

Just a comment in regards to Mid-Acts: My cousin is Mid-Acts and he is the most unloving person along with others I have met. He clearly says Paul taught a different gospel than the four gospels....He states Paul is his apostle as if Paul takes precedence over Jesus...As Alistair Begg says "The main things are the plain things and the plain things are the main things". Of course the focus is on getting along - right?

Men have always come to the Lord the same way--by grace through faith (Eph 2:8-9). The apostle Paul did not change the gospel message. In his ministry he expounded truths not yet revealed in scripture. For example, when Paul writes: "Yet not I, but the Lord" (1 Co 7:10) he does not mean: *this is my opinion* he means: *this truth which I am about to reveal has not yet been given in scripture.* After he stated it it became canon (2 Pe 1:21). When Paul writes "according to my gospel" (2 Ti 2:8) he does not mean: *this gospel is new and different* he means: *this is the gospel that I brought to you.* His statement does not conflict with earlier scripture (Pr 30:5, Jn 10:35). Paul did not point to himself. He pointed to Christ (Phil 3:10). There are not two gospels (e.g. one gospel for the Jews and another for Christians)--there is one gospel which is the bible from cover to cover. Paul helped men to understand scripture (Ac 17:10–12) and we do the same today (Pr 27:17).

The apostle Peter found some things difficult to understand. Regarding 2 Peter 3:16A:

As also in all his [Paul's] epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction [2 Pet. 3:16A]...

J. Vernon McGee wrote:

Peter says that what Paul wrote was Scripture. And he says that Paul wrote of truth in depth. He certainly did that, and in my opinion Peter did that pretty well himself here in this epistle.¹

Jesus came not to unite but to divide (Jn 7:43, 9:16, 10:19, Mt 10:34, Lk 12:51). We stand on Christian essentials (2 Co 13:8). As Adrian Rogers put it: "There are some things we shouldn't be dogmatic about. There are other things that we should be bulldogmatic about." We, as born again believers, stand. We can do no other (2 Co 13:8).

¹ McGee, J. V. (1991). *Thru the Bible commentary: The Epistles (2 Peter)* (electronic ed., Vol. 55, p. 90). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.