡσοῦς ἦλθεν εἰς τὸν κόσμον Christ Jesus came into the world **to save sinners ἁμαρτωλοὺς σῶσαι·** ὧν πρῶτός εἰμι ἐγώ, 16 —of whom I am the foremost. 16 **But for that ἀλλὰ διὰ τοῦτο ἡλεήθην,** ἵνα ἐν ἐμοὶ πρῶτῳ **very reason I received mercy,** so that in me, as ἐνδείξεται ὁ Χριστὸς ἡσοῦς τὴν ἅπασαν the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the μακροθυμίαν, πρὸς ὑποτύπωσιν τῶν μελλόντων utmost patience, making me an example to those πιστεῦειν ἐπ' αὐτῷ εἰς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. 17 τῷ δὲ who would come to believe in him for eternal life. βασιλεῖ τῶν αἰώνων, ἀφθάρτῳ, ἀοράτῳ, ὁ μόνῳ 17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the θεῷ, τιμὴ καὶ δόξα εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν αἰώνων· only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. ἀμήν.
Amen.

- **Observations:**

- **1. Divine mercy was given to Paul**
- **2. Divine grace saved Paul through Christ.**



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- **2.2.3 Comparability of Luke and Paul**

- **Commonalities:**

- **BC / AD structure**
 - **Conversion & Calling link**
 - **Emphases grow out of different context**

- **Differences:**

- **Luke more historical / Paul more theological**
 - **Luke stresses Paul's contact with apostles / Paul stresses independency from them**

- **How does Paul's religious experience compare to yours?**



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- **2.3.0 Paul's Theology of Conversion**
 - **2.3.1 The Vocabulary of Conversion**
 - **2.3.2 The Concept of Conversion**
 - **2.3.3 Paul in comparison to Jesus**



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- **2.3.0 Paul's Theology of Conversion**
 - **2.3.1 The Vocabulary of Conversion**
 - **Conversion ==>**
 - **ἐπιστροφή: 1 NT use (Acts 15:3)**
 - **ἐπιστρέφω: 35 NT uses (11 rel. uses)**
 - **To Lord, God, light**
 - **From sin, darkness**
 - **Mostly Lukan concept in NT**
 - **Paul chose different ways to describe his conversion.**



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- **2.3.0 Paul's Theology of Conversion**

- **2.3.2 The Concept of Conversion: key terms**

- **1 Thess 1:9**, ἐπιστρέφω ἀπὸ \ πρὸς, δουλεύειν θεῷ
 - **2 Cor. 3:15-16**, ἐπιστρέφω πρὸς κύριον
 - **Rom. 13:11**, πίστις, πιστεύω
 - **Rom. 1:1b-6**, χάρις τοῦ θεοῦ \ εὐαγγέλιον
 - **1 Tim. 2:3-7**, σωτήρος, σωτηρία, σώζω



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- **2.3.0 Paul's Theology of Conversion**
 - **2.3.3 Paul's Ideas in Comparison to Jesus'**
 - **Lordship of Christ = the Kingdom of God**
 - **Jesus: entrance sayings (conversion/consummation)**
 - **Mt. 5:20;**
 - **Mt. 7:21;**
 - **Mt. 18:3;**
 - **Mt. 19:23-24;**
 - **Mt. 23:13**
 - **Paul: Rom. 3:20-26**



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- **2.3.0 Paul's Theology of Conversion**

- **Conclusions**

- **Conversion: a turning to God through Christ**
 - **Conversion: a turning away from sin**
 - **Conversion: faith commitment to Christ is central**
 - **Conversion: a profound life transformation**
 - **Conversion: cleansing and fellowship made possible**
 - **Conversion: establishing a relationship with Christ**



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- **2.3.0 Paul's Theology of Conversion**
 - **Implications for today:**
 - **Have you made such a commitment to Christ?**
 - **How has your life been changed?**
 - **Do you understand what happened to you in conversion?**
 - **Are you sharing this good news with others?**



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- **NEXT WEEK:**
 - **Topic 3.1.0 with sub topics in chapter three**
 - **3.1.0 Calling to Ministry**
 - **3.1.1 History of Terminology**
 - **3.1.1.1 Organizational Structure**
 - **3.1.1.2 Leadership Labels**
 - **3.1.1.3 Vocabulary of Calling**



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Thank You for Coming!
Gracias por venir esta noche!
Until Next Week!
Hasta la próxima semana!
Have a safe trip home!
Tener un hogar seguro viaje!



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