

These are unedited notes, and are only for the convenience and use of those receiving the corresponding tapes.

- I. Paul was converted from a wrong way to a right way.
 - a. He was an enemy of Jesus Christ, and persecuted those that followed Jesus of Nazareth.
 - b. Paul does not approve of his old life, but realizes that he was lost in sin and misery, and alienated from God.
 - c. Religion does not connect us to God. There are not many ways to find God. He may be found only in Jesus Christ.
 - d. The true religion was contained in Judaism by promise, and those who believed the promise had eternal life; but they did not rely upon the ceremonies and works of Judaism.
- II. The wrong way, was the way of the "Jew's Religion."
 - a. It was not zeal that approved Paul, for he was very zealous in the religion of his fathers.
 - b. He did not learn his faith from others, but from God.
 - i. This is not spoken absolutely, for there had been human influences in his life: the witness of Stephen's death; His visit with Ananias, who was sent to him in Damascus when he was blind and praying after his vision on the Damascus Road.
 - ii. God uses human agency.
 - iii. Paul is talking about his ministry of the Gospel. It was not given to him by men, but directly from Jesus Christ.
 - iv. He would therefore be an apostle of Jesus Christ to preach the Gospel to the World.
 - v. Christianity would not be a sect of the Jews, but of Jesus Christ.
- III. The preparation.
 - a. From the foundation of the world, God had purposed to send His Son into the world in order to save men from their sins.
 - b. Jesus Christ, came at the appointed time, and the church was established by God.
 - c. Paul was separated from His birth: he was part of something greater than himself. He recognizes the hand of God.
 - d. The work of God is by grace: he was separated by grace.
- IV. How wonderful is the grace of God. Paul was given a wonderful and glorious message, which he summarized himself in Acts 26:1-18
 - a. Men are lost in sin, under the power of the devil, blind, lost in sin and misery.
 - b. Paul was commissioned by Christ to preach the forgiveness of sins to deliver men from the power of the devil, to an inheritance reserved in heaven for them, as Peter puts it.
 - c. The key is faith. You must believe: the gospel goes to all men, and all are invited to the Gospel feast, but only those who believe truly eat and drink at the banquet.

God bless you.