

Have you ever shared our testimony of faith in Jesus Christ? Tonight's study primarily focuses on the brief testimony of Paul— His conversion and the events of his life immediately after believing in the LORD Jesus Christ.

1. The Lord Jesus revealed the gospel to Paul directly. Galatians 1:11-12

This is key to Paul's claim to apostleship. He saw Jesus directly and was taught by the Lord directly.

Act's 9:3-9,17-20 _____

When did you receive the gospel? What were the circumstances surrounding your conversion?

Ephesians 3:2-8 _____

Romans 1:14-17 _____

2. Paul's Previous Life. Galatians 1:13,14

Judaism— the Jewish way of life and faith that developed between the Old and New Testament. It lasted 400 years that are known as silent years— because there was no new revelation from God. This was known as the 2nd temple period with heavy Greek influences, Sectarianism (Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes and Zealots.). Though there were no prophets in Israel, there remained a faithful remnant awaiting Messiah who placed the Word of God ahead of the traditions of men. Paul however was extremely jealous for the traditions and interpretations of the Pharisees and was a Pharisee himself. These traditions were what Jesus confronted. Mark 7:5-8 _____

Traditions in and of themselves are not bad— they can be very good. But in what way can they displeasing to the Lord? _____

3. Paul's Conversion and Response. Galatians 1:15-21

-Conversion, (called by God's grace) Preaching in Damascus and life threatened: Acts 9:1-25; Gal. 1:20-22

-Traveled to Arabia and returns to Damascus briefly Galatians 3:17 (3 years pass)

-Visit to Jerusalem and Preaching in Syria and Cilicia Galatians 1:18-20; Acts 9:26-30

4. Paul's Reputation. Galatians 1:22-24

A transformed life by the grace of God. This resulted in praise to God and his working— not Paul's good deeds. For he had none to offer. The right mindset in all things is that God alone gets the glory.

Isaiah 42:5-9 _____

Revelation 5:9-13 _____