

Romans 15:14 –21

Apostle Apostolo β APOSTOLOS

“The one commissioned or sent out”

- ✓ The foundation of the church - **12 men**
- ✓ A spiritual gift in the church - **many men**

The function of the 12 Apostles

Lk.6:13 “He called His disciples to him; and **chose twelve** of them, whom He also named as apostles.”

Eph.2:20 “having been built upon **the foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone.”

II Cor.12:12 “**The signs** of a true apostle were performed among you”

Apostle of the church

II Cor.8:23 “As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker among you; as for our brethren, they are **messengers of the churches**, a glory to Christ.”

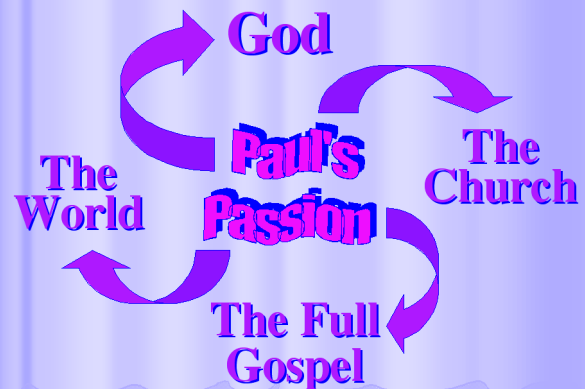
I Cor.15:5,7”and then He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve then He appeared to James, then to **all the apostles**.”

Function of the Apostles' of the church

Eph.4:10-16 “¹⁰ He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) ¹¹ And He gave some {as} apostles, and some {as} prophets, and some {as} evangelists, and some {as} pastors and teachers, ¹² **for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ**, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.”

*As we come to the end of Romans
we see Paul's ministry passions.*

**Paul's priorities in
Apostolic ministry
provide a model
for us.**



Romans 15:14-21

“¹⁴ And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able also to admonish one another. ¹⁵ But I have written very boldly to you on some points, so as to remind you again, because of the grace that was given me from God, ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a priest the gospel of God, that {my} offering of the Gentiles might become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁷ Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God.”

“¹⁸ For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed, ¹⁹ in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. ²⁰ And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was {already} named, that I might not build upon another man’s foundation; ²¹ but as it is written, “*They who had no news of Him shall see, And they who have not heard shall understand.*”

How do we identify a healthy church in our day?

Organized programs

Phy\$ically e\$tabli\$hed

Signs and wonders

missionary vision

numerical growth

“¹⁴ And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and **able also to admonish one another**. ¹⁵ But I have written very boldly to you on some points, so as to remind you again,”

Passion #1

**As an Apostolic Pastor -
he builds the church**

through encouragement.

**Paul recognizes
virtue in the church.**

“goodness”

“knowledge”

“ability”

**Paul reminds
the church of the Way.**

“reminder”

“because of the grace that was given me from God, ¹⁶ to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, ministering as a **priest** the gospel of God, that {my} **offering** of the Gentiles might become acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”

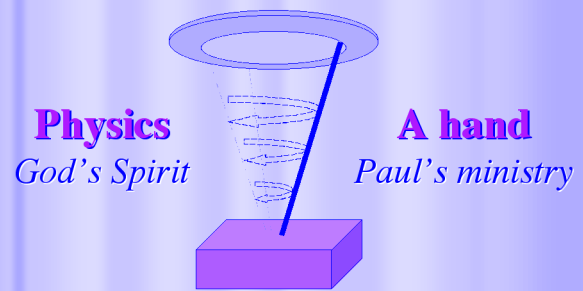
Passion #2

**As an Apostolic Priest -
he worships God**

“¹⁷ Therefore in Christ Jesus I have found reason for boasting in things pertaining to God. ¹⁸ For I will not presume to speak of anything except what **Christ has accomplished through me**, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed, ¹⁹ in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit;”

Recognizing the power of God through him.

How does the plate spin?



“so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have **fully preached the gospel of Christ.**”

Passion #3

As an Apostolic Prophet - he tells the whole story.



The Full Gospel

*Not just the **popular** parts.*

*Not just the **positive** parts.*

*Not just the **easy** parts.*

*Not just the **traditional** parts.*

*Not just the **preferred** parts.*

1 Timothy 1

“¹³ Retain the standard of **sound words** which you have heard from me, in the **faith** and **love** which are in Christ Jesus.”

Head
What we profess

Doctrinal
explanation

What God
has done
for us

Heart
What we
experience

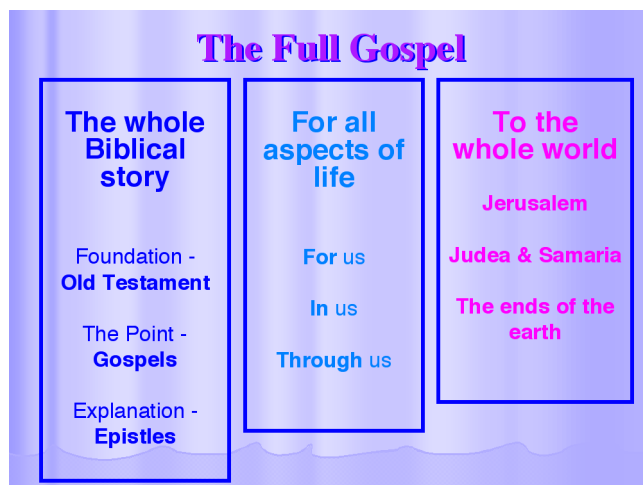
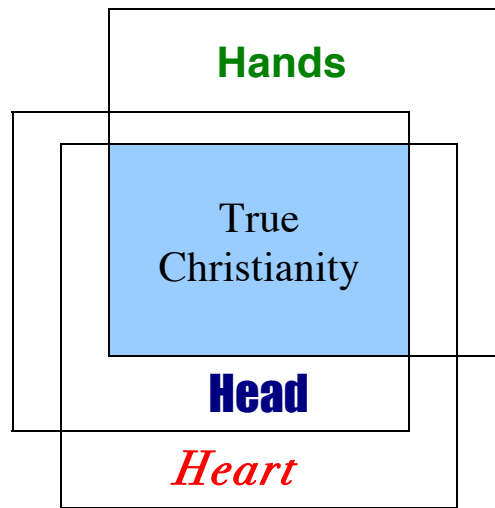
Personal encounter

What God
has done
in us

Hands
What we do

Behavioral ethics

What God
has done
through us



“²⁰ And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was {already} named, that I might not build upon another man’s foundation; ²¹ but as it is written, “*They who had no news of Him shall see, And they who have not heard shall understand.*”

Passion #4

As an Apostolic Pioneer - he reaches the lost world

The apostolic ministry

**Offering God
the Body of Christ.**

**Offering the World
the Full Gospel.**