



Main point: It's not man's gospel; it's God's gospel.

1. God's Gospel
2. God's Surprising Call
 - 1st alibi - his former life (vs. 13-16)
 - 2nd alibi - he didn't go to other Apostles (v. 16-19)
 - 3rd alibi - he didn't get it from the church (v. 21-24)

Application: Have confidence in God's gospel beyond a shadow of a doubt.

#1:

Acts 15:1

But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved."

#2:

Acts 9:19b-20

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "*He is the Son of God.*"

#3:

"The gospel is not man's good news about God; it is God's good news for man."

Philip Ryken
Galatians, p. 28

#4:

"As I read the words, there came into my soul, and was as it were diffused through it, a sense of the glory of the Divine Being; a new sense, quite different from anything I ever experienced before. Never any words of scripture seemed to me as these words did. I thought with myself, how excellent a Being that was, and how happy I should be, if I might enjoy that God, and be rapt up to him in heaven, and be as it were swallowed up in him forever! I kept saying, and as it were singing over these words of scripture to myself; and went to pray to God that I might enjoy him, and prayed in a manner quite different from what I used to do; with a new sort of affection."

Jonathan Edwards
The Works of President Edwards, Vol. 1, p. 60-61

#5:

Charles Spurgeon — "I believe the doctrine of election, because I am quite certain that, if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him; and I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would have chosen me afterwards; and He must have elected me for reasons unknown to me, for I never could find any reason in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love."

Charles Spurgeon
A Defense of Calvinism

found at: <http://www.reformed.org/calvinism/index.html?mainframe=/calvinism/Spurgeon-Calvinism.html>