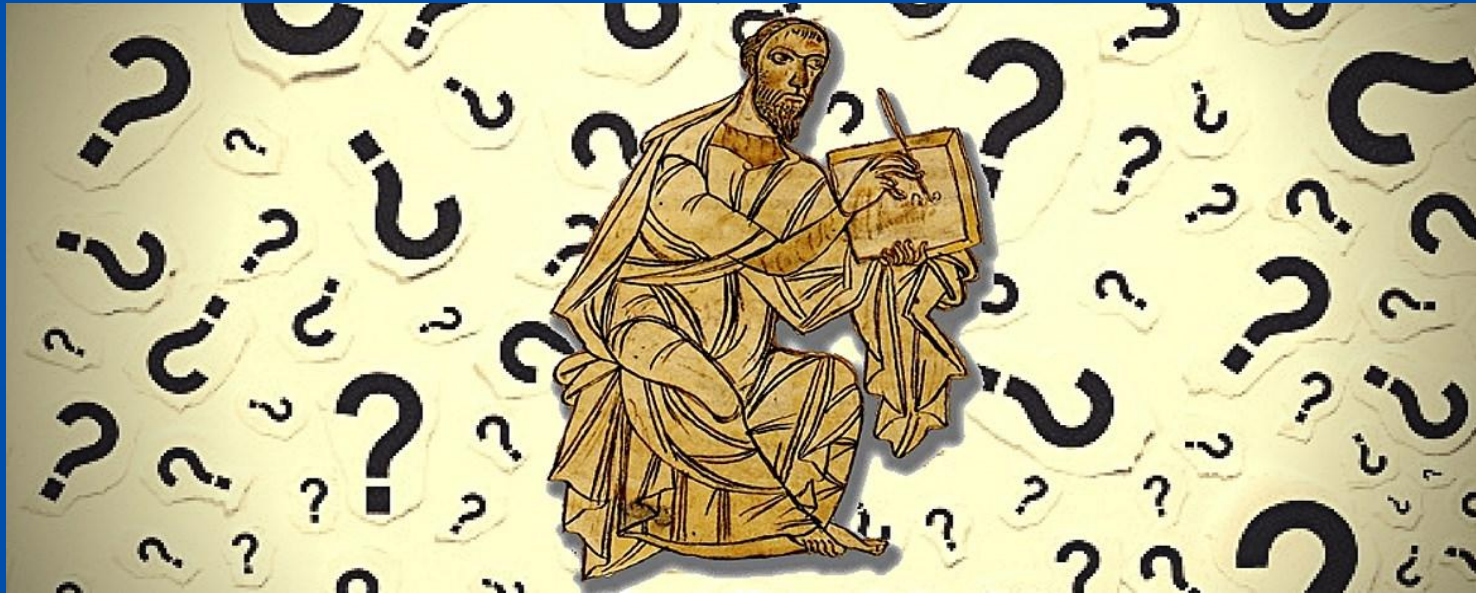


MISUNDERSTANDING PAUL



- Very problematic to divest from Paul his Jewishness and his high level Jewish religious education
- Claim is that essentially Paul is “inventing” Christianity just as Bell invented Telephony
- Essene community separated themselves from mainstream Jewish society because they believed the Priesthood to be corrupt and wicked; they prepared to become the new, pure priesthood someday

THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

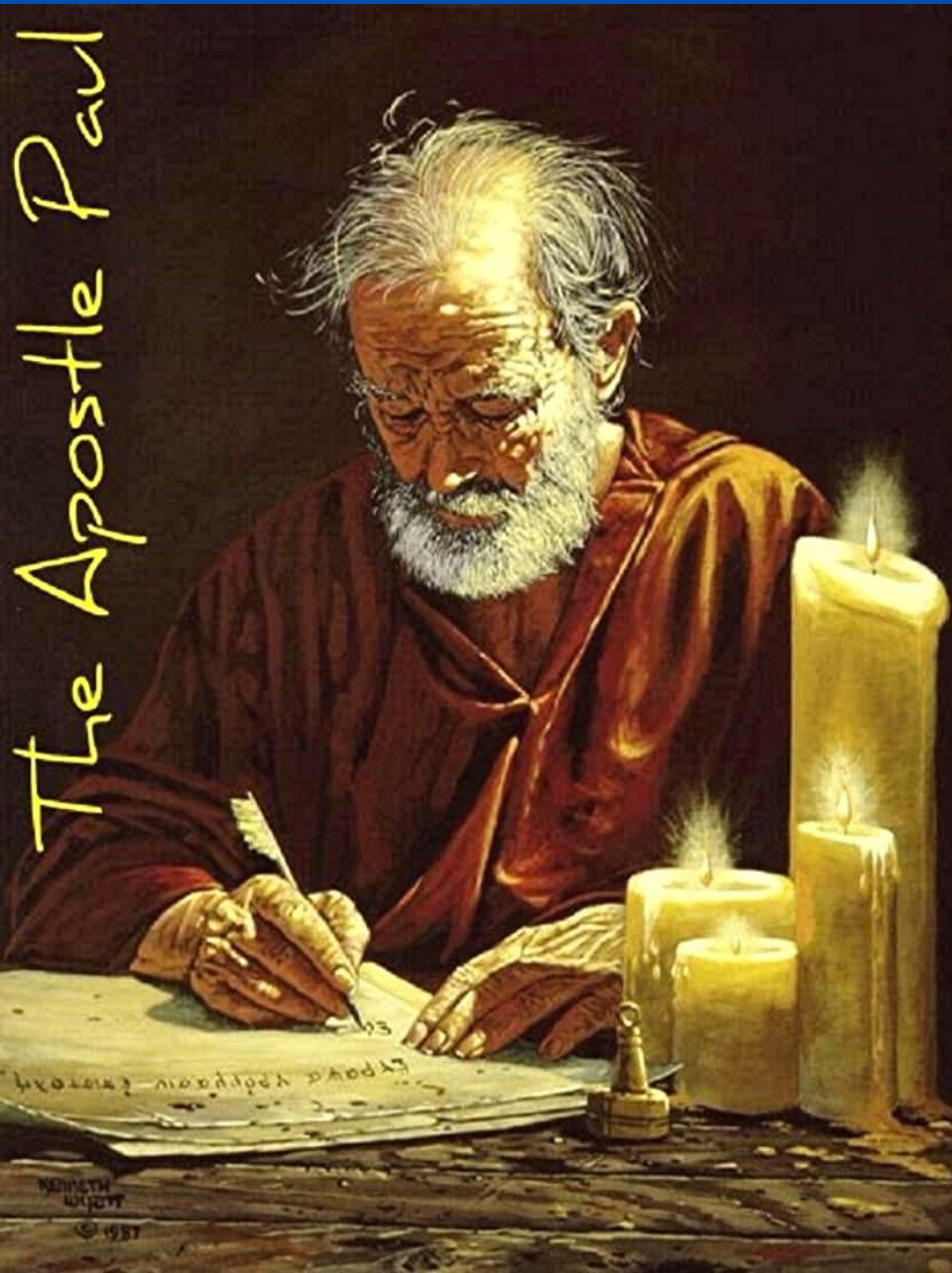


- Dead Sea Scrolls is more than only the Bible
- Contains theology, philosophy, and rules of the Essenes community
- Written 2 centuries before the gospels and letters of the NT
- NT and especially Paul need to be rethought because of what was found
- Does NOT challenge Christ or reliability of the Bible



