# **Understanding Apostolic Authority**

(appropriate for Mid Schoolers and older) Michael R. Daily, November 2025

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Paul starts his letter to the Galatians with the following statement:

#### Galatians 1:1

Paul, an apostle (not sent from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead),

Paul is stating that he holds the office of Apostle and that he was selected as an apostle by Jesus Christ and God the Father and that his selection was not made by other men or by a human organization. In fact, Paul starts 9 of his 13 letters by restating his office and authority as an apostle:

Titus 1:1 - Paul, a bond-servant of God and <u>an apostle of Jesus Christ</u>, ....

Romans 1:1 - Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, <u>called as an apostle</u>, ....

I Corinthians 1:1 - Paul, <u>called as an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God</u>, ....

II Corinthians 1:1 - Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, ....

Ephesians 1:1 - Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, ....

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, ....

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, ....

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, ....

I Timothy 1:1 - Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus according to the commandment of God our Savior

In contrast, Peter starts his two books with a simple statement that he is an apostle.

I Peter 1:1 - Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

II Peter 1:1 - Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

But Paul's statements go into more detail about his calling to be an apostle, that his selection to be an apostle was made by Jesus Christ and God the Father, that his selection was God's will, that his selection was commanded by Christ Himself, and that his selection as an apostle was not made by men or by a group of people. In fact, Paul appears to be defending his God given office of the Apostle. Something none of the other apostles felt that they had to do. Why did Paul feel he needed to do this?

#### I Corinthians 9:1-2

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? <sup>2</sup> If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; ....

#### I Timothy 2:7

For this <u>I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying)</u> as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Throughout his life Paul was accused by some Christians of not really being an apostle which is why he started his letters with strong doctrinal statements establishing his apostleship. He was constantly having to defend his apostolic authority even though none of the other apostles had this problem. Why?

The reason why is due to what appears to be a mistake that the other apostles made shortly after Jesus ascended into heaven. But before we look at that, let's see what the Bible says about how many people will be selected by God to be apostles.

## Revelation 21:14

And the wall of the city had <u>twelve</u> foundation stones, and on them <u>were</u> the <u>twelve names</u> of the <u>twelve apostles</u> of the Lamb.

This is a prophecy of a city that will be created in the future that resurrected Christians will live in called, "The New Jerusalem". This city will be created at the end of the age (i.e. in our future) and it states that the total number of apostles that will ever live is 12.

**note:** some translations also use the word, "apostle" as a more general term referring to a special messenger of the Gospel and someone who was highly regarded by the twelve, special Apostles. For example, in four passages Jesus' brother (James), Barnabas, Andronicus, and Junias are referred to as apostles even though we know they were not considered part of "the twelve". However, these few verses (I Corinthians 15:3-8, Galatians 1:19, Acts 14:14, Romans 16:7) are not referring to, "The Twelve", which is the group of special Apostles chosen personally by Jesus Christ for the unique mission that we will be discussing below.

# The names of 11 of these 12 apostles are undisputed (Matthew 10:2-4). These are:

Simon Peter and his brother Andrew
James, son of Zebedee and his brother John
Philip, Bartholomew, Thaddaeus
Thomas, the doubter
Matthew, the tax collector
James, son of Alphaeus
Simon the Zealot

Judas Iscariot was not an apostle. In fact, he wasn't even a Christian.

# Matthew 26:24-25

The Son of Man *is to* go, just as it is written of Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! <u>It would have been good for that man if he had not been born</u>." <sup>25</sup> And Judas, who was betraying Him, said, "Surely it is not I, Rabbi?" Jesus said to him, "You have said *it* yourself."

By the way, Judas (and false ministers up to and including today) are motivated to do what they do by money.

#### John 12:4-6

But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, who was intending to betray Him, said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and given to poor *people*?" <sup>6</sup> Now he said this, not because he was concerned about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box, he used to pilfer what was put into it.

So, the question is, "Who is the 12th Apostle?"

