Life of Paul

Lesson #03

Galatians 1:13

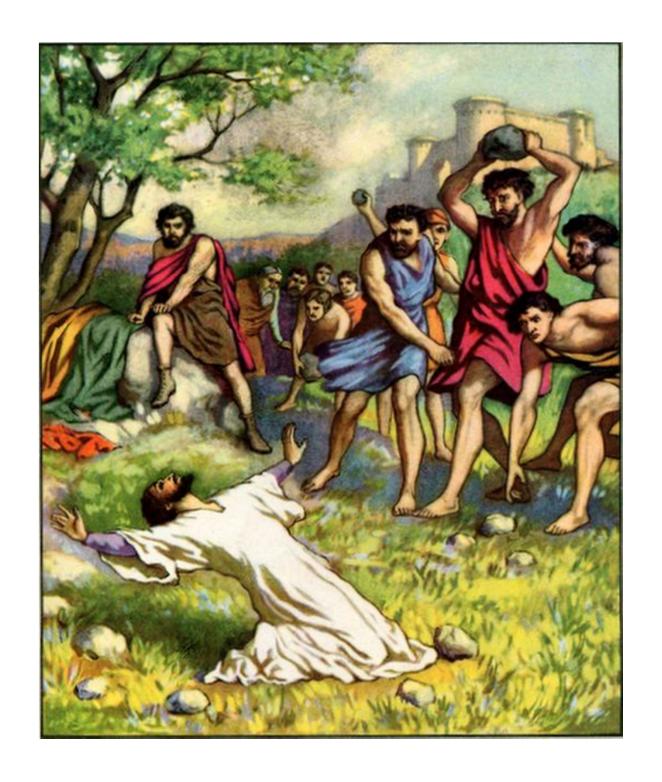
"¹³ For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, <u>how I used</u> to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it."

Philippians 3:6

"⁶ As to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless."

I Timothy 1:13

"¹³ Even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief."



Philippians 3:6

"⁶ As to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless."

Numbers 25:11-13

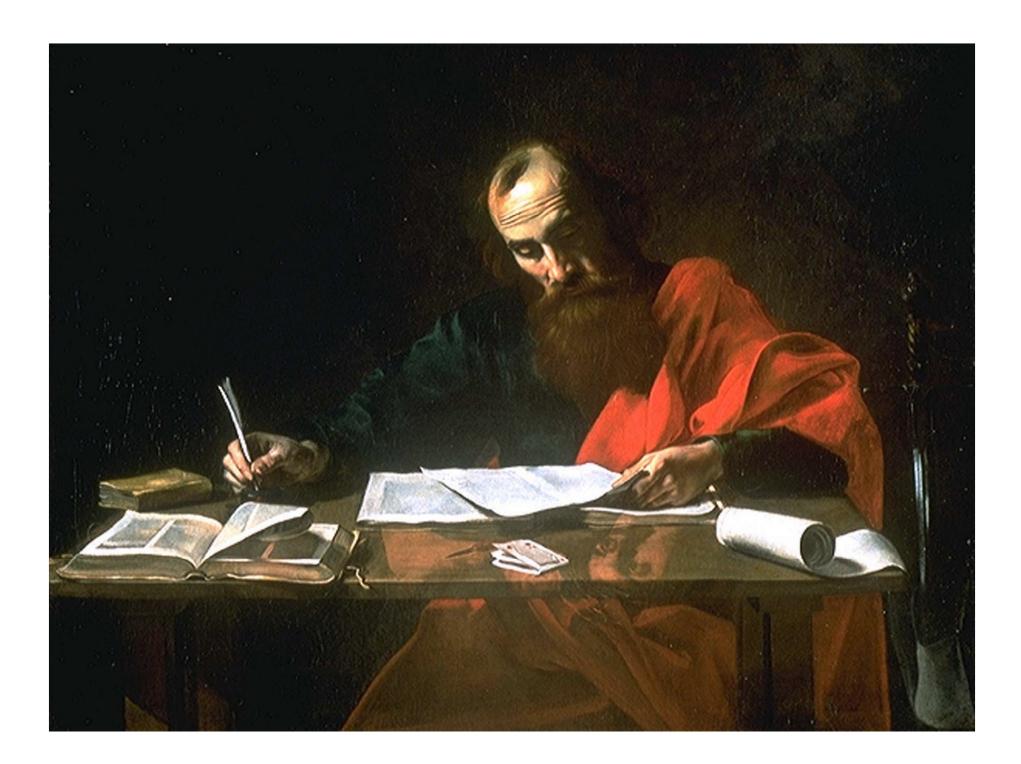
"11 Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned away My wrath from the sons of Israel in that he was jealous with My jealousy among them, so that I did not destroy the sons of Israel in My jealousy. ¹² Therefore say, 'Behold, I give him My covenant of peace; ¹³ and it shall be for him and his descendants after him, a covenant of a perpetual priesthood, because he was jealous for his God and made atonement for the sons of Israel."

Psalm 106:28-31

- "²⁸ They joined themselves also to Baalpeor, And ate sacrifices offered to the dead. ²⁹ Thus they provoked Him to anger with their deeds, And the plague broke out among them.
- ³⁰ Then Phinehas stood up and interposed, And so the plague was stayed. ³¹ And it was reckoned to him for righteousness, To all generations forever."

II Corinthians 10:10

"¹⁰ For they say, 'His letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible."



Verse 22

"Very religious in all respects"

"Unknown" – agnostos

"What you worship," not "Whom you worship."

Paul used revulsion as a motivation of engagement.

"Very religious in all respects" is indicative of mankind.

Paul's response, "This I proclaim to you . . ." is an example of the church's call to engage the culture, i.e. proclaim the truth.

First All roads lead to God/heaven.

This is false.

Second

All religions teach the same things.

This is false.

There may be points of similarity because of the Moral Law's universal presence.

Third

Secularism, which dominates our culture, asserts a godless religion, with its companions in cosmic crime, materials, hedonism, and relativism.

This is false.

Fourth

Beware of "therapeutic moral deism," the growing view of Christian youth in America. God is the supreme butler and counselor who is always present to help and make us feel well. He wants us to be kind to one another and get along.

This is false.

This minimizes God and makes Him our servant as we seek to have a good life with His stamp of approval upon our lives.