

The Apostle of Grace

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The dispensation of grace began with grace
and it ends with grace.

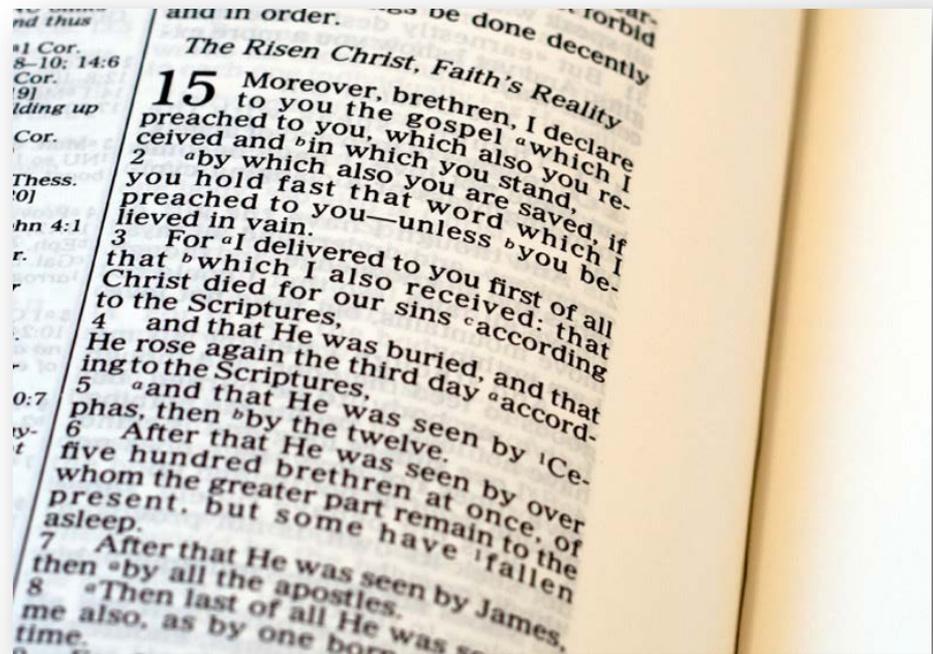
It began with an appearance of Christ
and it ends with an appearance of Christ.



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The better part of 3 chapters in Acts are devoted to Paul's conversion: **Acts 9, Acts 22, Acts 26**

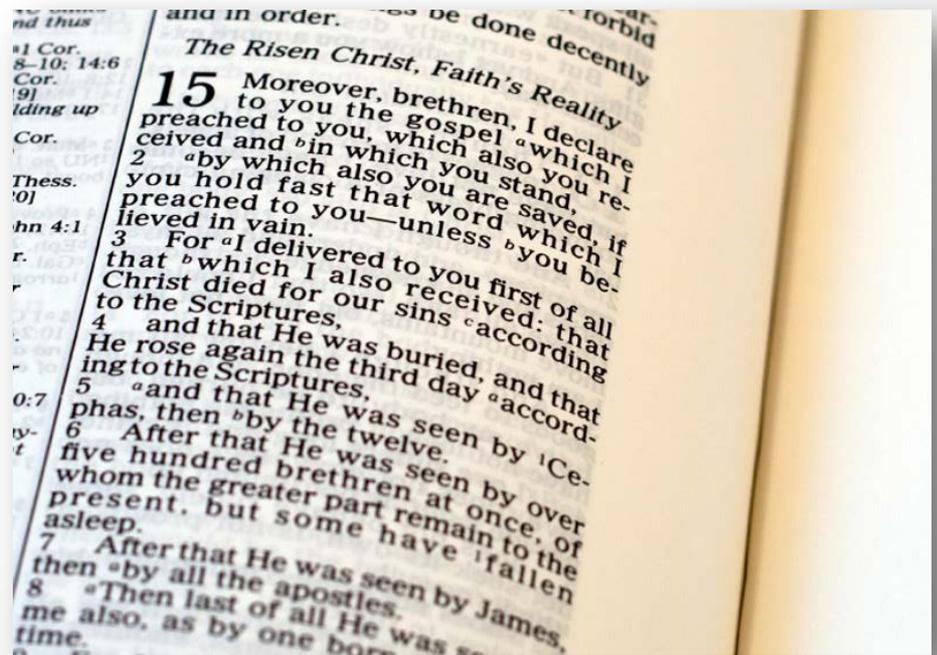
Paul refers to it throughout his epistles, such as in:
**1 Timothy 1; Galatians 1; 1 Corinthians 15;
and Philipians 3**



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God is trying to get our attention with this and to show that this event was of paramount importance!