### Acts 1:21-26

Therefore it is necessary that of the men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us— <sup>22</sup> beginning with the baptism of John until the day that He was taken up from us—one of these *must* become a witness with us of His resurrection." <sup>23</sup> So they put forward two men, Joseph called Barsabbas (who was also called Justus), and Matthias. <sup>24</sup> And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all men, show which one of these two You have chosen <sup>25</sup> to occupy this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place," <sup>26</sup> And they drew lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

The first question we have to ask is, "Is this a doctrinal passage or a passage of historical revelation?"

**note:** A doctrinal passage sounds like God is preaching a sermon to you. A passage of historical revelation feels more like you are watching a TV show about something that happened to a particular person.

This passage is historical revelation. It is not universal doctrine. The next thing we look for is commentary from God. Does God say that He told the apostles to do this? No. Did God say He was pleased that they did this? No. God makes no commentary on what the apostles did in selecting Mathias. He doesn't say it was

good and He doesn't say it was bad. All God did was record what the apostles did without comment. Please note that anytime historical narrative passages are in conflict with doctrinal passages, doctrine wins.

This appears to be an example of the apostles making a mistake! God never told them to choose another apostle. In fact, God reserves the selection of apostles to Himself. Jesus chose the 11 while He was alive on the Earth (Luke 6:13) and he chose Paul on the road to Damascus after His resurrection (Acts 9:1-19). These are the only 12 apostles who will ever exist!

Do we have other examples of Apostles making mistakes? Yes, Peter made a mistake in who he was willing to eat with, and Paul publicly rebuked him for it (Galatians 2).

I'm sure Matthias was a godly Christian man worthy of great respect, but Jesus did not personally select him to be an apostle. This is why Paul had to constantly defend his apostolic authority.

# Galatians 1:1

Paul, an apostle (not sent from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead),

Paul's message appears to be, "Paul, an apostle, selected, called, and chosen by Jesus Christ, not chosen by men nor by the agency of man. I'm the twelfth apostle!"

### II Corinthians 11:5

For I consider myself not in the least inferior to the most eminent apostles.

eminent: having a lofty position of prominence or superiority; having high rank

Paul is asking us to imagine who the Apostle is they consider to be of the highest rank or position. Then he says that he, Paul, is right up there with them!

If Paul is not the twelfth Apostle, then we would have to consider all of these doctrinal passages about his apostleship (about 14 or so) to be untrue! Since 14 doctrinal passages outweigh one passage of historical narrative its clear that Paul must be the twelfth Apostle.

### **Apostolic Office, Gifts, and Authority**

The 12 apostles were given spiritual gifts, authorities, and experiences that are unique to them and the special mission they were also given. In other words these gifts, authorities, and experiences are only for apostles and not for Christians in general.

#### I Thessalonians 2:6

nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though <u>as apostles of Christ we</u> might have asserted our authority.

#### Matthew 16:18-19

I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

**Key Point:** 

When we read a passage of the New Testament where Jesus is talking to the disciples (who would soon become the apostles) we need to determine if the promises Jesus was giving them were intended for all Christians, only the Apostles, or some other subset of Christians (ex: Tribulation Christians). Promises involving spiritual authority were typically reserved for apostles.

#### The Primary Mission of the Apostles and Prophets

The primary mission of the apostles and prophets was to speak the words of God and to write them down. In other words, to write the Bible.

# **Ephesians 2:19-21**

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, <sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,

# (II Peter 3:1-2)

This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you in which I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, <sup>2</sup> that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior *spoken* by your apostles.

# (Jude 1:3)

Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was <u>once for all</u> handed down to the saints.

The last Apostle to die was John and the last book of the Bible he wrote was Revelation. In the last three verses of the Bible, John closes the Bible with this statement:

# (Revelation 22:18-21)

I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; <sup>19</sup> and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book. <sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

In writing this, John declared that the Bible was completed. God completed special revelation with the writing of the Book of Revelation and the church validated this by closing the canon of God's Word in 95 A.D. with the 66 Books of the Bible that we use today.

Canon: an authoritative list of books accepted as Holy Scripture; the authentic works of a writer; a

sanctioned body of related works

**Key Point:** By closing the canon, the church declared that God has said everything to Man He desires to

say. God has nothing more He wishes to say to Man.

