



Can We Be Friends Now?

Why We are Obsessed with Paul

Barbara Brown, MSE (BB): Good morning, everyone. So glad you could join us. God, I thank You for another day above ground. Hallelujah! That You just show each of us what You'd have us do with every breath God, that we make You happy today. What would You have us to do? Moving forward in obedience and love to You. We just give You praise that You always show, Holy Spirit of living God, thank You.

And I wanted Tom to share why he has such a heart, such a passion, about Paul. Because I don't know what God's given you a passion about ... it's like the prophets of old, man, I love those guys. I, yes, yes, I understand them! And that's how Tom is about the Apostle Paul, chosen by the resurrected Lord. So, Tom, would you share with us about that?

Dr. Tom Taylor (TT): Well, the morning after I had received the baptism of the Holy Spirit (back in 1971), that next day I was at the construction site where I was working. I pulled up and the mountains were in front of me, and I sat there for a minute and I prayed: *"Father, I just want to know You, I want to know what's true, and I don't care what that costs."* Not, of course, having any idea what that prayer was going to set in motion, because within maybe three months of that, I was in Topeka [Kansas] studying with this group, the leader of which I had met in Denver over a long weekend. And probably the most significant discovery that this group was known for, and that had set up the occasion for this weekend get together, was centered around Paul's writing in which he said that ***"all mankind [would] be saved"*** (1 Timothy 2:4). And that was so different from absolutely everything I had heard, and because it was so different, I just wanted to know all about that. What is that? How is that? Who is this guy writing this?

And that was back in '72 [1972]. Well, we studied a whole lot of stuff besides Paul, but as I recall when I got there in February of '72, we were in either *Romans* or *Ephesians* (I don't remember which) and we got into all of the other books that Paul wrote, all the other epistles. We took about six months to study prophecy throughout the Bible. We studied Christian history for another six months.

But I recall something happening to me when I went into seclusion in early 2009 to write what is now [Rescuing God From the Rubble of Religion](#). And it was me, and a laptop, and a Greek-English lexicon and my [Concordant Literal](#), and I had three or four different references around me in print; and every point of clarification that I can recall making in that book was usually something that Paul had written, and I realized how different his message was from all the other figures in the New Testament after Yeshua.

But right out of the gate really, he started saying things no one else was saying with a passion no one else was displaying, and I just fell in love with the guy! I fell in love with him, fell in love with his writing, fell in love with his messages, because here's what happened to me: I found the Father, found His purpose, found His personality, found the provision He made for all of us, through Paul's writings, because these messages don't appear anywhere else.

You know, it would be one thing if you and I had walked side by side with Yeshua when He was here as a man. Paul didn't do that. He didn't have that limited view. He didn't have to remember Him as a man because that's not how he met Him. To me, the other guys never got away from that (not that it's a bad thing to have walked side by side with the Son of God) but they never really knew him. Clear after He was resurrected, and they still are asking Him questions. They don't understand Him, they don't know Him, and Paul had no such difficulty at all.

The story of how the risen Lord in His glory accosted Paul on a road to Damascus on his mission to imprison people who believed in this Yeshua (Acts 9:1-19), that never happened anywhere else to anyone else. The words about Paul that Yeshua spoke to Ananias, ***"He is a choice instrument of Mine,"*** and, ***"I [will] be intimating to him how much he must be suffering for My name"*** (Acts 9:15-16). Well, that's an unprecedented statement to read and to consider and this is what happens to me. When I read those and then when I read what Paul wrote, I can't just read it like a story. I am captivated, almost by every phrase he uses, and some of them are really hard to get through because he is famous for run-on sentences, but when you take them piece by piece, by piece

We're going to see something today, it's just a short part of a sentence and I just get stuck there and I read it over and over, not because I don't understand it, but because of the picture it paints that is so freeing, liberating, and that puts me in such close touch with the Father and with Yeshua - that I can almost reach out and touch Them. Paul's message, from the earliest, his earliest writings on, speak freedom, speak liberty, speak release from all bondages whether they are religious bondages or just fleshly bondage that we deal with on a daily basis.

When we read such a simple statement as we did a few days ago, ***"For freedom Christ frees us"*** (Galatians 5:1), what in the world is that? What's that mean? What does that look like? Maybe you don't have this, but that kind of simple message just inspires me - draws me to discover -

what's all in that? Because, to be honest, I don't see that kind of message in anybody else's writings throughout the New Testament (and certainly not the Old Testament), and recognizing what all changed once Yeshua was resurrected. Paul alone told us with what he called, ***“the word of the conciliation”*** (Romans 5:10-11, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

It's hard for me to describe how strong God's spirit is that pulls me into Paul's writings, pulls me into everything he says, because it's so different and it's never been said before, and it's a completely different perspective to have an understanding of: What is this “grace” that never was heard of before? What is this “justification” thing that never was heard of before? What is this “conciliation” phenomenon that we've never heard of before? And why did Paul get this stuff? Why did he see this stuff? Why did the Lord choose to reveal it to this guy? I find all that fascinating, but Barbara thought it would be good for me to share with you why are we doing this? Why are we spending all this time in Paul's writings?