Paul's conversion marked a change in God's plans, as He set aside Israel for a time and brought in the dispensation of Grace.



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Ephesians 3:2,3:

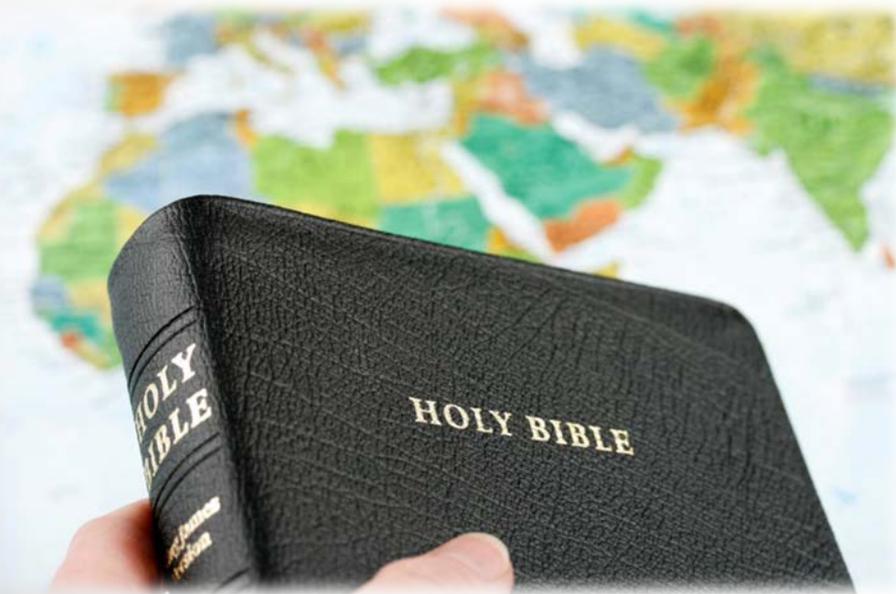
“If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: how that by revelation [Christ] made known unto me the mystery.”



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In I Timothy 2:7, Paul says “I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle...a teacher of the *Gentiles* in faith and verity.”

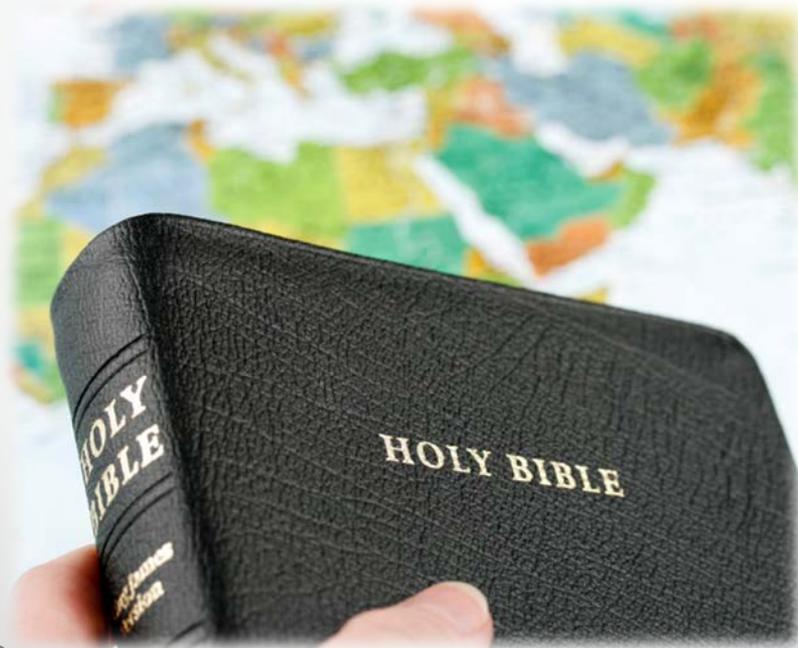
In II Timothy 1:11 Paul says, “I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the *Gentiles*.”



In Romans 15:15,16, Paul says, “I have written...because of the grace that is given to me of God, that I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the *Gentiles*.”

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When Paul is writing or teaching in God's Word, he's instructing, not Israel under the law, but instead the Gentiles, the nations, under grace. And that's us!



