

Class 4a

PAUL'S VIEWS OF WOMEN'S ROLES

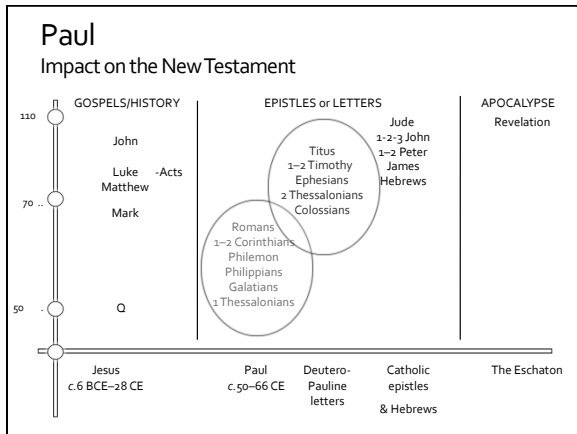
Outline

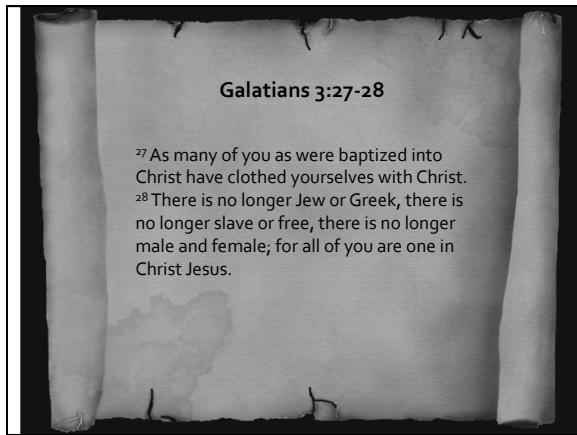
- Paul, apostle and letter-writer
 - Brief bio
 - Impact on New Testament
- Paul's Views of Women's Roles
 - Galatians 3:28
 - Romans 16
 - Corinth
 - Problems in Corinth
 - Research clusters
 - Text analysis of 1 Corinthians 7 & 11

Paul

Brief Bio

- Born in 10 CE in Tarsus, Asia Minor (Turkey)
- A zealous Pharisee and Roman citizen
- Converts to Christianity around 34 CE (after Jesus' death)
- Takes his message on the road to Asia Minor and Greece
- Writes letters to communities he visited if he hears of problems or questions (51–62 CE)
- Arrested in Jerusalem c.60 CE
- Dies in Rome c.62 CE during a persecution by Nero





Paul's Views of Women's Roles

Romans 16

- **Date** Winter 57-58 CE
- **Place** Written from Corinth (host Gaius; cf. 1 Cor 1:14) or Cenchræe to Christians in Rome
- **Author** Paul, "apostle to the Gentiles"
- **Audience** Roman Christians, former Jews and Gentiles, most of whom Paul had not yet met

Paul's Views of Women's Roles

Romans 16

- Who are the specific women named in Romans 16?
- What roles are they functioning in?
- How do these tasks compare to Xenophon's assumptions about gender roles?

Romans 16:1-16

¹ I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cencreae, ² so that you may welcome her in the Lord as is fitting for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well. ³ Greet Prisca and Aquila, who work with me in Christ Jesus, ⁴ and who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. ⁵ Greet also the church in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who was the first convert in Asia for Christ. ⁶ Greet Mary, who has worked very hard among you. ⁷ Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives who were in prison with me, they are prominent among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was. ⁸ Greet Ampliatus, my beloved in the Lord. ⁹ Greet Urbanus, our co-worker in Christ, and my beloved Stachys. ¹⁰ Greet Apelles, who is approved in Christ. Greet those who belong to the family of Aristobulus. ¹¹ Greet my relative Herodion. Greet those in the Lord who belong to the family of Narcissus. ¹² Greet those workers in the Lord, Tryphaena and Tryphosa. Greet the beloved Persis, who has worked hard in the Lord. ¹³ Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord; and greet his mother—a mother to me also. ¹⁴ Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas, and the brothers and sisters who are with them. ¹⁵ Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them. ¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

Paul's Views of Women's Roles

1 Corinthians

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|------------|--|----------|
| ▪ Date | 54 CE | WHEN |
| ▪ Place | Written from Ephesus (Turkish coast) to the city of Corinth in Greece, a recently established Roman colony | WHERE |
| ▪ Author | Paul, "apostle to the Gentiles" | WHO |
| ▪ Audience | Corinthian Christians, former Jews and Gentiles, most of whom Paul had met | FOR WHOM |

Paul's Views of Women's Roles

1 Corinthians: Problems in Corinth

- Paul is answering a letter sent to him by the Corinthians
- We have to "peel back the onion" to find the problems he's answering

1 Corinthians 1:4-7

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷ so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ... ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