Never mind that he wrote more than half of the New Testament. It's like, out of all the biblical figures you'd care to name, Paul's the only one who was shown the revelations he then was compelled to share, that (to me) all have the power to take the freedom that was won for us in the sacrifice and the resurrection of Yeshua, and propel us into the new eon ahead of time into the celestials, where our lives will be soon enough, for real. Paul shows us that now, shows us how to live there now. And I'm so happy to have looked into his writings for so long that I feel like I know him and we're sitting across the table from one another, and he's just talking, and he's just telling me stuff, and so I'm telling you stuff. And it's like we've known one another all our lives, we understand one another. It really is something special. I don't know if I'm communicating it well.

BB: As you were speaking, what I saw was, Christians walk up to the point of Christ's death, burial, [and] resurrection. He returned to show Himself to hundreds of people after that, and then He went back up in the air and said I'll return as I left, and that's how He left it. But it's like, the grace of God, that through Paul's visitation, it's like God gave us another chance with Jesus through Paul's eyes and through Paul's walk. And we didn't have to leave Him in the grave, nor sitting at the right hand of the Father interceding for us (which praise God He does), but we get another chance! Oh! He's not dead - He's alive!

So, Paul, how was it? When He knocked you off your horse, He straightened you out, and He showed grace through someone who was killing His people or setting His people up to be imprisoned (Acts 9:1-19). So, it's like, through Paul we get to know the risen Lord. We get the impartation that Paul had - we get that impartation to our lives.

So, it's not: He died and He's just sitting at the right hand the Father. No! He came back to meet with Paul, to train Paul, to walk with Paul, to teach Paul all that stuff. So, we got a second

chance, and the only chance to know the risen Lord as we sit at Paul's feet, who said, ***“Follow [me], as I follow [the example of] Christ”*** (1 Corinthians 11:1 NIV).

Jesus said, ***“I [didn't come to do away with] the law ... but fulfill [it]”*** (Matthew 5:17). Well, what Paul's saying is you don't have to keep all the rules and regs, that's what Jesus spoke, because He came to fulfill the law, which He did. But then Paul walked with Christ and received the impartation of what grace really is - like no one else. The original disciples, they didn't need grace, they were walking with Him! **GRACE - God's Riches At Christ's Expense** (Ephesians 1:7-8) - how could that be when Jesus was still there? Paul didn't have a problem understanding Who Christ was.

We didn't get to be there 2,000 years ago, when Paul and Jesus were having their times together, but, oh yeah, we can hear the stories - we can receive that impartation. Paul doesn't speak about walking with Jesus and anything they did like Peter and the other guys did, but instead he gives us the jewels, the revelations, of that part as no one else could ... no one else *could*, of the risen Lord. So, whereas the disciples got into the natural stuff - oh, we need bread, go get bread, there were this many people - all that worldly stuff, stuff that was going on, Paul is just, you can just see ... Like in DC, we would have meetings behind closed doors in very secret locations that no one was invited [to]. No one ever knew what we were talking about, who had flown in, no one ever knew any of that stuff. However, they did get the effect of the residue of what was decided and determined from those meeting. But no one was invited, it was a very closed group that could be a part of those meetings, and that's what I see with Paul.

Paul had his secret meetings with Christ that he didn't bring you into. His time with the risen Lord was so sacred to him that he wouldn't betray that in any way because, it's like, *“You would have had to been there, and you weren't, so I'm not going to tell you that part. It doesn't benefit your salvation. But, what I am going to do is impart to you what He imparted to me* (1 Corinthians 15:51): *That this is what His life, death, burial, resurrection bought for you - for us. It's about grace. It wasn't my call to baptize. I baptized a few, but that's not my call; my call was to tell you the secret of the Evangel and that's what I'm doing”* (Ephesians 1:7-9).

It's like an apostle, an apostolic call is setting order and building and miracles and that kind of stuff. Well, they're not going to live on the realm of, *“Oh, wait, I've got to do this ... I've got to do that ... I've got to go baptize.”* They're not even thinking there because they're being heaven's view on the earth, like prophets standing in the Council of God and bringing down His will. And it's very important, whatever your call is, for you to fulfill that call and that purpose. I wouldn't be surprised if the disciples (had we known how their lives followed through) if they were still baptizing people, but they didn't have the revelation of the risen Lord like Paul did.