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Paul's letters are *Christ's* manual of grace for how He would have His Church believe and behave today.

Paul's epistles are God's Word from the resurrected, exalted Christ revealed to Paul about this dispensation of grace, and they are our authority to live by for today.





We find numerous comparisons and contrasts between the ministries of the Twelve Apostles and Paul which highlight Paul's unique apostleship to us today, and demonstrate and show a difference between **Paul and the Twelve.**



The Apostle Paul

Chosen to be an apostle
by Christ from **heaven**
(Acts 26:16).

This is in accordance with
the heavenly ministry of
Christ taking place today.



The Twelve Apostles

Chosen to be apostles
by Christ from **earth**
(Luke 6:12,13).

This was in accordance
with Christ's earthly ministry
taking place then.





The Apostle Paul

Preached the gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:24).



The Twelve Apostles

Preached the gospel of the kingdom and that the earthly kingdom was at hand (Matt. 10:1-8; Luke 9:6).

The Apostle Paul

The gospel proclaimed by Paul offers a ***heavenly*** hope and citizenship, a ***heavenly*** position in Christ, we're blessed with all spiritual blessings in ***heavenly places***, we wait for a catching away to ***heaven*** (Col. 1:5; 3:4; Eph. 1:3; 2:6).



The Twelve Apostles

The gospel proclaimed by the Twelve offered an **earthly** hope, where they looked for Christ's return **to the earth** to conquer their enemies and establish His kingdom in which all the **earth** would be filled with His glory, where Christ would reign as King over them from Jerusalem on David's throne (Luke 9:1,2; Acts 1:6; 2:30; 3:19,20).



The Apostle Paul

The number “**one**” is stamped throughout and consistently associated with the Mystery program.

Ephesians 4:4-6 says that there is **one** Body, **one** Spirit, **one** hope of our calling, **one** Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism, **one** God and Father of all.

Today under Grace, there is **one** Apostle to the Church, representing the **one** Body of Christ, which is made up of enemies reconciled to God through the Cross, saved by grace alone.

Paul is a perfect example of this!

The Twelve Apostles



12

In the kingdom, the *twelve* apostles will “sit upon *twelve* thrones, judging the *twelve* tribes of Israel” (Matt. 19:28).

The twelve apostles represented Israel and will judge them in the kingdom.

The number 12 is stamped throughout Israel’s prophetic program. From the 12 sons of Jacob came the 12 tribes of Israel. The Promised Land was divided into 12 portions. The New Jerusalem would have 12 gates with 12 angels at those gates and 12 foundations with the names of the **12 apostles** inscribed on them (Rev. 21:12-14).

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The Apostle Paul

The message of Paul was based on the grace of God and was a mystery, “kept secret since the world began” (Rom. 16:25).



The Twelve Apostles

The message of the Twelve was based on Israel’s covenants and was revealed by the prophets “since the world began” (Acts 3:21).



