

'To the Jew First And Also to the Gentile'

3 times Paul wrote the phrase, "the Jew first". We will consider that today.

For your information, the word "to" in Rom 1:16 ("**to** the Jew first") and the word "of" in Rom 2:9,10 ("**of** the Jew first") are NOT in the Greek text.

The 1st issue where Paul used "to the Jew first" was about "the gospel of Christ" as the 'good news' by which **every one regardless of whether they are Jew or Gentile** who believes is saved. But the point

here is Paul taught that 'the gospel of Christ' **went to the Jew first:**

Rom 1:16 For **I am not ashamed** of the gospel of Christ:

for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;

• **to the Jew first,**

• **and also to the Greek.** (The word translated here "Greek" <Hellen> is translated "Gentile" in both Rom 2:9,10.)

Paul specifically taught that God's righteousness is revealed in "the gospel of Christ" **according to the OLD TESTAMENT 'PROPHETIC' scriptures,** as he quoted **Hab 2:4,** that those who are justified live by faith.

Israel had the knowledge of Christ all along (John 8:56, Heb 11:24-26):

Rom 1:17 For therein (there - in, "the gospel of Christ" from **Rom 1:16**)

is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith:

as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Paul used the term "of the Jew first" again when he explained the day of wrath (Rom 2:5), reserved for God's enemies (Nahum 1:2):

Rom 2:9 Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that **doeth evil,**

Paul used the expression "of the Jew first" a 3rd time when he detailed the righteous judgment day (Rom 2:16) when every man (Psa 62:12; Prov 24:12; Matt 16:27; Rev 20:13, 22:12) **will stand before the Lord**

Jesus Christ (John 5:22,27; Acts 10:38,42; 2 Tim 4:1; 1 Pet 4:5):

Rom 2:10 But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that **worketh good, _____** • **to the Jew first,**
_____ • **and also to the Gentile:**

During Jesus' earthly ministry the opportunity had been the same.

Salvation was of the Jews (John 4:22) then it flowed to the Gentiles:

Mark 7:25-30 For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:

26 The woman was **a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation;** (She was a Gentile of 'mixed' descent, being half Syrian and half Phoenician) and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.

27 But Jesus said unto her, **Let the children first be filled:** for it is not meet to take the **children's** bread, and to cast it unto the **dogs.**

28 And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord:

yet the **dogs** under the table eat of the **children's** crumbs.

29 And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; (She recognized the order, and He healed her daughter.) the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

Clearly, the prophets prophesied that salvation was to God's people

God's children Israel first and through them on out to the Gentiles:

Isa 42:6 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee **for a covenant of the people,**
for a light of the Gentiles; (Isa 49:6, 60:3)

Simeon prophesied over the baby Jesus when he saw Him, the Lord's Christ:

Simeon foretold the stumbling of Israel on Christ, the Stumbling Stone, the Rock of Offence (as did Isa 8:14). He also spoke of their rise:

Luke 2:34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

Likewise, Paul quoted **many OLD TESTAMENT scriptures.** The 'whosoever' was not limited to Israel; it certainly applied to the Gentiles:

Rom 9:33 As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence (Isa 28:16): and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. (Psa 25:2-3; Isa 45:17, 54:4; Joel 2:26-27)

Remember **Rom 1:16,** the first verse we read began, "For **I am not ashamed** of the gospel of Christ".

This is also a prophecy that Paul quoted and applied:

Rom 10:11 For the scripture saith,
Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

The **Cunning Royal Jester** said Sunday night that even though Paul WAS a prophet (Acts 13:1), Paul did not **write scripture** as a **prophet.** The **CRJ** said that Paul wrote scripture as an **apostle, and NOT as a prophet.** The facts are Paul was a prophet and Paul was an apostle. He is not **divided** from himself! But the **CRJ** actually **DIVIDED PAUL** like he divides everything else! He made Paul the prophet be different than Paul the apostle! This should not be surprising because the **CRJ** also **DIVIDES JESUS.** He makes Jesus in His earthly ministry be "another Jesus" from the "risen, glorified Lord" who appeared to Paul. **Paul wrote MANY prophecies of things to come.** He also repeated prophecies that were long before written, and **applied them** to what was happening during his ministry.

'Mid-Acts-ers' disregard Romans chapters 9, 10, and 11, as **not being** **'for' them.** They say Romans 9, 10, and 11, are written to tell us 'what happened to Israel' and that God 'interrupted Israel's prophecy program, to bring in our mystery program'. **The Bible does not say that.**

They cherry-pick **Rom 10:4,** and want it to say we're not under the law:

Rom 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

But they reject **Rom 10:9** as being the gospel

because it includes 'confession with the mouth'

even though Paul said he and others ('we') preached it:

Rom 10:8-9 But what saith it? (What saith what? The 'it' is 'the righteousness which is of faith' from **Rom 10:6,** as "What saith the righteousness which is of faith?")

The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: (Paul just quoted **Deut 30:14,** and applied it as the word of faith that he preached): that is, **the word of faith, which we preach;**

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Jesus Christ went to Israel first and also Gentiles. 'Mid-Acts-ers' use **Rom**

15:8, but they stop there because they don't want the rest of the sentence:

Rom 15:8-12 Now I say that **Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision** for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers:

9 **And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written,** For this cause **I will confess to thee among the Gentiles,** and sing unto thy name.

