

“Separated Unto”

Text: Romans 1:1

Intro:

- The Apostle Paul says in the opening verse of his epistle to the believers at Rome, **“Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,”**
 - In his opening verse, Paul states his position or vocation.
 - ✓ Notice with me how Paul puts **“servant”** before **“apostle.”**
 - ✓ A “servant” is a position of humility, or servitude.
 - ✓ Paul tells us his position in Christ is first and foremost the one of a servant.
 - Paul goes on to say, **“called to be an apostle”**
 - ✓ The word “apostle” means sent one.
 - ✓ It was a position of great authority and influence.
- ⇒ What is the Word of God trying to show us by having Paul by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit call himself a “servant” first and then “an apostle” second.
- I believe first, to receive your specific calling from God, each Christian has to first become a servant of Jesus Christ.
 - Before, God gives you anything specific to do.
 - ✓ You first must submit to His will for your life and take a position of humility.

⇒ **Illustrations:**

- Christ is our greatest example of humility and servitude.
 - ✓ We are told in **John 13:4-5**, **“He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.”**
 - ✓ **See Philippians 2:5-11.**
 - ✓ **Bible Principle** – Before God will exalt you, you must first voluntarily humble yourself before him.
 - In other words “Before you can go up you must go down.”
 - The Word of God tells us in **1 Pe. 5:5-6**, **“...God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:”**
- Some may wonder why the Apostle Paul was so successful in the ministry that God called him into.
 - ✓ The answer is found at his conversion on the road to Damascus.
 - Paul, right after his conversion says to the Lord in **Acts 9:6**, **“Lord what wilt thou have me to do?”**
 - In other words, Paul gave God a blank check and allowed the Lord to fill it in.

➤ The problem with many Christians is that they have never become a servant of Jesus Christ.

✓ Meet most Christians today and they give you their title in church.

o I'm a deacon.

o I'm the Sunday School Superintendent.

o I'm the music director.

✓ But you very rarely hear them say as Paul did, **I'm "a servant of Jesus Christ."**

⇒ ^{Today} ~~This morning~~ what we want to focus on in particular in Romans 1:1, is that Paul tells the believers at Rome that he was, **"separated unto the gospel of God,..."**

⇒ By Paul's statement we can conclude that if Paul was separated **"unto"** something, **"the gospel of God"** then he must have been separated **"from"** something.

⇒ In order, for a person to make a real change in their life and not just turn over a new leaf or get cleaned up for awhile, then they must not only separate **"from"** something but also separate **"unto"** something.

⇒ What Paul, said about being **"separated unto the gospel of God,"** applies to every born again, child of God and not just the Apostle Paul.

➤ If you are truly saved, then you have been separated unto the **"gospel of God."**

⇒ **First we want to look at -**

⇒ **I. What The Christian Has Been Separated “FROM”**

- **1) Our Skin or Flesh - See Col 2:11-13.**
- **2) Our Service To Sin - See Rom. 6:6, 11-18.**
- **3) Our Sentence - See Rom. 6:23 & Rev. 20:14 ✓**
- **4) Our Servitude to Satan (the god of this world) - See Gal. 1:4 & 2 Cor. 6:14-18.**

⇒ **Second we want to look at**

⇒ **II. What The Christian Has Been Separated “UNTO”**

➤ **1) The Saviour**

- ✓ The Christian is “in Christ” no longer “in Adam”
 - No longer condemned in Adam but justified in Christ.
- ✓ **Gal 2:20** - “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:”
- ✓ **Eph. 3:17** - “That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;”
- ✓ **Col. 1:27** - “...Christ in you, the hope of glory.”
- ✓ **2 Cor. 5:17**, tells us because a person is “in Christ” they are a new creature.
- ✓ **Rom. 8:35-39**, tells us that once a person is “in Christ” nothing can separate them from Christ.

➤ **2) Separated unto - SERVICE**

- ✓ **a.** Each Christian according to **1 Pe. 2:9** is part of a **chosen generation and an holy nation.**

- o They belong to a **royal priesthood** and are a **peculiar people**.
- ✓ **b.** Each Christian in their service to the Lord are according to **Titus 2:14**, are to be **“zealous of good works”**
- ✓ **c.** According to **2 Timothy 2:21**, the Christian in his service to the Lord should purge his vessel or flesh of all uncleanness so they can be a vessel unto honor and meet for the Master’s use.
- ✓ **d.** The Word of God tells us in **2 Cor. 5:18-20**, that each Christian is an Ambassador for Christ and have been given the ministry of reconciliation.
 - o We are to be telling others how they can have peace with God and avoid the wrath of Almighty God through the shed blood of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- **3) Separated unto – THE SOLUTION**
 - ✓ The only solution for this sin sick world.
 - o The “gospel of God”
 - ✓ Paul defines in **1 Cor. 15:1-4 – Read**.
 - o The Apostle Paul tells us in verse 3, that he received the gospel from the Lord, Himself and now delivers it **“unto us.”**
 - o He did not receive it from man.
 - ✓ The Christian in turn is suppose to deliver the Gospel of God **unto** a lost and dying world.
 - o Why?

- o Because **Rom 1:16**, tells us that it **“the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;”**

➤ **4) Separated Someday unto SINLESSNESS**

- ✓ Man is made of body, soul, and spirit.
 - o The Christian’s spirit has been born again of the Spirit of God.
 - o The body or flesh is still unsaved.
 - o And the inner man, the soul is being renewed day by day or being conformed to the image of Christ.
- ✓ However, someday soon the body, soul, and spirit of the Christian shall be sinless.
- ✓ The Word of God tells us this will occur at the rapture of the church, the body of Christ.
- ✓ The individual Christian shall be spiritually and physically separated from this world.
 - o Our sinful flesh shall become sinless and totally sanctified.
- ✓ The Word of God tells us that our vile bodies shall be changed into glorified bodies.
 - o And we shall be like Christ.

➤ **5) Separated unto the SCRIPTURES, the Word of God**

- ✓ **As Christians we are instructed to:**
 - o **Read the SCRIPTURES – Deut. 17:19**
 - o **Meditate on the SCRIPTURES day and night – Joshua 1:8**

- o **Study the SCRIPTURES – 2 Tim. 2:15.**
- o **Hid the SCRIPTURES in our hearts to keep us from sin –
Psalm 119:11**
- o **Search the SCRIPTURES – John 5:39.**
- o **Be a doer not just a hearer of the SCRIPTURES or the
Word – James 1:22.**

➤ **6) Separated unto the SANCTUARY**

- ✓ **Hebrews 10:25** – “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”
- ✓ **David said in Psalm 122:1**, “I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.”
 - o Is that your attitude about coming to the House of God.

➤ **7) Separated unto the SAINTS**

- ✓ **1 John 3:14**, “We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.”

⇒ **Conclusion:**

- We have seen ^{Today} ~~this morning~~ that Christian has been **first** separated **FROM**
 - ✓ **His Skin or Flesh**
 - ✓ **His Service To Sin**
 - ✓ **His Sentence**

- ✓ **His ~~Our~~ Servitude to Satan**
- And **second** the Christian has been separated **UNTO**
 - ✓ The Saviour
 - ✓ Service
 - ✓ The Solution
 - ✓ Someday Soon Sinlessness
 - ✓ The Scriptures
 - ✓ The Sanctuary
 - ✓ The Saints