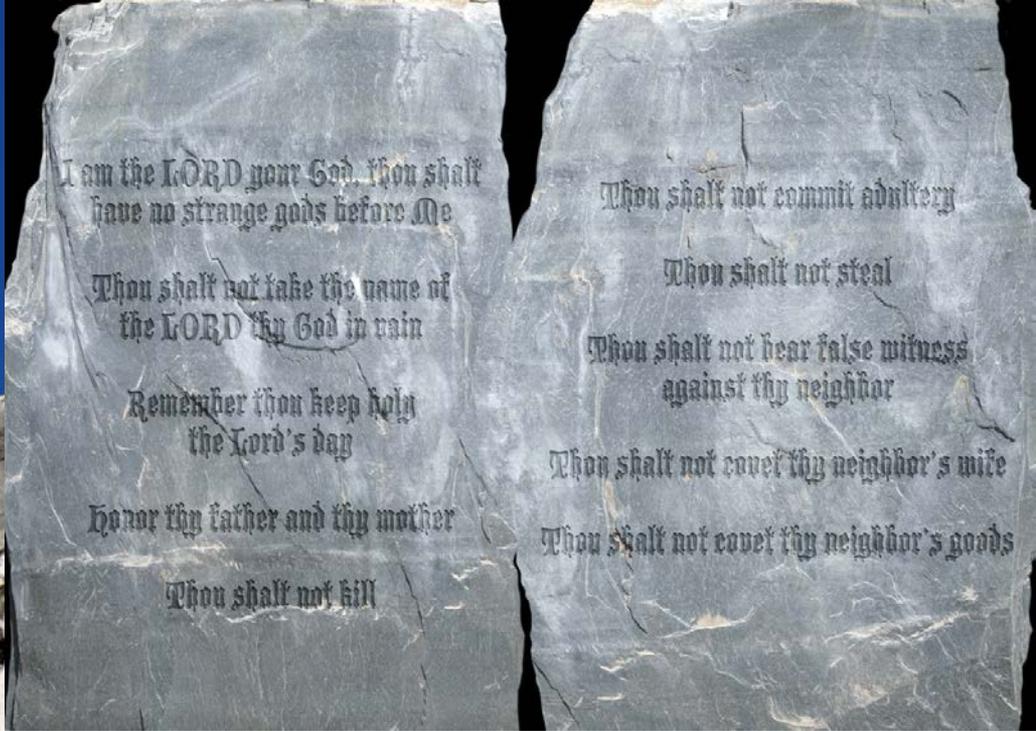
The Apostle Paul

The message of Paul was salvation “by grace through faith” alone in Christ (Eph. 1:12,13; 2:8,9).



The Twelve Apostles

The message of the Twelve is “salvation is of the Jews” (John 4:22), and salvation through repentance, believing Jesus was the Messiah, and being water baptized (John 20:31; Acts 2:38).



The Apostle Paul

Paul says we are
“not under the law,
but under grace”
(Rom. 6:14).

The Twelve Apostles

The Twelve ministered
under the law
and kept the law
(Matt. 23:2,3; Acts 10:14).



The Apostle Paul

Paul had authority within and gave instruction to the Church, the Body of Christ today (Eph. 1:22,23).

The Twelve Apostles

The Twelve had authority within and gave instruction to the Kingdom Church (Matt. 16:15-19; 18:18; Acts 1:13-8:1; 15:4).

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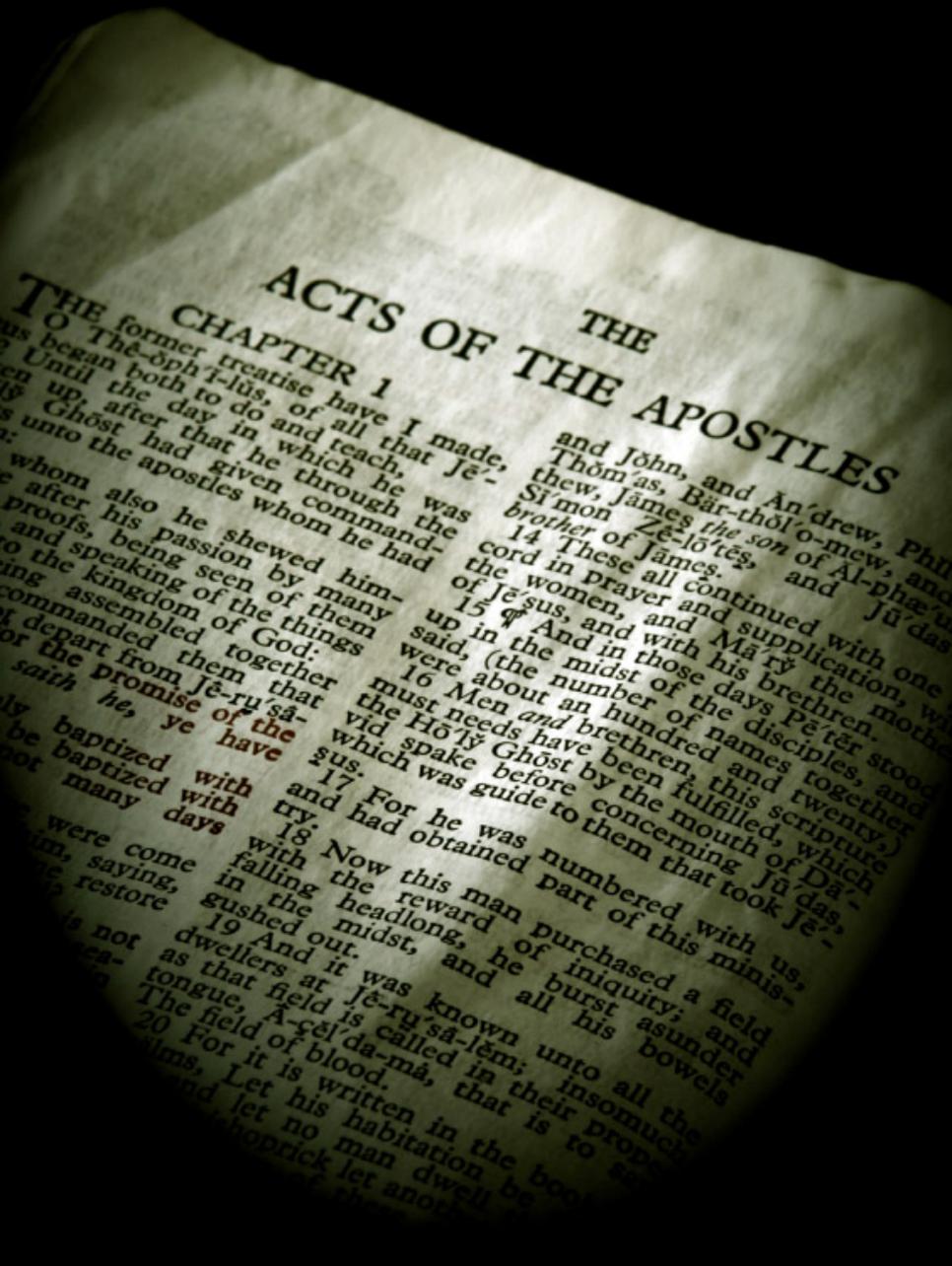