God's revelation to man was completed when John finished the Book of Revelation and, as the last of the Apostles, died. As a result, extra-biblical revelation was declared closed from 95 A.D. until the end of the church age (i.e. the rapture).

The primary mission of the Prophets and Apostles was to speak the words of God and also to write them down. In this way, the Bible you have today was created. And to validate that they truly spoke the words of God, they were also given miraculous gifts in order to perform signs, wonders, and miracles.

#### II Corinthians 12:12

The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.

Think about this. The Jewish nation of Israel had interacted with God for thousands of years. They had seen the miracles of Moses, Jericho, Elijah and Elisha, Daniel, and others. Now these new people, Christians, show up claiming that the rules had changed and now God was working through them instead. Would you listen to them? I wouldn't! So God showed Israel that these men could perform the same miracles and more which

validated that, along with the Old Testament prophecies of Christ, these men spoke the words of God and that the rules had changed to faith in Christ for salvation.

# (Hebrews 2:3-4)

how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, <sup>4</sup> God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

# (Acts 8:6)

The crowds with one accord were giving <u>attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the signs</u> which he was performing.

# Acts 2:43

Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and <u>many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.</u>

# (Mark 16:19-20)

So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. <sup>20</sup> And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.

# (Acts 14:3)

Therefore they spent a long time *there* speaking boldly *with reliance* upon the Lord, who was <u>testifying</u> to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands.

The apostle's secondary mission was to be used by God in the transfer of His interactive relationship from the nation of Israel to Christians and in order to complete this mission God temporarily gave the apostles special gifts and authorities. The only people who could perform these miracles were the Apostles or people that the Apostles designated as their representatives by the laying on of hands. In other words, the apostles were uniquely able to give spiritual gifts to other people – but this authority was not transferrable. It lived and died with the apostles.

# (Acts 19:6)

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.

### II Timothy 1:6

For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

### **Romans 1:11**

For I long to see you so that I may impart some spiritual gift to you, that you may be established;

# (Acts 8:13,18-20)

Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed. 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!

For example, Stephen was not an apostle but performed many miracles because the Apostles designated Stephen as their representative.

But Stephen was not able to give that ability to anyone else. Only the Apostles could do that.

### Acts 6:8

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people.

But once the Bible had been completed and the transfer from Israel to the Church had occurred, there was no longer any need for apostles and prophets. From the time of John's death until the future rapture of the church, there will be no prophets or apostles. Therefore, the miraculous gifts are also not in effect during this time period. Instead, we validate that a man speaks the words of God by comparing what he says to what the Bible says. But after the rapture, the spotlight will turn back to Israel and once again the rules will change and prophets performing miracles will again occur. (e.g., the two witnesses, **Revelation 11:1-13**).

"He sent them forth to work miracles as well as to preach. Now, he hath not given us this power, neither do we desire it; it is more to God's glory that the world should be conquered by the force of truth than by the blaze of miracles. The miracles were the great bell of the universe which was rung in order to call the attention of all men all over the world to the fact that the gospel feast was spread; we do not need the bell now . . . , for the moral and spiritual forces of truth to work by themselves, apart from any physical manifestation, is more to the glory of the truth, and the Christ of the truth, than if we were all miracle workers, and could destroy gainsayers. Yet still, though we work no miracles in the physical world, we work them in the moral and spiritual world."

— Charles H. Spurgeon, Sheep Among Wolves, Sermon 1370, August 19 1877

#### During the church age that we now live in God is not speaking or giving new revelation today.

Instead He gave Christians the Holy Spirit to illuminate His written Word (the Bible). The Holy Spirit guides us and helps us understand and apply the Bible. This help from the Holy Spirit in understanding the Bible is sufficient to guide us in all matters of life and in the decisions we need to make. There is no need of further revelation.

#### (John 16:13)

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

#### (John 14:16-17)

I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

#### John 14:26

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

Even though the offices, authorities, and gifts of the apostles and prophets no longer exist, God has provided spiritually gifted Pastors, Teachers, and Evangelists to equip His Church for service.

#### (Ephesians 4:11-13)

And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

**note:** the gifts are not tied to whether a person went to seminary or not.

#### (Act 4:13)

Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and *began* to recognize them as having been with Jesus.