If you have a revelation, there has to be an impartation, or maybe not “have to be,” but there should be, I believe, an impartation that you can flow to other people. Like, no one in my world

today was there the day Jesus appeared to me and said, *"Barbara, when are you just going to trust Me?"* and a month later, I was running again, having been crippled from muscular dystrophy. I can share the impartation of that, and because of the impartation of that, I can impart that to people. I've seen cripples walk, blind eyes open, I've seen all that. Praise the living God! But that's a residue, that's the overflow of my walk in the [Realm of the Miraculous](#) with God. That's what Paul is showing us, I believe, through the impartation of the revelation he had walking with the risen Lord.

But he was living on a different plane. It's like, I think the real world down here, I think it's boring. I love being in heaven and just coming down on assignment and going back up. The disciples who were walking with Christ, they were into that realm. Jesus came here; God became man and dwelt among us. He did earthly things with the guys [the disciples]; He showed them earthly things. But when Paul said (he didn't tell you it was him but of course it was), *"I know a man fourteen years ago ... who went to the third heaven and heard things ... I can't bring those things down. I'm not going to tell you ... I can't tell you"* (2 Corinthians 12:2, 4). It's like the first time I went to heaven and heard the angel choir sing. It's like, wow, God! Wow! And I didn't realize till I heard the music (I always played Christian music in my stores), and when I came down from that realm and heard Carman singing, *This Blood (is for you)*, and I asked my employees what CD was on there. *"What was in the CD changer? What was playing when I was back in my prayer room [at the store]?"* Then I realized I was in heaven and hearing the angel choir sing. But I could bring the impartation back from that realm, and that's what Paul's [doing]. Paul's life is, *"I'm not going to waste time on this realm. Now, I am going to bust you where you're wrong because God's telling me."*

Apostles should walk in a place with God, where God's showing what's going on, otherwise, how would they bring the plumb line? Paul couldn't be at all those ecclesias all the time. He couldn't be at the Church of Rome while he was in Ephesus, while he was in Thessalonica. He couldn't be in all those places, but I guarantee you, when God's giving you accountability for the works and the people (the ones you're given account for on that day), He'll show you things. The hidden things are going to come to light (Luke 8:17). So, he had to be down in this world enough to straighten them out, but he lived in the realm of the risen Lord. There is a place that I truly believe that he didn't leave the Third Heaven. You don't leave that place - you don't get invited to that place, and [then] can never go back - you don't lose that access. I mean, I guess you could through sin, but that'd be dumb and you wouldn't do that because ...

TT: It changes you too much.

BB: It, yeah, it changes you too much to want anything this world has to offer. But anyway, that's what I was seeing when you were talking about that.

TT: That's a great explanation.

BB: Anyway, that's how I see it, and so that's the value when Peter and those guys, *"Oh, his words are hard; man, he's hard to understand"* (2 Peter 3:15-16). No, you just hadn't been where he lives; you just weren't invited there because you didn't ... you walked with the Messiah and you didn't even know Who He was then.

It's just an incredible revelation and impartation we receive from Paul, the only person on this earth who Jesus chose, who the risen Lord chose, to give that mantle to, to pass it off to us for today. And to have watched your walk all these years, your passion is to fulfill Paul's writings, to play your part in his writings. And now at this season, you have to leave that for us. You have to leave your impartation, to impart to us your passion for Paul's passion for the risen Lord and for this new dispensation that was launched.

TT: I think that's a perfect picture that you just painted, entirely accurate. You know, somewhere, Paul says, *"Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God"* (Romans 10:17) ... *But who can hear unless someone is heralding* (Romans 10:14)?" Well, this phenomenon of hearing, that's what we're doing right now, you're listening to this. You're not seeing us, but we're sitting right near one another. You can certainly hear the passion in our voices. You can tell that, you know, we've been some places, we've seen some things, and we can't keep them bottled up inside us.

And it is in the hearing, that the Father first drew me to Him anyway, in the gymnasium, where this group of charismatic Catholics were worshipping every week - no ceremony. There wasn't anything churchy about the whole experience. They were just there and someone began singing in the spirit. And then someone else joined in, and someone else, and someone else. It was this sound, it was my hearing it, it was what I heard that drew me straight to the Father - the sound of the spirit.

And, that's what happens when I read Paul, I'm hearing. Paul got what he did by hearing. It's a very powerful sense. So, for me, reading Paul is a holy experience ... it's a holy time ... it's a holy place to be because of what Barbara just said: He was caught up into the heavenlies with Yeshua to learn, to hear things that were never spoken before, and bring them back here. So, when I'm reading him, I'm getting that impartation from him as if he were alive and speaking right now, and it has freed me. It has set me free, Paul's writings; Paul has set me free from any religious system I ever thought about being a part of or had ever been brought up into - completely freed me.

