

# PAUL'S JEWISH RABBINICAL MINDSET

- Paul was Jewish in every way before, during, and after his acceptance of Yeshua as Messiah
- Since 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D. Paul has been characterized as having become more gentile than Jew
- New Perspective (of Paul) acknowledges his full-fledged Jewishness
- This is a radical notion to traditional Christianity
- But it is fundamental to the Hebraic Roots of Christianity





- Bible scholars agree that Romans was written by Paul
- Paul desired to go to Spain, so a stop at Rome would make sense
- Letter to the Romans written in 57 or 58 A.D.
- Probably written from the home of Gaius, in Corinth



Paul's Letter to the  
**Romans**



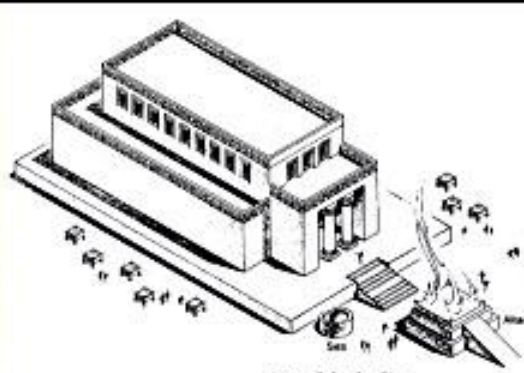
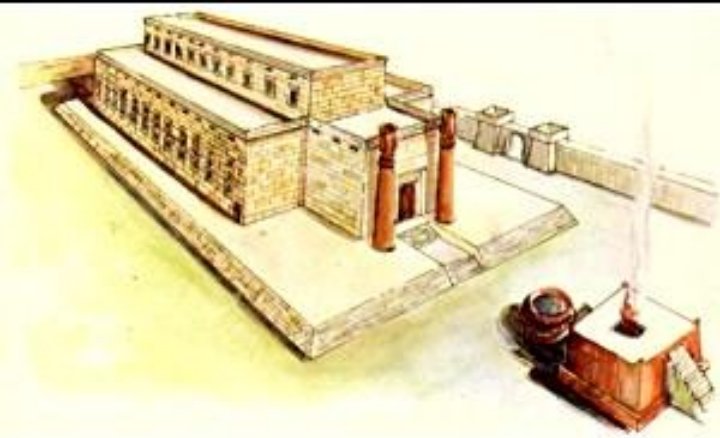
# PURPOSE OF PAUL'S LETTER?

- Evangelical Christian view is: it was a new Christian Systematic Theology
- Douglas J. Moo says “ *..is not a systematic theology but a letter...* ”
- Paul seems to have had several issues he was addressing
- Paul learned that including gentiles in the Messianic faith opened up a can of worms
- Joseph Shulam: “*a textual picture of...controversial theological debates within Second Temple Jewish thought*”



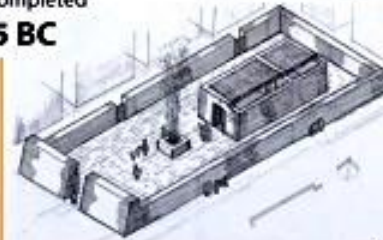


# ANCIENT ISRAELITE TEMPLES TIMELINE (1300 BC—AD 100)



Zerubbabel's reconstruction of Temple completed  
**515 BC**

Zerubbabel's Temple dismantled and replaced by Herod's Temple  
**19 BC**



Elephantine (Egypt) Temple  
**late 6th-410 BC**

Herod's Temple destroyed by Romans  
**AD 70**

Zealots' insurrection  
**AD 66-70**

Solomon's Temple Constructed  
**968 BC**

Destruction of Solomon's Temple by Nebuchadnezzar  
**586 BC**

Hezekiah's Temple reforms  
**715-687 BC**

Josiah's Temple reforms  
**640-609 BC**

Babylonian Exile

Cyrus conquers Babylon; Jews begin to return  
**539 BC**

Antiochus Epiphanes profanes the Temple  
**175-164 BC**

Maccabean Revolt & Temple Rededication; Feast of Dedication (*Hanukkah*), Festival of Lights  
**168-165 BC**

