

PAUL the APOSTLE: A MAN WITH A MESSAGE

Sunday, February 4, 2018 -- Titus series -- Msg 3 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

Titus 1:1-4

English Standard Version (ESV)

1 *Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, **2** in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began **3** and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior;*

4 *To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.*

REVIEW FROM LAST SUNDAY:

- 1) The Greeting (vs 1-4) is long and important.
- 2) Paul is the author, inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- 3) Titus is the recipient (leading churches on Crete)
- 4) The author's two cited credentials: 'I am a servant of God' 'I am an apostle of Christ'

1st Credential: "***Paul, a servant of God...***"

Doulos or δοῦλος should usually be translated slave.

2nd Credential: "***...and an apostle of Jesus Christ,***"

WHAT IS AN APOSTLE?

Apostolos or ἀπόστολος literally means 'sent out one' or 'messenger'

from Greek root ***apostellein*** ***apo*** (away) + ***stello*** (to send)

THOSE WHO WOULD BE CALLED APOSTLES:

1) Our Lord Jesus Christ!

Hebrews 3:1-2

*Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, **2** who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house.*

John 17:3

*When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, **2** since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent."*

THOSE WHO WOULD BE CALLED APOSTLES: *con't*

2) 'the 12 Apostles'

Luke 6:13 -- Jesus chooses His Disciples

12 In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. 13 And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Acts 1:21-26 -- The Disciples/Apostles replace Judas Iscariot

21 So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” 23 And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen 25 to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” 26 And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

- They were chosen by Christ. Matt .10:1-7
- They had seen the risen Lord. Acts 1:22; 1 Cor. 9:1; 15:7-9
- They established and governed the Church. 1 Cor. 14:37; 2 Cor. 13:3; Gal 1:8-9
- They had authority to speak and write the words of God. Gal 1:8-9; 1 Thess. 2:13

3) 'The Apostle Paul'

- Damascus Road conversion experience: 'sees', 'hears' and is 'called'. Acts 9; 22; 26; 1 Cor. 9:1; 15:8-9; Gal. 1:13-17; Col. 1:24-25
- Beware of those claiming to restore 'the apostolic movement'. 1 Cor. 15:8

PAUL'S (AND OUR) TWO MAIN CREDENTIALS:

DOULOS (SLAVE)

- Broken Humility
- Submission
- Obedience

APOSTOLOS (APOSTLE)

- Royal Authority
- Commission
- Command Acts 17:30

4) 'The General Call to Proclaim the Gospel' Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:15

In a very real sense, all true Christians have an apostolic (sent out) mission & message.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 There-fore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

GOD'S FAMILY: Every MEMBER a MESSENGER.