

Why did the Apostle Paul write much of the New Testament?

Why did the Apostle Paul write much of the New Testament? Why didn't the other Apostles who had been with Jesus throughout his ministry write more books of the New Testament? Paul seems to know a great deal about Grace. He must have had a very in depth 3 years to understand it from Christ. Why not the other Apostles to that degree?

It is very interesting that Paul wrote so much of the New Testament and had such great revelation knowledge concerning grace. God is sovereign and although we may not know all of the reasons that he chose to use Paul so greatly, there are a few things that we can glean from scripture.

When God chose Paul, he gave him an abundance of grace to be an Apostle and not only to preach the Gospel to the unsaved but to the Church as well. (*Ephesians 3:7-9, I Corinthians 3:10, 15:9-10*) Could it be that when God called Paul that he gave him grace according to the degree or measure that he was zealous for the law and legalism? After all, before his conversion, Paul was very zealous for God although his zeal was not based on true knowledge. (*Romans 10:1-3*) When Paul wrote this concerning Israel, I'm sure that he understood their misguided zeal, self-righteousness and lack of true knowledge because he had been in the exact same condition before his conversion as well. Surely the Lord knew that once he opened Paul's eyes to the truth that he would also serve him with that same zeal and dedication.

The word declares that God looks upon the heart of man. (*I Samuel 16:7*) Although Paul was a former enemy and persecutor of the Church, he must have been sincere in his beliefs. Just as the Lord knows the hearts of all men, he most certainly knew the inner recesses of Paul's heart and must have seen his sincerity and dedication to what he believed to be the truth at the time. Just as God chose Abraham because he could trust him to teach his children and household after him to keep the ways of the Lord, I believe God also chose Paul because he knew that he could trust him to teach his grace, wisdom and knowledge to his children in the Church as well so that they could grow spiritually mature. (*Genesis 18:19, Ephesians 4:11-15, II Peter 3:18*) Paul spoke of himself as the spiritual father of those that he took the Gospel to. (*I Corinthians 4:14-17*) After conversion Paul was given much knowledge and wisdom from God and he did obey and fulfill the Lord's calling upon his life to the end. (*II Peter 3:15-16, II Timothy 4:6-8*)

Also could it be that God used Paul so greatly to write a lot of the New Testament because he was a learned man? Scripture says that the other Apostles were unlearned men. (*Acts 4:13*) In the NIV the word unlearned is "unschooled". I don't know if this means that they were illiterate or only uneducated in the Jewish Law. Since Paul was educated in the law (*as a student of Gamaliel*) and had been a Pharisee before his conversion, he certainly would have known the law. (*Acts 22:2-3, Philippians 3:3-6*)

After Paul was saved however, God was then able to really use his zeal combined with his learned ability and revelation knowledge of the Spirit to preach and teach the mystery of Christ and his grace to others. (*Ephesians 3:1-11*) Not only was the Church in the first century blessed by his divinely inspired epistles, so has the entire Church throughout history – including us today.