

1. Last week I taught in part Gal 1:13 and when time expired we had just begun a word study of the Greek noun **Ekklesia**, translated “church.”
2. Before we continue you may want to use the grace provisions of 1Jo 1:9 by silently naming your sins to God as the Holy Spirit may or may not show.
3. I want to provide an expanded translation of Gal 1:6-12 and then we will resume our exegesis of Gal 1:13.

Expanded Translation

Gal 1:6 I keep on being absolutely amazed and astounded that you have been deluded in this way; being so quickly removed from the One who called you into the grace of Christ and are now turning to a different gospel,

Gal 1:7 which is most certainly not another gospel but evidently some have declared they have another gospel and thus these ones are troubling you; for it is their purpose to distort the gospel of Christ.

Gal 1:8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven announce any other gospel to you than that which we have announced, cursed let him be!

Gal 1:9 As we said before and now say again, since there are those teaching you doctrines other than that which you received from us, “Let them be continually cursed.”

Gal 1:10 Do you think I am trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Do you think I am trying to please men? If (and it is not true) I still seek to please men I would not therefore be a servant of Christ.

Gal 1:11 My brothers and sisters in Christ, I want you to know that the good news of salvation that I have preached to you is not something I learned from any man or group of men;

Gal 1:12 for you see I did not receive what I proclaimed to you from any man, nor was I taught in any formal setting, but rather that which I preached to you, I received as a revelation from Jesus Christ just after my conversion experience on the road to Damascus. All of which came as a result of a series of revelations from God Himself while I resided in the Arabian Desert.

4. So far we have exegeted that portion of Gal 1:13 which in the KJV has been translated “*For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion how that beyond measure I persecuted the church ...*” noting it might better be translated “**Certainly by now you have all have heard of my deportment and manner of life with reference to Judaism and how I continuously pursued and persecuted the church ...**”
5. The entire verse has been translated in the KJV.

KJV-New Sentence

Gal 1:13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

6. I want to review some of that learned and then begin new material on page three.

HOW THAT BEYOND MEASURE οτι καθος υπερβολη

1. **Hoti Kathos Huperbole** is better translated “how that, in a state of zealous extreme ...” or “because of my extreme zeal ...”
2. **Hoti** is a causal conjunction used as an adjective followed by the adverb **Kathos** and the noun **Huperbole**, declined as an accusative singular.
3. **Huperbole** can be found seven other times in the New Testament where it is translated “exceeding, of excess, beyond measure, more excellent, out of measure, for more exceeding” or “abundance.” We get our English word “hyperbole” meaning, “deliberate and obvious exaggeration used for effect, for example, “I could eat a million of these.”

I PERSECUTED THE CHURCH διωκω ο εκκλησια

1. **Dioko Ho Ekklesia** is better translated “I Paul was continuously pursuing to malign and persecute the church ...”
2. **Dioko** is a verb parsed as a 1st person singular, imperfect active indicative followed by the monadic noun **Ekklesia**, declined as an accusative.
3. **Dioko** appears more than 40 times in the New Testament where it is translated “follow, follow after, pursue, persecute, persecuted, persecuting, which persecute, persecutes” and “have persecuted.” The word was first used to describe pursuit of an enemy force in retreat and later came to include any number of uses to describe persecution.
4. **Ekklesia** appears more than 80 times in the New Testament where it is translated “church, churches” or “assembly.” It originally meant "the congress at Athens."

4.1 The word in the New Testament has four meanings:

A gathering of citizens in a public place to deliberate

An association of craftsmen

Acts 19:25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by this craft we have our wealth.

Acts 19:26 Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands:

Act 19:32 The **assembly** was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there.

All believers of the Church Age

Eph 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the **church**,

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the **church**, his body, of which he is the Savior.

A local church under the authority of a pastor-teacher

1Th 1:1 Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the **church** of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

Heb 13:7 Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Heb 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

4.2 Paul in this case would seem to be referring to all believers located in what was then known as Syria or as we would say today “the Holy Land.”

OF GOD Ο ΘΕΟΣ

1. **Theos** is well translated “of God ...”
2. **Theos** is a monadic noun declined as a genitive singular.

AND WASTED IT: ΚΑΙ ΠΟΡΘΕΩ ΑΥΤΟΣ

1. **Kai Portheo Autos** is better translated “and was actively engaged in the destruction and ravaging of it ...”
2. **Kai** is a conjunction used as a simple connective followed by the verb **Portheo**, parsed as a 1st person singular imperfect active indicative and the intensive pronoun **Autos**, declined as an accusative singular and used as a 3rd person pronoun.

3. **Portheo** appears two other places in the New Testament where it is translated “that destroyed” or “destroyed.” Let’s take a look at these two other uses.

Acts 9:20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues of Damascus, that he is the Son of God.

Acts 9:21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he **that destroyed** them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

Acts 9:22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

Acts 9:23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

Gal 1:19 But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.

Gal 1:20 Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not.

Gal 1:21 Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia;

Gal 1:22 And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ:

Gal 1:23 But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he **destroyed**.

4. Now let’s see how our entire verse looks by way of an expanded translation.

Expanded Translation

Gal 1:13 Certainly by now you have all heard of my deportment and manner of life and how I zealously and continuously pursued for the purpose of maligning, wasting and persecuting the church of God;

5. Now let’s see what we can learn from Gal 1:14.

KJV-Sentence continues

Gal 1:14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

NIV

Gal 1:14 I was advancing in Judaism beyond many Jews of my own age and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

AND PROFITED ΚΑΙ ΠΡΟΚΟΠΤΩ

1. **Kai Prokopto** is better translated “and I Paul made continual progress and advancement ...”

2. **Kai** is a conjunction followed by the verb **Prokopto**, parsed as 1st person singular, imperfect active indicative.

3. **Prokopto** in the imperfect means Paul continuously in the past continued to advance in his knowledge and reputation as an expert in the customs and laws of Judaism.

4. **Prokopto** can be found six times in the New Testament where it is translated “profited, increased, far spent, will increase, shall proceed” and “shall wax.” Several uses elsewhere will help us in our understanding of the meaning of this verb.

Luk 2:49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

Luk 2:50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

Luk 2:51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

Luk 2:52 And Jesus **increased** in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Rom 13:12 The night is **far spent**, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

Rom 12:13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

Rom 13:14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

End Lesson Taught 1-8-2012