10 **And again he saith,** Rejoice, **ye Gentiles,** with his people.

(Rom 15): 11 And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles;
and laud him, all ye people.

12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

It was the 'risen, glorified Lord' that taught His disciples to go to Israel first

.... then to the Gentiles:

Luke 24:44-47 And he said unto them, **These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.**

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

What 'gospel' did the 'risen, glorified Lord' instruct His apostles to preach?

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, (according to the scriptures) and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, (He died) and to rise from the dead the third day:

Hold your place in **Luke 24:46,** as we reference it, with the gospel that Paul

received from the 'risen, glorified Lord' to see they are exactly the same:

1 Cor 15:3-4 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;**

4 And that he was buried, **and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:**

Now turn back to **Luke 24:47,** to see that the gospel was to go to Israel first and then to the Gentiles (that is, all nations).

'Mid-Acts-ers' discount this passage in **Luke 24:44-47,** as "another gospel":

'Mid-Acts-ers' don't like the 'repentance' part even though Paul also taught repentance (also Rom 2:4, 2 Cor 7:9-10, 2 Tim 2:25):

Acts 20:21 Testifying both to the Jews,
and also to the Greeks, (The Greek word <Hellen>
 was also translated "Gen-
 tiles")
repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul obeyed the heavenly vision (Acts 26:19)

when he went to the Jew first and then to the Gentiles:

Acts 26:20 But shewed first unto them of Damascus,
 and at Jerusalem,
 and throughout all the coasts of Judaea,
and then to the Gentiles,
 (What did Paul preach to them? The same thing Jesus said (Luke 24:46-47)
that they should repent and turn to God,
and do works meet for repentance.

Directly before Jesus was received up into glory (Acts 1:9, 1 Tim 3:16),

.... He again instructed the apostles whom He had chosen to start in Jerusalem and from there, expand the gospel out into the entire earth:

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both
in Jerusalem,
and in all Judaea,
and in Samaria,
and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Who does that leave out?)

As soon as Saul/Paul received sight from being blinded on the road to Damascus, he went directly into the Jewish congregation to preach first:

Acts 9:19-20 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened.

The order given by the prophets and by Jesus' command
 to the disciples / apostles and to Paul (and Barnabas)
 that the gospel of Christ go to the Jew first and also to the Gentiles
 was carried out.

However, there came a time

after Israel's stubborn and continued rejection of their Christ

- that 'the bondwoman was cast out' (Gen 21:10, Gal 4:30-31),
- that the 'natural branches' were 'broken off because of unbelief' (Rom 11:17-20)

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said,
It was necessary that the word of God should first have been
spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you,
and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life,
lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

Luke testified that Paul said God charged him with Isaiah's prophecy:

Acts 13:47-48 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying,
I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles,
that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

The prophecy that was said of Christ and of Israel

was also applied to Paul and Barnabas:

Isa 49:6 And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel:
I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles,
that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

God never cast away the believers. He cast away 'national Israel'

the **un**believers. "For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel" (Rom 9:6):

Rom 11:1-5 I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

2 God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.

Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias?

how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,

3 Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life.

4 But what saith the answer of God unto him? **I have reserved to myself** seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal.

5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

The "Israel of God" (Gal 6:16) are the children of the promise (Rom 9:8) as Isaac was, now we are (Gal 4:28) the children of Abraham by faith in Christ Jesus (Gal 3:7,26). We are Jews inwardly (Rom 2:28-29).

"We are the circumcision" (Phil 3:3). Paul wrote these truths, but 'mid-Acts-

ers' deny them. As for Israel after the flesh they're blinded for now:

Rom 11:7 What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but **the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded**

They cannot see when they hang on to the OLD TESTAMENT when they

refuse Jesus Christ Who is the NEW TESTAMENT (Matt 26:28, Heb 9:15,

1 Cor 11:25). Only those who turn to Christ, have their blinders removed:

2 Cor 3:14-16 But **their minds were blinded:** for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.

15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read,

What will God do with "physical Israel"? They're 'done with' except

when individuals believe, God is able to graff them in again (Rom 11:23):

Rom 11:30-32 For as ye in times past have not believed God,
yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief:

31 Even so have these also now not believed,
that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy.

32 For **God hath concluded them all in unbelief,**
that he might have mercy upon all.

Just like we read in **Luke 24:44**, about Jesus explaining to His disciples

that He fulfilled all things which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Himself **here is Paul**

testifying of the very same things including the death and resurrection of Christ, as well as Him giving light to Israel, and then to the Gentiles:

Acts 26:22-23 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, **saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come:**

- 23
- That Christ should suffer,
 - and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead,
 - and should shew light unto the people,
 - and to the Gentiles.

The old covenant with Israel in the physical

has been replaced with the new covenant in the spiritual

of which we believing Gentiles are fellow-heirs and partakers (Eph 3:6).

It went to them first but now, thank God, it has come to us!

This is David Dowell saying, "Think about it!"