THE GRACE GOSPEL OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

1. It was not the gospel of the twelve. Paul calls it his gospel - a mystery gospel made known only to him by the ascended Christ.

Romans 16:25, 26

25 Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to **my gospel**, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the **revelation of the mystery**, which was **kept secret since the world began**, 26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations (G1484 ethnos = Gentiles) for the obedience of faith:

Galatians 1:1

- 1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)
- 2. Paul preached this "mystery" gospel to everyone who was NOT a Jew (Gentiles).

Ephesians 3:1-9

- 1 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,
- 2 If ye have heard of the **dispensation** of the grace of God which is given me **to you-ward**:
- 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,
- 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)
- 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;
- 6 That the **Gentiles should be fellowheirs**, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:
- 7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.
- 8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that **I should preach among the Gentiles** the unsearchable riches of Christ;
- 9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the **mystery**, which from the beginning of the world **hath been hid in God**, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

Colossians 1:25-27

- 25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the **dispensation** of God which is **given to me** for you, to fulfil the word of God;
- 26 Even the **mystery** which hath been **hid from ages and from generations**, but now is made manifest to his saints:
- 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of **this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you**, the hope of glory:

3. Paul preached this mystery gospel as **Faith Alone** in Jesus Christ for salvation to the Gentiles (NOT JEWS) and not keeping of the Ten Commandments or Circumcision which are the foundations of Jewish religion and Messiah. Very important Jewish believers from Jerusalem contradicted Paul's gospel and tried to get Paul's converts to keep the ten commandments and be circumcised.

Galatians 1:6-9

6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto **another gospel**: (Jews coming in and preaching the Mosaic Law and Circumcision)

7 Which **is not another** (It is the Jews only gospel); but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, **let him be accursed**.

9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, **let him be accursed**.

Paul is clear that any other way of salvation that Paul did not preach is a perversion and anyone preaching such should be accursed! We have been trying to follow a perverted gospel! It is impossible!

Galatians 3:1, 2

1 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

2 This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

Paul is saying, "Use your heads man! How did you receive the Holy Spirit? Before you were circumcised or baptized, or keeping the 10 Commandments?" He calls them foolish for falling for such obvious hypocrisy. But we do it all the time in the guise of being 'spiritual'. What spirit would deceive you and cause you to question the love of God towards you? That's not a hard question.

4. How do we know Paul means the ten commandments too?

2Corinthians 3:3-6

3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

4 And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward:

5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; 6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

7 But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away:

8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious?

5. How do we know it was a different gospel from the twelve?

Galatians Chapter 2

- 1 Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also.
- 2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them **that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles**, but privately to them which were of reputation, (THE APSOTLES) lest by any means I should run, **or had run**, **in vain**.
- 3 But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised:
- 4 And that because of false brethren unawares brought in, who came in privily to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into **bondage**:
- 5 To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the **truth of the gospel** might continue with you.
- 6 But of these who seemed to be somewhat, (THE APOSTLES) (whatsoever they were, it maketh no matter to me: God accepteth no man's person:) for they who seemed to be somewhat (THE APOSTLES) in conference added nothing to me:
- 7 But contrariwise, when they saw that the **gospel of the uncircumcision** (GENTILES) **was committed unto me**, as the **gospel of the circumcision** (JEWS) was unto Peter;
- 8 (For he that wrought effectually in **Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision (JEWS)**, the same was mighty in **me toward the Gentiles:**)
- 9 And when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen (GENTILES), and they unto the circumcision (JEWS).
- 10 Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do.
- 11 But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.
- 12 For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision (Believing JEWS!).
- 13 And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with their dissimulation. (G5272 hypocrisy)
- 14 But when I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, If thou, being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the Gentiles to live as do the Jews?
- 15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles,
- 16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.
- 17 But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid.
- 18 For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor.
- 19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God.
- 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
- 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

This is why we are studying Acts. This is why we know up until chapter 8 - there are no Gentiles in the community. The preaching of the gospel is to Jews only. They are still worshipping at the temple. It is still FULLY Jewish. And that is why the Apostle Paul is our Apostle, the Gentile Apostle. That is why there are contradictions to Paul's writings in the letters of James, John, and Peter, because they were writing to Jews still keeping the laws of Moses and still under the covenant. That is why Paul contradicts Jesus, because Jesus was preaching Moses' Law to the covenant people of Moses, the Jews. The mystery, Jesus revealed 7-10 years after the resurrection to Paul brings grace to the Gentiles. We are under Grace. We are believers in Christ because of Grace. The mystery towards the Gentiles, which is us. That's why we can REST in our salvation.

Ephesians 2:8,9

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is **the gift of God**: 9 **Not of works, lest any man should boast**.