Pompey conquers Jerusalem  
**63 BC**

Qumran & Dead Sea Scrolls  
Leontopolis (Egypt) Temple  
Maccabees Rule

Christ

King David captures Jerusalem  
**c. 1000 BC**

Kingdom of Israel Splits  
**c. 930 BC**

Jeroboam and the Northern Kingdom  
Temples at Dan & Bethel  
**931-722 BC**

Moses receives instructions for the building of the Tabernacle  
**c. 1250 BC**

Temples at Gilgal & Ebal

Shechem Temple

Shiloh Temple

Kirjath-jearim Temple

Gibeon Temple

Temples at Arad, Meggido, Lachish, and Beersheba

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Ezekiel

Malachi

Greek Rule

Syrian Seleucid Rule

Hellenistic Ptolemaic Rule

Maccabees Rule

Roman Rule

1300 BC 1200 BC 1100 BC 1000 BC 900 BC 800 BC 700 BC 600 BC 500 BC 400 BC 300 BC 200 BC 100 BC 0 100

**"First" Temple Period**  
(Solomon's Temple)

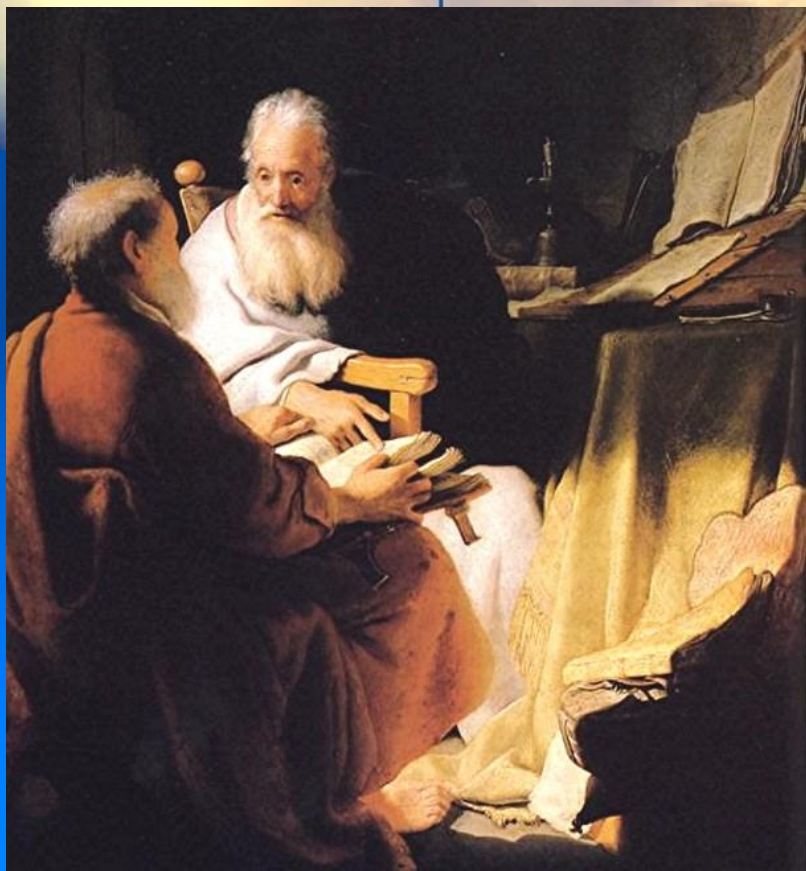
**"Second" Temple Period**  
(Zerubbabel's Temple, Herod's Temple)



# Paul is

CAUGHT BETWEEN

## TWO WORLDS



- A Jew. A graduate of Gamaliel's rabbinical school. A Pharisee.
- Paul is wrestling with himself over the place of gentiles in the Jewish community
- On the surface, no common ground between Jews and gentiles
- What part of Judaism was Holy Scripture, what part was Tradition?
- Can there be different rules and theologies for Jews versus gentiles?



# PAUL, APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES

- Paul was appointed by Yeshua
- In an awkward position as he wants to be in authority over congregations he didn't establish
- James is still the recognized leader of The Way in Jerusalem
- Paul seeks to introduce himself, explain his office as Apostle, and then instruct on important theological issues

