

Sermon: Paul's Divine Calling

July 5, 2020

Scripture: Galatians 1:11-24

I. The gospel Paul preached was received by _____

_____ from God. (11-12). 2 Peter 1:21

1 Peter 1:23–25; Hosea 4:1–3a

II. Paul points to his _____ as evidence for the power of grace. (13-14); Philippians 3:(4-6)

III. Paul's new direction. (15-16a)

1. God had a _____ for his life.

2. Saul received a _____ from Jesus. Acts 9:3–5; 1 Corinthians 15:10

3. God's _____ was for Saul to reach the lost for Jesus. Galatians 1:16–20; Acts 9:26–29

IV. Saul's _____ is established. Galatians 1:21–24; Acts 9:19b-22

Thought for the Day Man lives by the CAN; (Common, acceptable, and Normal) principle or the GAP (Good, acceptable and perfect) principle. Society, man, or the flesh decides the CAN principle. Sin becomes common, everybody is doing so it is common. Then since it is common it becomes acceptable. After it is acceptable for a while it becomes normal. Sexual promiscuity is now normal in our society. Disrespect of our police force or any other authority figure is rapidly moving from common to acceptable. Sin is becoming acceptable. When what we are seeing on the news becomes normal then you have anarchy and the destruction of a nation. **Romans 12:2** ² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. Notice the word acceptable is in both systems; one accepts sin and the way of the world. The other accepts good as defined by God in the Bible leading us to be obedient to God's standard. It is easy to see which principle our country is following. If we continue on our downward path it will be normal to live in fear because everyone will be doing what is right in their own eyes. There are some things we can do. First prayer, then work on our own transformation and pray that believers living under the GAP principle can get in places of authority so they can guide what is acceptable in our country. What is common can be good; what is normal can be pure. We can treat each other with respect, people don't have to be self-centered, sin can be labeled as a crime, and the person committing a crime should be accountable, and responsible instead of being labeled a victim. **Romans 13:1–3** ¹ Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. ² Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. ³ **For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:** Pray that the normal of our nation adopts that principle to live by. **Pastor Bruce**