

DO YOU WANT TO BE FREE?

## **TRIED AND TRUE**

Galatians 1:10-24

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*For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. Galatians 1:6-7*

### **Can you trust Paul's message?**

#### **1. You can trust it because of his dramatic conversion.**

*For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure, and tried to destroy it; and I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my countrymen, being more extremely zealous for my ancestral traditions.*

*Galatians 1:13-14*

A. Paul was a Jesus hater.

B. Paul was a Jewish zealot and a Pharisee.

C. Paul became a Jesus follower and a grace preacher.

*But when He who had set me apart, even from my mother's womb, and called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles ...*

*Galatians 1:15-16a*

#### **2. You can trust it because of his divine instruction.**

*... I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went away to Arabia; and returned once more to Damascus. Then three year later I went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas, and stayed with him fifteen days. Galatians 1:16b-18*

A. Paul was a true apostle who got his message from God.

B. Peter affirmed Paul's message and ministry.

*... and regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. 2 Peter 3:15-16*

**3. You can trust it because of his effective witness.**

A. He was a God-pleaser, not a man-pleaser.

B. He was being used to bring glory to God.

*And I was still unknown by sight to the churches of Judea which were in Christ; but only, they kept hearing, "He who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith which he once tried to destroy." And they were glorifying God because of me. Galatians 1:22-24*

**Is your life and message a true testimony of God's grace?**