

# Scripture and Study Sheet for XploreNations Interpreting the Pauline Epistles

## Peter's Affirmation of the weight of Paul's Letters

“Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.”

II Peter 3:14-16 NKJV

## The Origin and Purpose of Scripture

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

II Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV

“knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” II Peter 1:20-21 NKJV

“You must understand this at the outset: Interpretation of scriptural prophecy requires the Holy Spirit, for it does not originate from someone's own imagination. No true prophecy comes from human initiative but is inspired by the moving of the Holy Spirit upon those who spoke the message that came from God.” 2 Peter 1:20-21 TPT

Acts 9:1-9 NKJV

Acts 22:2-22 NKJV

Acts 26:1-31 NKJV

## **Paul Teaches on the Importance of Holy Spirit Revelation & Illumination**

“My brothers and sisters, when I first came to proclaim to you the secrets of God, I refused to come as an expert, trying to impress you with my eloquent speech and lofty wisdom. For while I was with you I was determined to be consumed with one topic—Jesus, the crucified Messiah. I stood before you feeling inadequate, filled with reverence for God, and trembling under the sense of the importance of my words. The message I preached and how I preached it was not an attempt to sway you with persuasive arguments but to prove to you the almighty power of God’s Holy Spirit. For God intended that your faith not be established on man’s wisdom but by trusting in his almighty power. However, there is a wisdom that we continually speak of when we are among the spiritually mature. It’s wisdom that didn’t originate in this present age, nor did it come from the rulers of this age who are in the process of being dethroned. Instead, we continually speak of this wonderful wisdom that comes from God, hidden before now in a mystery. It is his secret plan, destined before the ages, to bring us into glory. None of the rulers of this present world order understood it, for if they had, they never would have crucified the Lord of shining glory. This is why the Scriptures say: Things never discovered or heard of before, things beyond our ability to imagine — these are the many things God has in store for all his lovers. But God now **unveils these profound realities to us by the Spirit.** Yes, he has revealed to us his **inmost heart** and **deepest mysteries** through the Holy Spirit, who constantly explores all things. After all, who can really see into a person’s heart and know his hidden impulses except for that person’s spirit? So it is with God. **His thoughts and secrets are only fully understood by his Spirit, the Spirit of God.** For we did not receive the spirit of this world system but the Spirit of God, so that we might come to understand and experience all that grace has lavished upon us. And we articulate these realities with the words imparted to us by the Spirit and not with the words taught by human wisdom. We join together **Spirit-revealed truths** with **Spirit-revealed words**. Someone living on an entirely human level rejects the revelations of God’s Spirit, for they make no sense to him. He can’t understand **the revelations of the Spirit** because they are only discovered by the **illumination of the Spirit.** Those who **live in the Spirit** are able to carefully evaluate all things, and they are subject to the scrutiny of no one but God. For Who has ever

intimately known the mind of the Lord Yahweh well enough to become his counselor? Christ has, and we possess Christ's perceptions."

1 Corinthians 2:1-16 TPT

### **Note on verse 16 from the writer of The Passion Translation**

That is, we believers possess the Holy Spirit, who travels the thoughts and purposes of Christ. The Revelation of the Kingdom of God that Jesus preached was not understood by the intellect of men but by those who welcomed His Truth. Humanly speaking, no one can understand the Mysteries of God without the Holy Spirit. Those who have the Holy Spirit now possess the perceptions of Christ's mind and can implement His Purposes on the Earth.

Recommend another Book for there Library  
Mark Hankins - Paul's System of Truth

### **Quotes from P.C. Nelsons book - The Life of Paul**

"PAUL'S LETTERS DIVINELY INSPIRED, AND RICH IN DEEPEST SPIRITUAL TRUTHS, ARE THE ADVANCED TEACHINGS OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST."

"NO GREAT PREACHER HAS ARISEN TO BLESS THE PEOPLE OF GOD WHO HAS NOT LIGHTED HIS TORCH AT THE FLAME KINDLED BY PAUL."

