

1. Last week I taught Gal 1:14 and when time expired we were in the process of analyzing Gal 1:15.
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 1:11-14 and then we will resume exegesis of Gal 1:15.



Expanded Translation

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.

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;

Gal 1:14 and I Paul made continual progress and advancement in Judaism above many of my contemporaries, while possessing an excessive zeal for the traditions of my Jewish forefathers.

4. So far we have exegeted that portion of Gal 1:15 which in the KJV has been translated "*But when it pleased God ...*" noting it might better be translated "**But when it delighted God ...**"

5. The entire verse has been translated in the KJV.

KJV-New Sentence

Gal 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,

6. Let me review some of that learned and then we will continue our analysis of verse 15.

7. Paul's unusual determination and excess of fury earned for him an exceptional reputation in Judaism.

7.1 He kept advancing in devotion to his faith and its traditions, passing by men of his own age, and giving proof of his zeal by persecuting Christians.

7.2 Humane considerations meant nothing to him compared with the fulfillment of his calling in behalf of his religion.

7.3 He regarded his murderous activity as his duty. It was done in the service of God. Clearly, then, Paul could not have been influenced in favor of the gospel before his conversion, and he could not have received his message from men, as alleged by the Judaizers.

7.4 It is these points he wished to make clear in this letter to the Galatians.

8. The phrase "being more exceedingly" describes Paul's special dedication to the Mosaic law and the writings of his forefathers.

9. Those to whom Paul refers as his forefathers are no doubt the Old Testament prophets, priests, kings and scribes, certainly to include his special teacher, Gamaliel.

10. Now let's return to our study of Gal 1:15.

KJV-New Sentence

Gal 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,

BUT WHEN IT PLEASSED GOD ΔΕ ΟΤΕ ΕΥΔΟΚΕΩ

1. **De Hote Eudokeo** is well translated "But when it pleased ..." or "But when it delighted God ..."

2. **De** is an adversative conjunction followed by the adverb **Hote** and the verb **Eudokeo**, parsed as a 3rd person singular, aorist active indicative.

3. There is no Greek word for God although it is certainly implied given the context.

4. **Eudokeo** appears more than 20 times, where it is translated “pleased, well pleased, hath pleased, willing, take pleasure” and “were willing.” Several uses will illustrate the context and meaning of this verb.

Luk 3:22 And the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am **well pleased**.

Rom 15:26 For it **hath pleased** them of Macedonia and Achaia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

Rom 15:27 It **hath pleased** them verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things.

Rom 15:28 When therefore I have performed this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I will come by you into Spain.

2Co 5:6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:

2Co 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

2Co 5:8 We are confident, I say, and **willing** rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

2Co 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

Heb 10:6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou **hast had no pleasure**.

Heb 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Heb 10:8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither **hadst pleasure** therein; which are offered by the law;

Heb 10:9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

WHO SEPARATED ME Ο ΑΦΟΡΙΖΩ ΕΓΩ

1. **Hos Aphorizo Ego** is better translated “who after having separated me ...”

2. **Hos** is a relative pronoun declined as a nominative neuter singular and used as a subject. **Hos** is usually translated “who, which, that” or “whom.” In this case the antecedent of **Hos** is God the Father.

3. **Aphorizo** is a verb parsed as aorist active participle followed by the pronoun **Ego**, declined as an accusative singular.

3.1 In this case **Aphorizo** refers to the moment Paul was separated from his mother's womb and drew his first breath, and thus became a living soul. It was then says Paul "God's plan for his life "touched down" on planet earth." In other words, he received from God's sovereignty and omniscience, a destiny, even though Paul knew nothing of that destiny at birth. This is clearly Paul's way of declaring how the will of God will find all of us, and that His destiny for each of us was decided before time was.

4. **Aphorizo** can be found ten times in the New Testament, where it is translated in the KJV "separate, shall separate, separated, divideth" and "sever." Several uses found elsewhere in Scripture will help illustrate its meaning.

Mat 13:49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and **sever** the wicked from among the just,

Mat 13:50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Mat 13:51 Jesus saith unto them, Have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, Yea, Lord.

Mat 13:52 Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Luk 6:22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they **shall separate** you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

Luk 6:23 Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

Luk 6:24 But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation.

Luk 6:25 Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep.

Luk 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

Luk 6:27 But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you,

Luk 6:28 Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, **Separate** me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Acts 13:3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

Acts 13:4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

Rom 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, **separated** unto the gospel of God,

Rom 1:2 (Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,)

Rom 1:3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

Rom 1:4 And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Rom 1:5 By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name:

Rom 1:6 Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ:

Rom 1:7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4.1 We may refuse any number of His plans for our lives, but God, in eternity past saw and accommodated all of those refusals in order to effectuate His plan. And that is perhaps beyond our comprehension but nevertheless a fact. We can never escape His destiny for our lives.

End Lesson Taught 1-29-2012