My mom and dad weren't free. They loved the church and they loved the structure. Well, God bless them, I didn't like any of it. I got car sick every Sunday on the way. That would tell you something, wouldn't it? But I never got carsick on the way home; I was completely at ease because I was out of there.

So, at the risk of repeating myself, I get a taste, not just a taste, I have come to know real freedom in the Lord because of Paul. And because of him, I've come to know the Father and I've been able to cultivate a relationship with Him that is so sweet and intimate, I wouldn't trade this for anything and I wouldn't care if nobody wanted to hear any of this. And, my relationship with Yeshua ... Oh, my goodness, it is so sweet! He's my elder brother. You know, I'm the five-year-old and He's the 17-year-old, and I just love Him and I want to be just like Him. And then Paul comes along and he's like a favorite cousin that you just want to get together with anytime you can, because he's so much fun.

And, my fondest prayer is that that's what comes through to you because, if it's not alive to you, if I've offended you, I apologize. I don't know what else to do. I don't know how else to say things. They're not meant ever to be offensive. That whole discussion about baptism: I know I may sound strident at times, but please remember the purpose of these daily explorations, especially as Paul's revelation paints them: The purpose is to leave the prison of centuries, centuries of misunderstanding and misapplication of the Father's word that has created religious systems that continue to enslave people, as much as the Jews were enslaved by the law (so to speak). These religious systems, as I said, seem to enslave rather than set people free in Christ.

And I'm sure you've heard things, I'm sure you've heard several things that prick your ears, and you'll undoubtedly hear more, but I promise, I've got no axe to grind here. I come to these mornings in holy fear, lest anything I say get in the way of the Father's heart for you. And if that ever happens, I pray He shut my mouth for good! Because your salvation depends on Him and His word, obviously, and certainly not on me or my words! So, I'm happy for Barbara to have suggested that I share with you why in the world is this guy (you might have thought so far) ... why in the world is this guy so stuck on Paul? Well, now I hope you know more than you did before.

BB: What I was seeing was, on the part about, Paul gives us another chance ... [Paul] lets us join in his revelation through the risen Lord, or his time with the risen Lord. It's like when my dad died, after he died, I would just think it's like, man, if daddy were here, he would know the answer to this. And I thought, man, if I could just, if I could have just asked him this while he were still alive, you know? And through Paul, we can get Jesus' revelation; the risen Lord's revelation to Paul went way beyond anything else. It was the answers to why He came, why He died, why He rose - Paul had all the answers.

TT: That's right.

BB: Jesus told Paul all the answers! *"Now give this to my people."*

TT: Yes.

BB: So, for thousands of years, we're still getting that. It's like, I know it's a different place for sure. Like when I was under my house redoing the ductwork and I had left my tin snips behind or something (I couldn't find my tin snips), it's like, *"Daddy, where are you when I need you?"* Well, daddy was dead, but Paul gives us another chance - he lets us into the secret (1 Corinthians 15:51), the mysteries of the risen Lord! It's like, we don't have to wonder and see Him just sitting at the right hand of the Father interceding for us. No, we get to be with Paul, as Christ chose Paul to be with, to share with him all these secrets. *"OK, this is the prize of everything I came for. This is the prize! Paul, tell them!"*

TT: Yep, that's exactly right.

BB: And that's what he built those ecclesias on, that's why he had such life. You know how when we were just in denominations, it's like when I started seeing that the "[a]live people" were filled with the Holy Spirit and doing the stuff: Signs, wonders, and miracles were overtaking them who believed (Romans 15:19). I wanted to know what they knew that religion didn't have. It's like there's something about those people and it's like there was something about Paul. When you have been with the Lord in whatever your gift and call, whatever your experience was, then you can share that from a whole different realm - then you can impart it to people. It's the difference with "someone with an opinion will always be at the mercy of someone with an experience." Nobody can tell me, *"Cripples don't walk."* Well, nobody could refute Paul. They didn't want him around because he was "too saved," but you know, he had to go work out his salvation somewhere else for 14 years because they just couldn't handle him (Galatians 1:21, 2:1). But it's such a treasure trove, and the only one who has the impartation to pass on to us of the risen Lord.

TT: And I think that's where we'll leave it today.

***May YaHoVeH bless you and keep you;
May YaHoVeH light up His face toward you
and be gracious to you.
May YaHoVeH lift His face to you
and appoint peace for you.***

Amen and Amen.

We hope you have enjoyed this little personal time together and we'll see you again tomorrow.

All Scriptures quoted are from the [Concordant Literal New Testament](#) unless otherwise stated.