TITUS

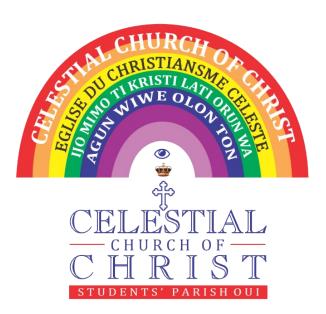
The Epistle of Apostle Paul to Titus is addressed to Titus, a disciple of Christ. Paul reveals that the reason why he left Titus in Crete was to "set in order the things that are lacking" (1:5). He admonishes him on how the elders and/or judges in the church should be chosen just like he said to Timothy (1Tim 3:2, Titus 1:6-9). He explained the qualities that the church must possess (ch. 2) and further advised that he must avoid foolish disputes (Titus 3:9, 2Tim 2:23)

PHILEMON

The Epistle of Paul the apostle to Philemon is the shortest epistle recorded as written by Apostle Paul with only one chapter and 25 verses. It is a personal letter addressed to Philemon while Paul was in prison. It is a plea for Philemon to forgive his runaway slave, Onesimus, and receive him as a brother in Christ and not as a slave anymore. He ends the letter urging Philemon to prepare to receive him as he may be released.

CCCSPOUI FBS DEPARTMENT

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FOUNDATION BIBLE SCHOOL ARCHIVES

TOPIC: APOSTLE PAUL

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1THESSALONIANS

The First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Thessalonians appears to have been addressed by Paul, Silvanus and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians. They applaud the effort of the church for spreading the gospel, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place. They expressed their joy in knowing that their coming to them had not been in vain (2:1), also letting them know that Timothy had brought back good news concerning them. They further encouraged them to grow and not to relent, reminding them also of the coming of the Lord (5:2)

2THESSALONIANS

The Second Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Thessalonians is also addressed by Paul, Silvanus and Timothy. The epistle starts by encouraging them to await the return of the Lord with constant diligence. They also encourage them to stand fast and hold onto the faith, not forgetting the teachings. However, they warn them against idleness using themselves as examples (3:7-12)

1TIMOTHY

The First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to Timothy is addressed to Timothy urging him to remain in Ephesus (Acts 19:22). This Epistle was written in order to guide Timothy.

Paul encourages him to keep on fighting the good fight. He advises him on the qualities that an overseer (bishop) must have, stating that a bishop must be "blameless", "the husband of one wife", "temperate", "sober-minded", "of good behavior", "hospitable", "able to teach" etc (3:2-7) and a deacon also (3:8-13). He advises Timothy on how to treat the members of the church (5:1), to honor the true widows (5:3), to honor the elders (5:17) and to teach that all bondservants must honor their masters (6:1). He speaks on greed and "the love of money as the root of all evil" (6:10)

2TIMOTHY

The Second Epistle of Paul the Apostle to Timothy is addressed to Timothy. He urged Timothy to hold onto his faith and not to have any fear "for God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and of a sound mind(1:7). He dares him not to be ashamed of the gospel (1:8) but to be ready to preach the word (4:2) and to be strong in grace (2:1) reminding him that "if we endure, we shall also reign with Him" (2:11-13). He reminds him of what is to come in the last days (3:1). Towards the end of the letter, Paul speaks as though he were preparing for his death (4:6-8). He finally ends the letter urging Timothy to visit him.

response to specific concerns at the church in Corinth. It appears to have been written after his visit as specified in 1Corinthians (2Cor. 1:15-16). He admonishes them to forgive offenders in Chapter 2. Chapters 3 - 5 are a meditation on what it means to be an Apostle. He charges them also to be cheerful givers (9:6-7) by explaining that "He who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will reap bountifully" (9:6)

GALATIANS

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Galatians was addressed to the church in Galatia addressing their deviation from the gospel. He divulged information about his life both before he was saved and after.

EPHESIANS

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Ephesians is addressed to the church at Ephesus. Paul teaches on the purpose of Christ's death and its implication on the life of a Christian such as grace through faith (2:8), salvation, peace in Christ (2:14) and Christ as our cornerstone (2:20). He teaches on spiritual gifts explaining that "He himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers" (4:11). He explains that the church is a part of the purpose of God, called to bring unity to the world, as Christ brought unity to the church. He urges the church "to put on the whole armor of God" (6:13) so that they may be strong in all their doings.

PHILIPPIANS

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Philipians is addressed by Paul and Timothy to the church at Philippi. He encourages them to remain steadfast in the faith. He also relays Timothy's oncoming visit to them. He ends the epistle by thanking them for their continuous generosity and for the latest gift received from the church at the time (4:15-18)

COLOSSIANS

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Colossians was written to the church at Colosse to straighten out the confusion of a false teaching. Paul explained the gospel of Christ starting from explaining who Christ is (1:13-18), what his death means for all Christians (1:19-22) and how they must act as true Christians of the faith. He ends the epistle by explaining that he would send Tychicus and Onesimus to them.