ROMANS CHAPTER 12

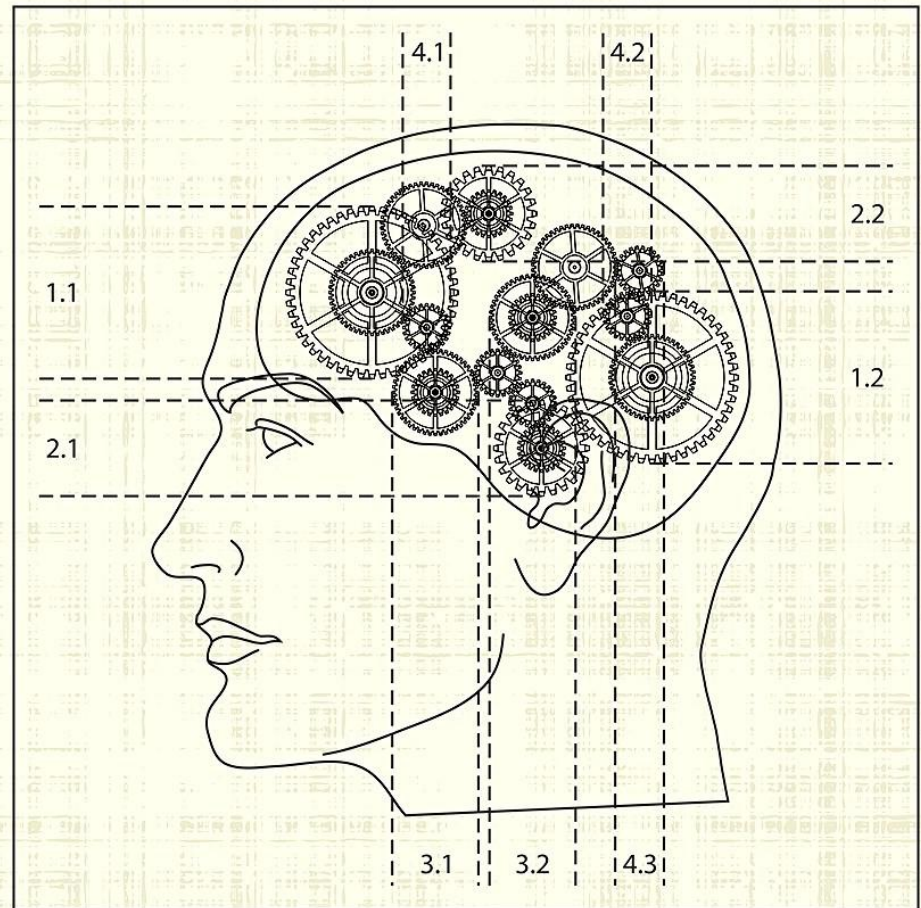
The Apostle Paul



- Chapters 1 – 11:
- 1) Paul attempted to assert his authority
- 2) Wrote to Rome congregation about things pertinent to them
- 3) Set foundation and purpose for gentile inclusion
- Chapter 12 turns to application
- Jewish viewpoint: Paul is making **Halakhot** (religious rulings)

IT IS LOGICAL TO GIVE OURSELVES TO GOD

- Paul “exhorting” is really him exercising his authority
- *“A sacrifice, living and holy”* OR
- *“A living and holy sacrifice”* ???
- *KJV “...your reasonable service”*
- *NAS “...your spiritual service of worship”*
- *Logikos* = logic and reason (mind)
- Best meaning: Logical service of worship
- Our response to salvation begins in our MINDS !!