# **Those That Make Claims to Apostolic Authority**

There are large numbers of people today who claim that they have been given apostolic authority. It comes in many different forms.

#### II Corinthians 11:13

For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

First, you will see people on TV today who claim that they are Apostles or Prophets. But if anyone claims to be an Apostle or Prophet today we know its not true. Why? Because the Bible tells us that there will ever only be 12 apostles and we know that all 12 have already lived and died. This is why, today, people are not raised from the dead, tongues of fire do not come upon new Christians, and people are not instantly healed by touching handkerchiefs or the crossing of shadows of special people. More importantly, because the Bible has been completed, we cannot rely on miracles or supernatural activity to be a reliable indicator that God is providing new revelation – it could just as easily be satan or his demons. It could also be an illusion of the supernatural done by deceptive men (i.e. similar to what magicians do).

There are ministers who may not call themselves apostles or prophets but they claim that they are special Christians who receive new revelations from God that are beyond what the Bible says. These are deceptions.

# Galatians 1:6-12

I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; <sup>7</sup> which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed! <sup>10</sup> For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ. <sup>11</sup> For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. <sup>12</sup> For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but *I received it* through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

There are those who claim to have special visitations from Jesus but when they bow before this "visitor" they are not worshipping who they think they are.

## Colossians 2:18-19

Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the <u>worship of the angels</u>, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind, <sup>19</sup> and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

**Key Point:** People who form their convictions based on visions of Jesus, Mary, angels, etc. end up bowing and worshipping the "visitor" who in reality is a fallen angel!

Personal note: I will never bow to a visitor claiming to be Jesus, no matter how awesomely supernatural the visitor presents themselves to me with overwhelming feelings of love. Why? Because I don't want to worship fallen angels and I don't want to lose my blessing! John 20:29 - Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."

There are those who claim to have the power to miraculously heal people and perform miracles. They can't. These gifts were apostolic gifts and were fading away even while the apostles were still alive. Paul, the man who healed numerous people and raised the dead at the beginning of his ministry, could not even heal his sick friend Trophimus later in his life once the transfer from Israel to the Church had been completed!

Il Timothy 4:20 - Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.

**note:** God still miraculously heals but not through a special person who has to be present for the miracle to occur.

In 1977, Oral Roberts claimed he saw a vision of a 900-foot-tall Jesus who instructed him to build the City of Faith, a 60-story hospital in Tulsa, OK. Roberts said God told him He would use the center to unite medical technology with faith healing which would revolutionize health care and enable doctors to finally cure cancer. The building was completed in the early 1980s but went out of business and was sold off by 1989. During these years over 80 percent of the building had never been occupied and the cure for cancer never materialized. – John MacArthur, Strange Fire, 2013, page 112.

On his October 19, 1999 television broadcast, *Praise the Lord*, faith healer Benny Hinn prophesied that if TBN viewers would put the caskets of their dead loved ones in front of a television set and touch the dead person's hand to the screen, people would "be raised from the dead .... by the thousands." – **Benny Hinn**, *Praise the Lord*, **TBN**, **October 19. 1999**.

And what was the result? No one was raised from the dead. This man is still on TV today.

**note:** if you trace their history, you will find that many of the false apostles and prophets on Christian television today were disciples of Oral Roberts.

There are those who claim they can miraculously impart spiritual gifts to other people. Again this was something only Apostles could do during the transition period of Acts.

Heaven Tourism: There are numerous people who claim that they have died and visited heaven and returned to sell you a book and a movie ticket and reveal all the new revelations they have received about God, life, and heaven. They may not know it but they are claiming apostolic authority when they share these deceptions. Only two people are mentioned in the Bible who visited heaven and returned. One, Paul, was not permitted to speak about it. The other was John. Both of them were apostles given new revelations of heaven in order to write their parts of the Bible.

## II Corinthians 12:1-4

Boasting is necessary, though it is not profitable; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. <sup>2</sup>I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven. <sup>3</sup> And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows— <sup>4</sup> was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.

