

Paul the apostle of the Gentiles, and rightly dividing the word of truth. Timothy an evangelist.

The word of God says that Paul is THE apostle of the Gentiles.

For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as **I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office**: - Rom 11:13

Paul was chosen by Christ to preach the gospel of Christ.

That **I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God**, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost. - Rom 15:16

In the letter to the Romans, Paul preaches that gospel of Christ, which he got by revelation of Christ.

15 So, as much as in me is, **I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ**: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth ... - Rom 1:15-16

Paul declares the gospel of Christ in the following passage.

1 Moreover, brethren, **I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you**, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; **2 By which also ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have **believed** in vain. **3** For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, **how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures**: - 1 Cor 15:1-4

We are commanded to both study and rightly divide the word of truth, that is, the Bible.

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth**. - 2 Tim 2:15

A key to understanding all things is to consider what Paul says, that is, what he writes.

Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things. - 2 Tim 2:7

The Gentiles are to hear the gospel of Christ from Paul's letters.

Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. - 2 Tim 4:17

Paul's writings are set for the defense of the gospel.

But the other of love, **knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel.** - Phil 1:17

Timothy is an evangelist, that is, one who preaches the gospel.

But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, **do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.** - 2 Tim 4:5

An evangelist, or a bishop or a deacon or a teacher are to consider what Paul writes and train others who will teach yet others. These can be pastors, deacons, or teachers or other gospel preachers.

1 Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. **2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.** **3** Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. - 2 Tim 2:1-3

Peter confirmed that Paul's letters are the key to understanding scripture.

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; **16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.** - 2 Pet 3:15-16

Paul got the gospel of Christ from direct revelation from Christ.

11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. **12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.** - Gal 1:11-12

All the other apostles agreed that Paul is the apostle of the Gentiles who preaches the gospel of Christ to the Gentiles.

7 But contrariwise, when they saw **that the gospel of the uncircumcision was committed unto me,** as the gospel of the circumcision was unto Peter; **8** (For he that wrought effectually in Peter to the apostleship of the circumcision, **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, and they unto the circumcision.** **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. **13** And the other Jews dissembled likewise with him; insomuch that Barnabas also was carried away with

their dissimulation. **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.** - Gal 2:7-16

In the following passage, Paul again affirms that he is the apostle of the Gentiles who has the gospel of Christ by revelation from Christ.

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: - Eph 3:2-9

The gospel of Christ as found in Paul's letters is the very basis of judgment.

In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ **according to my gospel.** - Rom 2:16

The Lord Jesus Christ chose Paul for this ministry.

But **the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:** - Acts 9:15

In Acts 15:1-20, the apostles agreed that Paul is the apostle of the Gentiles with the gospel of Christ.

In the following verses, Paul reveals that the Lord Jesus Christ had 2 missions. One was to confirm the promises made in the OT to Israel. This is the gospel of the kingdom as found in Mathew, Mark, and Luke. The other, the main mission, was to die for the sins of the world and offer salvation just by believing the gospel of Christ. This is confirmed in the gospel account of John.

⁸ Now I say **that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:** ⁹ **And that the Gentiles might**

glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name. - Rom 15:8-9

11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not. 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: - John 1:11-12

The commandments found in Paul's letters are the commandments of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 Cor 14:37

The gospel of the Gentiles was kept hidden until Christ had risen from the dead.

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 for the obedience of faith: - Rom 16:25-26

The Gentile church starts in Antioch where the saved were first called Christians.

25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: **26** And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, **and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.** - Acts 11:25-26

Again, Christ chose Paul for to be the apostle of the Gentiles.

15 And I said, Who art thou, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. **16** But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, **and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;** **17** Delivering thee from the people, and from **the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee,** **18** To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. - Acts 26:15-18

The letters that Paul wrote to the Gentiles, Romans through Philemon, all begin "Paul". They are the doctrine of the church in this age of grace.

The salutation of Paul with mine own hand, which is the token in every epistle: so I write. - 2 Thess 3:17

A clue to when some of these letters were written is to look for Paul writing about his imprisonment. That can be used in combination with events in the Acts of the Apostles.

The salutation by the hand of me Paul. Remember my bonds. Grace be with you.
Amen. - Col 4:18

In early Acts, Peter and the other apostles were preaching to Jews only.

5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. **14** But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, **Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem,** be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: - Acts 2:5,14

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, **Ye men of Israel,** why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? **25** Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. - Acts 3:12,25

Later Peter preaches to the gospel to a group of Gentiles.

And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, **because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.** - Acts 10:45

The apostles then know that the Gentiles can be saved just by believing the gospel of Christ.

When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, **Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.** - Acts 11:18

Unfortunately, the believing Jews began to trust in the law again.

20 And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord, and said unto him, Thou seest, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are which believe; and they are all zealous of the law: **21** And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to walk after the customs. - Acts 21:20-21

Here are more verses which establish Paul's office as the apostle of the Gentiles.

16 Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me. **17** For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church. - 1 Cor 4:16-17

1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. 2 Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. - 1 Cor 11:1-2

2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; 3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour; - Titus 1:2-3

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you. - Phil 4:9

I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read unto all the holy brethren. - 1 Thess 5:27

According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust. - 1 Tim 1:11

1 Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. 2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. - 2 Cor 11:1-2

Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. - Phil 3:17

Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. - 2 Tim 1:13

See also: Rom 16:25-26, 1 Cor 3:10-11, 1 Cor 14:37, 1 Cor 15:1-2, 1 Cor 12:28, 1 Cor 13:10, Gal 1:9, Gal 2:1-2, Phil 3:17, 1 Tim 1:16, 2 Tim 1:6, 2 Thess 2:14, Col 1:25-27, Phil 2:19-22

All scripture passages and references are from the King James Bible, the word of God in English.