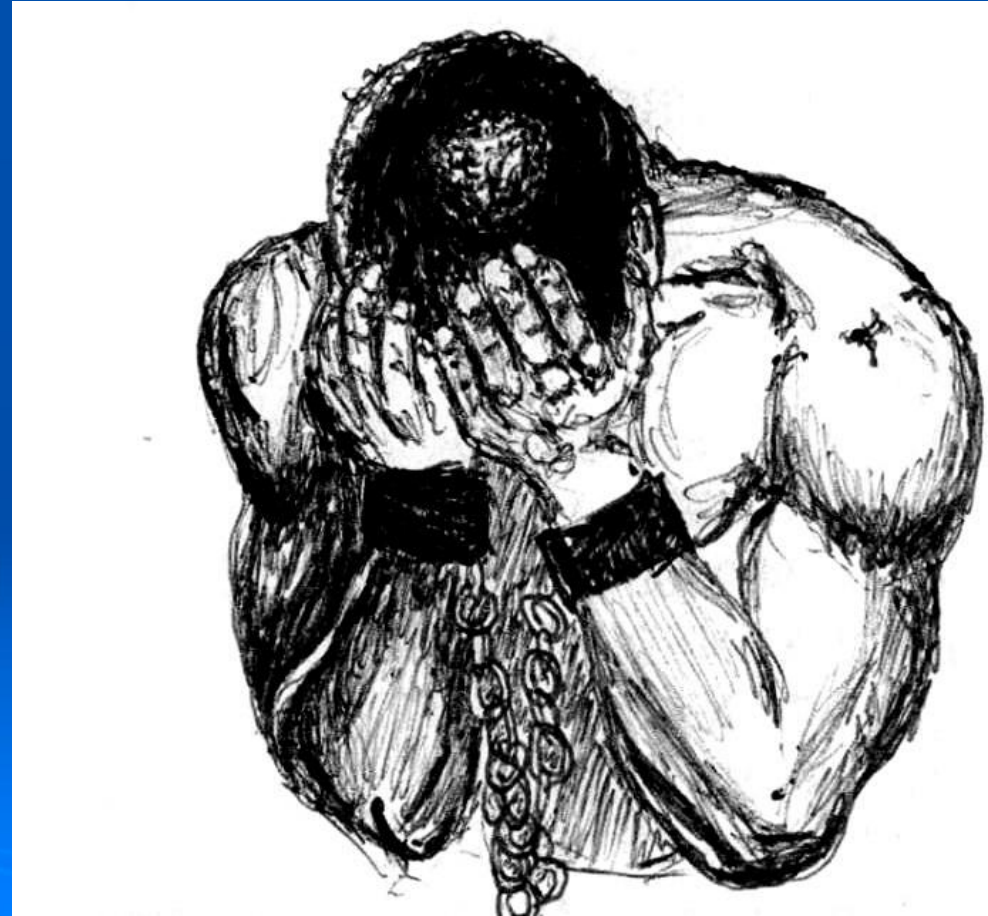




# ROMANS

## CHAPTER 1

- *From Paul, a slave of Messiah Yeshua....*
- Paulus or Paulos = Paul
- Doulos = slave
- In gentile Roman world being a slave was a shameful thing
- Only in Hebrew context do we understand Paul's words
- "Slave of God" was an honorable and special status among Hebrews
- Moses, Elijah and King David all called "slaves of God"
- *Eved* = slave or servant
- Paul was NOT humbling himself; he was claiming a high position of authority !





# What is a Biblical apostle?

- In Greek terms an apostle applies to sending out military and ships
- Apostolos = Apostle
- Paul is thinking in Hebrew
- **Shaliach** = agent
- John 14:12, 13
- An agent carries his master's power and authority
- Paul is an AGENT of Yeshua, not merely a messenger

**PAUL**  
**AGENT OF**  
**GRACE**



- 1<sup>st</sup> verse of Romans is actually upside-down from the traditional Christian view
- Apostle is not the same as Disciple
- There were 12 original Apostles because of 12 tribes of Israel
- Why a 13<sup>th</sup> Apostle?
- Counting Levi, there were actually 13 tribes of Israel !
- Paul says the Gospel comes from the holy writings....the Hebrew Bible
- The Gospel is a HEBREW religious concept taken from a HEBREW holy book