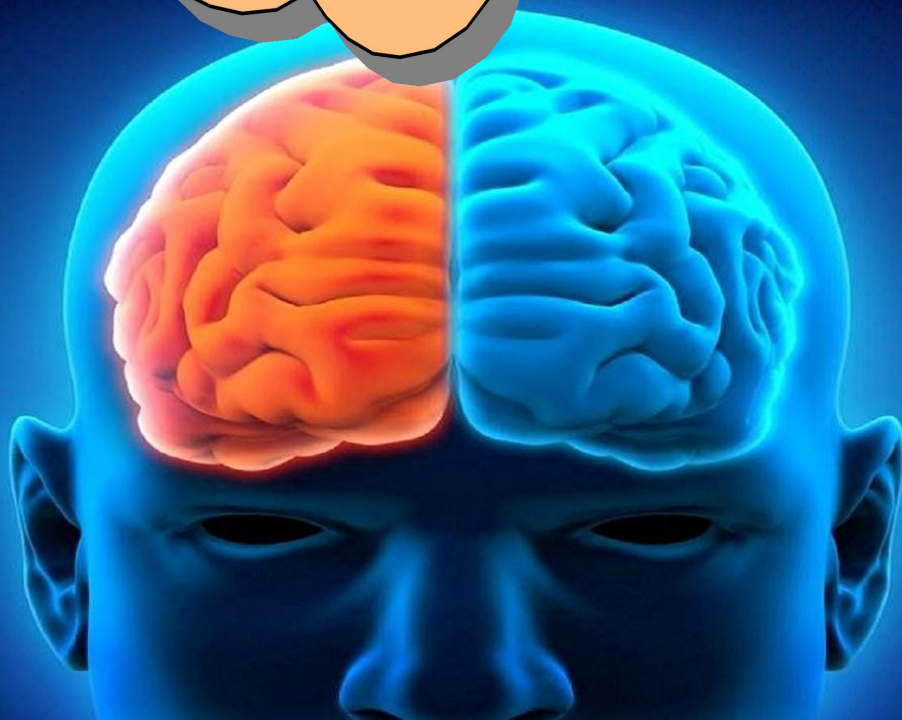


ALL SACRIFICES ARE LIVING

- The setting and motif of Paul's metaphor is the Temple
- All sacrifices are "living and holy"
- Live animals are given to God; not dead ones!
- Only killed just before they are to be placed on the Altar
- Temple metaphors also used by Peter 1Peter 2:9
- Believers "dying to ourselves" is envisioning Altar sacrifice
- Essenes thought the same way 150 years earlier
- DSS Scroll 1QS 5



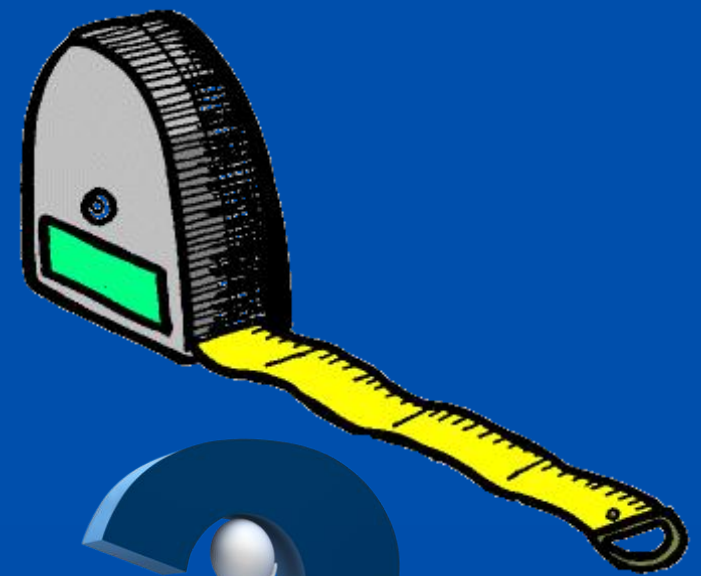
RENEWAL BEGINS IN THE MIND



- Temple service is what righteous men dologically
- The logical thing for a man who is made righteous by trust, is spiritual worship of God
- Secular Humanism says spirit is not logical and vice versa
- It is about our conscious choices
- Romans 7:15 - 20

MEASURE OF FAITH

- Vs. 3 *“Through the grace given to me”* Grace is the position of authority given to Paul
- KJV and NAS and most versions make it about amount or quantity of faith
- Better English word than measure is “Standard”
- The Standard of faith is trust
- We should be careful to evaluate ourselves honestly about our trust