APOSTLE PAUL

postle Paul, who is also referred to as Saint Paul, is one of the greatest disciples of Christ. Acts 9:15 "... he is a chosen vessel of mine to bear my name before Gentiles, Kings, and the children of Israel" Acts 9:15 is one of the verses that clearly states who Apostle Paul is. Jesus described him as "a chosen vessel" (Acts 9:15)

Paul described himself as 'one born out of due time' (1Cor 15:8). Also, in several letters, Paul also describes himself as; "an Apostle of Jesus Christ" (1Cor 1:1, 2Cor 1:1, Gal 1:1, Eph 1:1, Col 1:1, 1Tim 1:1, 2 Tim 1:1, Titus 1:1), "a bondservant of Christ" (Rom 1:1, Titus 1:1), "a prisoner of Christ Jesus" (Philemon 1:1)

However, before Paul became an Apostle of Christ, he was known as Saul.

The Story of Paul (Acts 9)

aul, (now referred to as Paul), was a Jew. He was born in Tarsus of Cilicia but was brought up in Jerusalem under Gamaliel, a Pharisee learned in the Jewish Law. He was therefore, brought up as a Pharisee, taught according to the strictness of the law (Acts 22:3). As a result, he grew to despise the way of the Christians. He became an ardent persecutor of Christians, making an "havoc of the church and dragging off both male and female committing them into prisons" (Acts 8:3).

In his usual way, he went to the high priest requesting for letters to the synagogue that would grant him the permission to bring to Jerusalem any man or woman who were of the Way.

However, as he journeyed and came near Damascus, a light suddenly shone around him from heaven. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?". He soon realized it was Christ who spoke to him. Thus, he was commanded to go into the city where he would be told what to do.



By the time he arose from the ground and opened his eyes, he couldn't see. It was the men who had journeyed, who had also heard the voice but saw no one, who led him by hand into the city (Damascus).

The Lord then revealed to Ananias, a disciple of Christ at Damascus, to "put his hand on him (Saul) so that he might

receive his sight". It was here that it was revealed to Ananias, the reason why he must go; "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear my name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for my name's sake" (Acts 9:15-16).

Ananias went ahead to do as the Lord had commanded. As he laid his hands upon Saul, something like scales fell from his eyes, and he received his sight at once and then he arose and got baptized (v. 18). From then, he was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to preach the Gospel.

FACTS ABOUT APOSTLE PAUL

- Paul was never one of the original twelve (Mark 3:14-19, Luke 6:13-16)
- He was a Jew (Acts 21:39)
- His name was not changed to Paul by Christ. Christ referred to him as Saul (Acts 9:4, 9:11).
- Paul was referred to as Saul even until Acts 13:9 "Then Saul, who is also called Paul..."
- Paul, while he was still persecuting Christians, was one of those that consented to the death of Stephen (Acts 8:1)

ABOUT THE EPISTLES

he Epistles, otherwise known as Letters of Paul, was addressed to different churches and individuals concerning different matters. The letters reflect Paul's faith and his understanding of what Jesus Christ means for the life of Christians. Each letter also reveals some of the



problems which the churches or individuals faced because of their faith and Paul's answer to these problems. It is important to note that each of these letters were written with the guidance and consciousness of the Holy Spirit. However, where the Lord gives a command, it is clearly stated;

"Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord..." (1Corinthians 7:10) And where it is Paul's advisement, it is also clearly stated;

"But to the rest I, not the Lord..." (1Corinthians 7:12)

The Epistles to Timothy(1 and 2), Titus and Philemon are the only epistles addressed to personal individuals. The first nine epistles (Romans - 2Thessalonians) are all addressed to churches. First and Second Timothy and Titus

are referred to as the "Pastoral Epistles" since they concerned about the care of the church.

These Epistles or letters of Apostle Paul are the largest collection of writing by any one person in the New Testament. Although, they are in order of length with the longest letter to the church first and the letters to individuals last, each of the letters are written at different time periods and not consecutively.

It is important to note that each of the epistles almost always follow the same pattern. Paul always starts with a greeting, then thanking God on their behalf. Afterwards he moves on to the matter at hand and ends the letter by declaring God's grace with them.

THE EPISTLES

There are thirteen epistles written by the Apostle Paul as recorded in the Bible.

ROMANS

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Romans is the longest epistle recorded by the Bible to have been written to any one church by Apostle Paul. It is one of the fullest statements of Paul's faith. It is addressed to the church in Rome. It reveals Paul's intention to visit the church as he had never visited the church before.

FIRST CORINTHIANS

The First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians was addressed to the church at Corinth in response to specific concerns. Here, he reveals that the church is one and should not be divided (v 12-13) and that the "wisdom of the world is foolishness to God"(v 19), for "whether Paul or Apollo or Cephas, or the world of life and death, or things present or things to come - all are yours. And you are Christ's, and Christ is God's".

He also addressed the subject of immorality in the church reiterating severally that the body is "the temple of God" (3:16) and the "members of Christ" (6:15). He further went on to address the issue of marriage (ch. 7), Idolatry (ch. 10:14), head covering (ch. 11), the Lord's supper and how it should not be taken with levity (11:23-34), Spiritual gifts (ch. 12), speaking in tongues and the interpretation of tongues (ch. 14) and a few others. It was in this epistle that Apostle Paul also gave one of the greatest messages (even now). He explain that love is the greatest gift of all (13:1-13).

He ends the epistle by making his intention to visit the church soon.

SECOND CORINTHIANS

The Second Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians was also written in