# Revelation 4:1-2

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven, and the first voice which I had heard, like the sound of a trumpet speaking with me, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after these things." Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne.

There are those that claim the apostolic authority to forgive other people's sins (or not) but they don't have that authority. This authority was given only to the apostles.

# John 20:19-23

So when it was evening on that day, the first *day* of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> So Jesus said to them again, "Peace *be* with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." <sup>22</sup> And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."

There are those who claim they can issue religious edicts that have more authority than the Bible. In other words, they can issue a command that directly conflicts with what the Bible says, thereby neutralizing that part of the Bible. For example, Catholic, Mormon, and some Pentecostal churches believe their leaders have this authority but they don't.

# I Corinthians 4:6

Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, so that in us <u>you may learn not to exceed what is written</u>, so that no one of you will become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.

Here is a simple example: the word, "Pope" means "father". Note what Jesus says about this.

# Matthew 23:9 [AMP]

Do not call *anyone* on earth [who guides you spiritually] your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven.

This was one of the causes of The Reformation. That Catholic priests and Popes did not have apostolic authority. The Bible is the authority! The Reformation was a major theological movement in 16th-century Europe that posed a religious and political challenge to the papacy and the authority of the Catholic Church. The Reformation is usually considered to have started with publication of the *Ninety-five Theses* by Martin Luther in 1517. The Reformers also argued that salvation was based on faith in Christ alone and not a process that involved good works, as in the Catholic view.

### The False Apostles are Going to Get Worse in the Future

The number and popularity of false teachers and those claiming apostolic authority is currently at an all-time high but its going to get much worse in the future.

# Matthew 24:24-27

For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect. <sup>25</sup> Behold, I have told you in advance. <sup>26</sup> So if they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go out, *or*, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe *them*. <sup>27</sup> For just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Jesus said that in our future the false apostles, prophets, and teachers will be able to perform <u>actual miracles</u> by the power of satan. As a result, <u>all</u> the non-christians will be completely deceived and many Christians will be confused. Only those supernaturally protected by God will escape being deceived!

"We must remember that Satan has his miracles, too" - John Calvin

### The Antidote

The antidote to protect you from those claiming apostolic gifts and authorities can be found in I Timothy 4:6-7

# <u>I Timothy 4:6-7</u>

In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, <u>constantly</u> nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following. <sup>7</sup>But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, <u>discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness</u>;

#### Revelation 2:2

'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;

For additional information on this topic please see the studies, "The Transition Period of Acts", and "The Dangers of Extra Biblical Revelation", at: <a href="http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/">http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/</a>

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Galatians 1:1, Titus 1:1, Romans 1:1, I Corinthians 1:1  How does this passage relate to the theme?
When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:
How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?
PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 1:1, Ephesians 1:1, Colossians 1:1, II Timothy 1:1 How does this passage relate to the theme?
When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:
How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?
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# QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD JEREMIAH 15:16 THEME: Understanding Apostolic Authority

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 21:14
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 10:2-4, Matthew 26:24-25, John 12:4-6
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 1:21-26
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Galatians Chapter 2
How does this passage relate to the theme?
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: 1 Thessalonians 2:6, Matthew 16:18-19
How does this passage relate to the theme?
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 2:19-21, II Peter 3:1-2, Jude 1:3, Revelation 22:18-21
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# QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD JEREMIAH 15:16 THEME: Understanding Apostolic Authority

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 12:12, Hebrews 2:3-4, Acts 8:6  How does this passage relate to the theme?
When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:
How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?
PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 2:43, Mark 16:19-20, Acts 14:3
How does this passage relate to the theme?
When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:
How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?
PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 19:6, II Timothy 1:6, Romans 1:11  How does this passage relate to the theme?
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 16:13, John 14:16-26
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 11:13, Colossians 2:18-19, John 20:29
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Timothy 4:20
How does this passage relate to the theme?
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# QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD JEREMIAH 15:16 THEME: Understanding Apostolic Authority

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Corinthians 12:1-4, Revelation 4:1-2
How does this passage relate to the theme?
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When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:
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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 20:19-23, I Corinthians 4:6, Matthew 23:9
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