

Application questions

- 1) Are we ultimately concerned about God's glory?
- 2) To what extent are our lives and decisions driven by the one overarching concern of how we can further the ministry of the gospel?
- 3) Do we see Paul's letter's as a great resource for evaluating ways in which the centrality of the gospel might be displaced in our own lives?

Core Seminars—New Testament Class 9: Introduction to Paul: The Truths of the Kingdom



Who is Paul?

1) Conversion: From Persecutor to Preacher

- a. Jewish Heritage - Philippians 3:4-6
 - i. Of the tribe of Benjamin
 - ii. Hebrew of Hebrews
 - iii. As to the law a Pharisee
 - iv. As for zeal, persecuting the church

FF Bruce 'If Stephen argued, "The new has come; therefore the old must go", Paul [sic] for his part argued, "The old must stay; therefore the new must go". Hence the uncompromising rigour with which he threw himself into the work of repression.'¹

- b. Roman Citizen

Acts 22:25-29

Acts 25:10-12

- c. Conversion

¹ FF Bruce. *Paul, Apostle of the Heart Set Free*, 70

2) Apostleship

- a. Independent calling, same gospel.
 - Galatians 1

- b. Unique ministry to Gentiles
 - i. Spearheaded the Gentile mission

 - ii. Grasped the multinational implications of the gospel

- Galatians 2:11-16

Paul the Missionary

- c. Preaching
 - i. Centrality of the cross
 - 1 Corinthians 1:22-24
 - 1 Cor 9:20-23
 - 1 Cor 9: 11-18
 - ii. Glory of God
 - Romans 1:5
 - Ephesians 1:13-14

- d. Writing: the missionary writer
 - 1 Thess 3:7-10