TRUST



- Paul will now install guidelines for Believers
- Essenes were a living and well known community in Paul's day
- Paul mimics the way that the Essenes organized
- Rule #1: All Believers are spiritually equal in God's eyes
- One part of the "body" no more valuable than another
- The many parts are to work together for the good of the entire body

know
the
rules

I am
the
Body of **Christ**

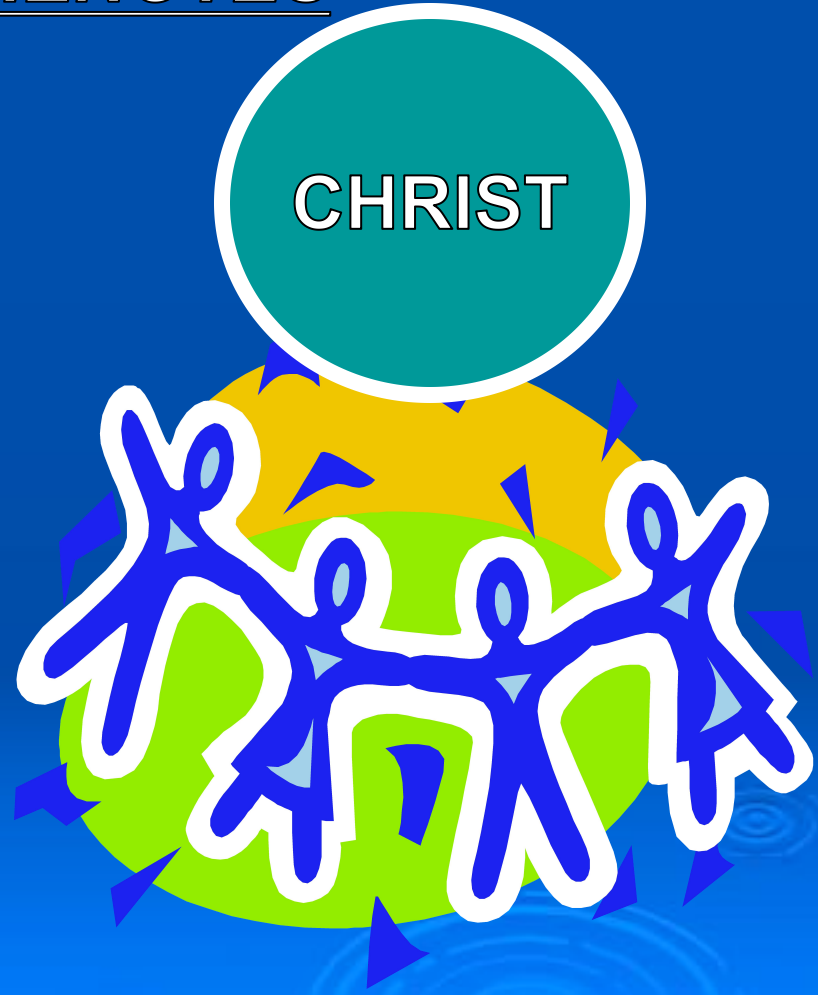
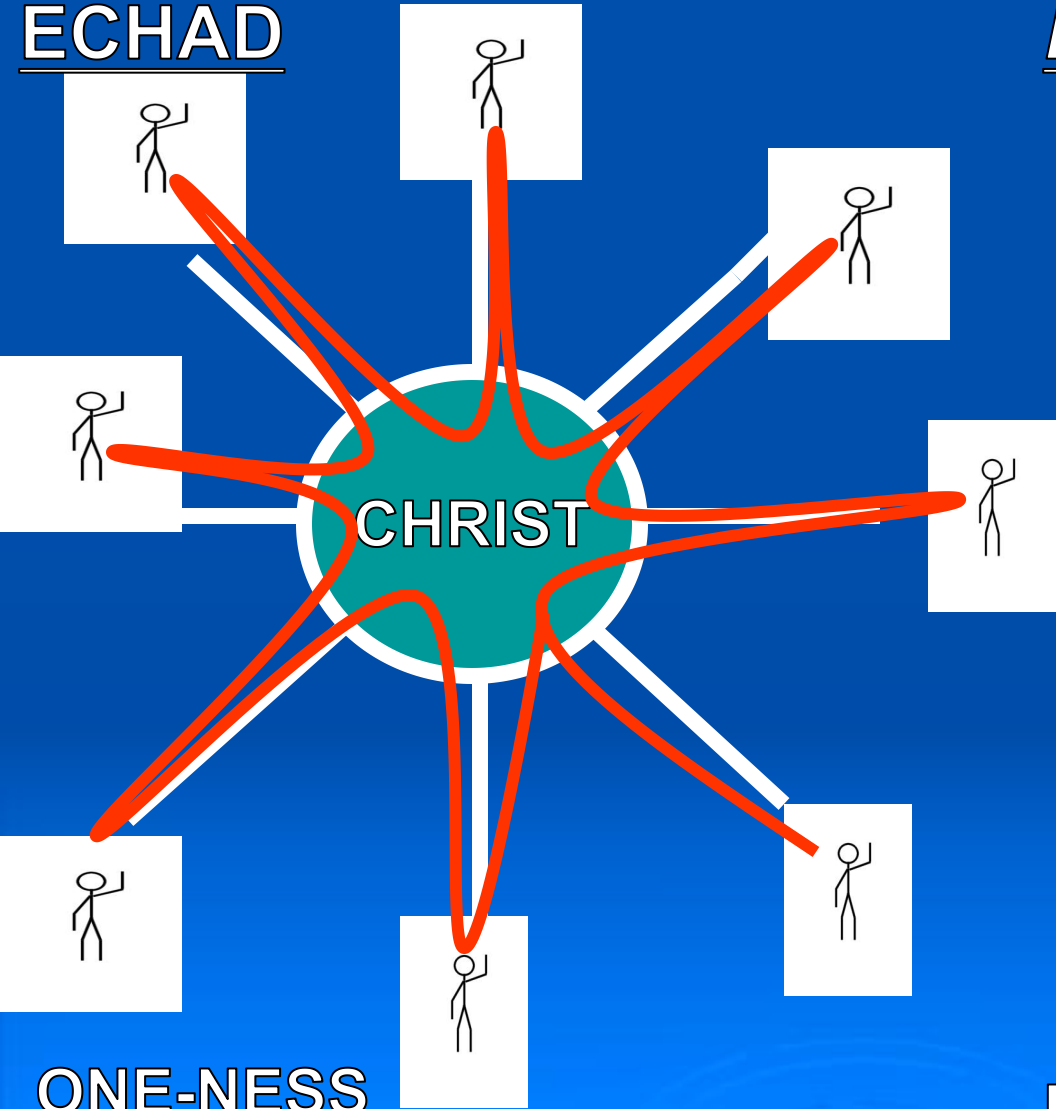


UNITY THRU CHRIST

UNITY AMONG MEN

ECHAD

HENOTES



ONE-NESS

UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT

MAN TO CHRIST TO MAN

MAN TO MAN TO MAN

- 1) Prophecy
- 2) Serving
- 3) Teaching
- 4) Council/Exhorting
- 5) Giving
- 6) Leading
- 7) Acts of mercy
- Not in order of status or importance
- Prophecy associated with revelation
- How the term prophecy was used changed over the years after the close of the Old Testament



THE TEACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



- **Serving**: service in the realm of Temple service
- Prayer, financial contributions, Torah teaching
- **Teaching**: instruct in how to walk in the ways of the Lord
- DSS Scroll 1QH, the Teacher of Righteousness
- Hope is that gentiles will revere the God of Israel

EXHORTING

- Exhorter, Councilor, Preacher all essentially the same thing
- Gives “sermons” about morality, justice, life’s issues
- Did NOT teach the Scriptures exegetically (that was the job of the Teacher)
- Giving: Supporting Temple and Synagogue, hospitality
- Leading: Elders held these jobs. Not political.
- Acts of Mercy: A character trait more than a typical gift

