



Sabbath School Ministry

Sabbath School Department Inter-European Division

Outline with ideas for group discussion largely taken from the Teachers' Edition of the Sabbath School Lesson prepared by the General Conference SS ministry.

Lesson no.: 02 **1-7 July 2017**
Title: **Paul's Authority and the Gospel**
Key texts: ***Galations 1; 5:12; 2 Peter 3:15-16; Philippians 1:1.***

A. Themes to Explore:

1. Even though many questioned his authority as an apostle, Peter confirmed Paul's apostleship and strongly defended him.
2. Just as in Paul's time, the temptation to doubt the authority of Scripture is a very present reality. However, today we have important arguments in support of the Bible thanks to recent studies and archeological discoveries.
3. In Galatia there were not only problems concerning the authority of Scripture, Paul also deals with problems derived from errors in interpretation. In his response to each of these issues Paul always establishes a central theme: the grace of Christ.

B. Learning Objectives*

- Know:** Describe how Paul defends the authenticity of his gospel call and his teaching.
- Feel:** Empathize with the passion and determination with which Paul defended the truth of the Gospel and fought against false teachings.
- Do:** Be determined in defending the truth of the Bible and its authority.

C. Other possible questions for deeper study, debate, sharing and testimony**

1. **Why is this lesson important to me? (Motivate);**
 - 1a. Why have critics and opponents to the Word of God and to its 'authors' arisen in all ages and with differing methods?
 2. **What else is there still to learn from God's Word? (Explore);**
 - 2a. Why does Paul always introduce himself with the greeting: "Grace and peace"? What do these words teach us about the substance of the Gospel?
 - 2b. Read Gal. 1:8-9. What problems is Paul referring to? How can this warning be applied in our time?
 3. **How can I practice what I've learned from God's Word? (Apply);**
 - 3a. How can we easily fall away from the **healthy** gospel into "another gospel"? List some possible risk factors.
 4. **How can I communicate and apply what I've learned from God's Word? (Create).**
 - 4a. Indicate some points on which, in our preaching today, we risk sliding into "another gospel".

NOTES:

- * Copied from the Teachers Edition that adopts active, functional and sharing principles (Know, Feel, Do).
** To compare and use together with the final questions found in the lesson study every Friday.
*** The questions in red are drawn from the Teachers Edition.