

# **Paul: The Man and His Message**

November 26, 2006

## **Romans 1.1-2**

*“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God- the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures.”*  
Romans 1.1-2

It might benefit us to take time to consider just how God sees us. How would God describe us? What does the Bible say concerning us? By answering these questions, we will be able to answer the most important question of all. How should we see ourselves? Most Christians don't know who they are, and so they act like someone else. We must come to know who we really are in Christ if we are going to act like the person God has made us. As we look at our text today, we will discover that Paul knew who he was. He was a man with a message from God.

## **Paul and His Self-Description**

*“Paul answered, ‘I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no ordinary city. Please let me speak to the people.’”* Acts 21.39

*“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city. Under Gamaliel I was thoroughly trained in the law of our fathers and was just as zealous for God as any of you are today.”* Acts 22.3

*“When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin...”* Acts 5.33-34

*“Then Paul, knowing that some of them were Sadducees and the others Pharisees, called out in the Sanhedrin, ‘My brothers, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee. I stand on trial because of my hope in the resurrection of the dead.’”* Acts 23.6

*“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus...”*

## **Paul and His Ministry**

*“While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’”* Acts 13.2

*“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, **called to be an apostle...**”*

## **Paul and His Passion**

*“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and **set apart for the gospel of God...**”*

## **Paul and His Message**

*“He said to them, ‘How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?’ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”* Luke 24.25-27

*“He said to them, ‘This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.’”* Luke 24.44

*“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God - **the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures.**”*

Paul was a man with a message. He had been given a ministry and was passionate about that ministry. He saw himself as Christ's servant and followed Jesus because Christ had set him free. Our challenge is, to see in Paul, something we want in ourselves. We should see ourselves in terms of our calling and commitment to serve Christ as witnesses to the good news of the gospel message.

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