APOSTLE PAUL



the **13<sup>th</sup>**  
APOSTLE



# THE SON OF GOD

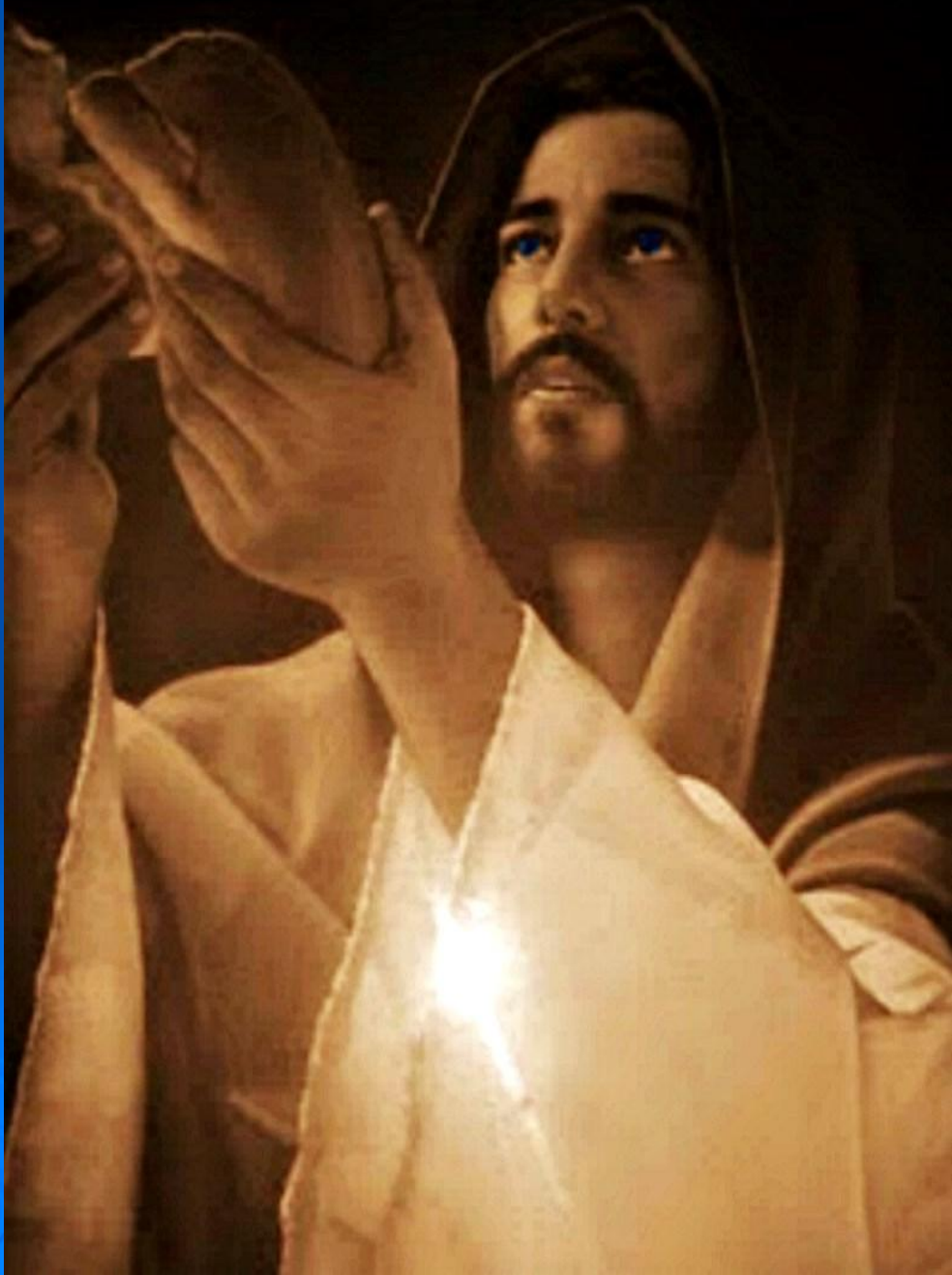
- Good News directly tied to God's Son
- Sons of God a term applied to Israel as a whole, kings of Israel, even angels
- Person of the Good News is physically descended from David
- Positive ID is Yeshua, because by God's power He was resurrected
- Lord = divine
- Only Jews would understand this

אֱלֹהֵי יֵשׁוּעַ  
מִמְּקוֹל לֵא



# YESHUA IS THE MEDIATOR OF THE GOOD NEWS

- Paul's logic:
- Pt. 1: Yeshua appointed Paul as Apostle
- Pt. 2: Paul is Yeshua's agent to the gentiles
- Pt. 3: Yeshua called the gentile Believers of Rome
- Pt. 4: Because of points 1, 2 & 3, then the gentile Believers of Rome belong under Paul's authority





# DID PAUL SUCCEED?

- Paul was right and what he said was true
- When he got to Rome 4 years after the letter to Rome, it was as a prisoner
- Acts 28:20 – 22
- Jews of Rome looked to Judea (Jerusalem) for direction and authority
- No hint about the letter Paul sent 4 years earlier
- Paul began his own community of Believers
- A couple more years and Nero would begin the persecution of Believers