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The time frame is given as “Beginning from [Christ’s] baptism of John” to Christ’s ascension, “unto that same day that He was taken up from us” (1:22).

To be a qualified candidate to be an apostle of the kingdom that person had to be a personal witness and one who could speak from their own experience of the ministry, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ.

Paul did not qualify to be an apostle under these terms!



THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES
CHAPTER 1
The former treatise have I made,
of all that Jē-
sus began both to do and teach,
Until the day in which he was
taken up; after that he had
commanded the apostles whom he had
chosen, whom also he shewed him-
self alive after his passion by many
proofs, being seen of them
and speaking of the things
concerning the kingdom of God:
After these things assembled together
with them, and commanded them
not to depart from Jerusalem,
but to wait for the promise of the
Father, which he hath said by
the mouth of his prophets,
that Jesus must needs suffer
these things, and be buried,
and rise again the third day,
and ascend into heaven,
and sit on the right hand of
the Father, and shall come with
the clouds to judge the world:
and he shall send forth his
angels to gather together unto
him his elect which are
scattered abroad in all
the earth.

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THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES
CHAPTER 1
The former treatise have I made, Thōm'as, Bār-thōl'ō-mew, and
of all that teach, thew, Jāmes the son of Al-phā-t
Until the day in which he was Si'mon Zē-lō'tēs, and Jū'das
the Ghōst had given command- brother of Jāmes.
unto the apostles whom he had 14 These all continued with one
cord in prayer and supplication, and
whom also he shewed him- up in the midst of those days Pē'ter stood
self after his passion by many of Jē'sus, and with his brethren.
proofs, being seen of them 15 ¶ And in those days, which
and speaking of the things were about an hundred names together
to the kingdom of God: must needs have been fulfilled, which
ing assembled together the Hō'l'y Ghōst before concerning Jū'das-
commanded them that the which was guide to them that took Jē-
depart from Jē-ru'sā-vid sus.
for the promise of the 17 For he was numbered with us,
saith he, ye have and had obtained part of this minis-
ly be baptized with try.
not many days 18 Now this man purchased a field
were come with the reward of iniquity; and
him, saying, in falling in the midst, he burst asunder
to restore gushed out, and all his bowels
is not dwellers at Jē-ru'sā-lēm; insomuch
as that field is called in their prophe-
The field of blood, A-cēl'da-mā, that is to
20 For it is written in the book
sims, Let his habitation be
and let no man dwell
and whoprick let another

Paul didn't qualify to be a kingdom apostle and he was never meant to be one, because the Lord chose him for a special purpose and ministry, to be the apostle of the Gentiles, the apostle of grace, to whom God revealed the rule of life under grace (Rom. 11:13; Eph. 3:1-3).

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The Twelve officially acknowledged Paul's unique gospel and his calling and apostleship to the Gentiles (Galatians 2:1-9).



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1 Corinthians 14:37:

“If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that ***the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.***”

1 Thessalonians 4:2:

“For ye know what ***commandments*** we gave you ***by the Lord Jesus.***”