### **"THE LIFE OF PAUL - THE TRAJECTORY OF FAITH**

- 36 A.D. Conversion
- 38 A.D. Flight to Tarsus
- 44 A.D. Brought to Antioch by Barnabas
- 48 A.D. First Missionary Journey
- 50 A.D. Council at Jerusalem
- 51-54A.D. Second Missionary Journey

- 54-58A.D. Third Missionary Journey
- 57A.D. 1 Corinthians written at Ephesus;  
2 Corinthians in Macedonia;  
Galatians at Corinth
- 58 A.D. Romans written at Corinth
- 59 A.D. In prison at Caesarea
- 60 A.D. "Voyage to Rome"  
Philemon, Colossians
- 62 A.D. Philemon, Colossians, and  
Ephesians written in Rome
- 63 A.D. Release from prison
- 67 A.D. 1 Timothy and Titus written
- 68 A.D. In prison again at Rome.  
2 Timothy. Death"

**"THE POWER OF TRUTH - Mark Hankins**

The Gospel is multi-faceted and meets every need. The four Gospels - Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John -are a proclamation of the Gospel. The book of Acts is a demonstration of the Gospel. Paul's letters are an explanation of the Gospel. The four Gospels are a photograph of redemption. Paul's epistles are an X-ray. An X-ray shows things that cannot be seen in a photograph. In a photo you see the external, but an x-ray shows the internal. Both of these pictures are necessary to see the picture of redemption in its entirety."

**"THE FOUR GOSPELS ARE A PHOTOGRAPH OF REDEMPTION. PAUL'S EPISTLES ARE AN X-RAY."**

James Stalker - "THE RIGHT WAY TO LOOK AT PAUL'S LETTERS IS TO REGARD THEM AS THE CONTINUATION OF CHRIST'S OWN TEACHING. THEY CONTAIN THE THOUGHTS THAT CHRIST CARRIED AWAY FROM THE WORLD UNUTTERED."

### **Paul's System of Truth**

"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Romans 6:17

But thanks be to God that though you were once in thralldom to sin, you have now yielded a hearty obedience to that **SYSTEM OF TRUTH** in which you were instructed. Romans 6:17 - Weymouth Translation

"SYSTEM: An assemblage of things adjusted into a regular whole; or a whole plan or "scheme consisting of many parts connected in such a manner as to create a chain of mutual dependencies; or a regular union of principles or parts forming one entire thing. Thus we say a system of logic, a system of philosophy, a system of government, a system of principles, the solar system...."

"SYSTEMATICAL: Formed with regular connection and adaptation or subordination of parts to each other, and to design the whole.

One of the simplest illustrations of a system is a chain. A chain is a group of links that are interdependent upon each other for the strength of the whole. Not any one link can be a chain; all the links are dependent upon the other."

"The Apostle Paul's letters contain an interdependent group of revelation realities that came from what God has done for us in Christ. This **system of truth** centers on the **death, burial, and resurrection of Christ** with the **restoration of man as the object**. In Paul's System of Truth, the eight points are the eight links, which have their center in redemption. In Paul's revelation we understand the Bible in the light of redemption. We also learn to see our personal lives in the light of redemption."

## “THE 8 POINTS OF PAUL'S SYSTEM OF TRUTH

1. Paul's Pneuma Concept: Spirit, Soul, and Body
2. Identification with Adam
3. Man's Condition in Adam
4. What Happened to Jesus - From the Cross to the Throne
5. Identification with Christ
6. Who we are and What we have Now in Christ
7. What Jesus is Doing for us Now
8. How to Grow Up in Christ”

### **For The Sinner**

1. To Enlighten
2. Help Receive the Heavenly Gift (Salvation)
3. Make Partakers of The Holy Spirit

### **For The Saint**

4. To Taste the Good Word of God
5. To Operate in The Powers of the Age to Come.

“For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,”  
Hebrews 6:4-5 NKJV

“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your **whole spirit, soul, and body** be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.”  
I Thessalonians 5:23-24 NKJV