**[Did The Dispensation Of The Grace Of God Begin In Acts 9](https://www.facebook.com/notes/mike-mcglathery/did-the-dispensation-of-the-grace-of-god-begin-in-acts-9/10152334410631335)**

If you believe that the dispensation of the grace of God began in Acts 9, please try to find a scripture that says that. We must not confuse two separate Biblical entities. The body of Christ is NOT a dispensation, and a dispensation is NOT a body. A dispensation is a dispensing.The body of Christ is NOT the dispensation of the grace of God. The dispensation of the grace of God is NOT the body of Christ, however it is one of the dispensings within the body of Christ. According to First Corinthians 9:17-18,the "dispensation of the gospel" is the other dispensation in the body of Christ. We have to let the Bible tell us about those entities,regardless of what others have written or preached.

Paul was saved and baptized by one Spirit into the one body of Christ in Acts 9.  According to Romans 1:16, the power of God to save him was the "gospel of Christ." In First Corinthians 15:1-4, verse 3 says that Paul was saved by believing/receiving that Christ died for his sins, was buried, and rose again. That was the power of God to save Paul so that was the "gospel of Christ" until that same saving message was later sent to all men as Paul told about in Acts 22:17-21.

The Bible says in First Corinthians 9:17-18 that to Paul was committed the dispensation of the gospel of Christ. Romans 1:16 tells us that the "gospel of Christ" had 2 qualifiers: (1) to all that believe, (2)to the Jew first and also to the Greek. The Greeks were God-fearing Gentiles who blessed the seed of Abraham (Israel) according to Genesis 12:3. Only the Jew first and also the Greek got blessed by hearing Paul preach the new,formerly secret gospel of his salvation because they were ones in the synagogues to hear Paul when he toured the synagogues in Acts. That left out all the rest of us Gentiles that were alien to Israel, separate from Israel's covenants and promises.

Paul was not yet sent to all men in the regions beyond the Jews and Greeks until some time after the sending that he tells about in Acts22:17-21 which was an extremely brief visit to Jerusalem. Paul's briefest visit to Jerusalem was in Acts 18:22 when his goal was to get to the temple by the time of the feast. But, in the temple, the Lord Jesus Christ told him to"Get thee quickly out of Jerusalem...Depart for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles." A short time later Paul was sent to all men (Titus 2:11, First Timothy 2:3-7), to the "far off" in Ephesians 2:13,17.

That was in Acts 20:6 according to Philippians 4:15. Acts20:6 was most probably 3 verses after Paul had written the epistle to all that be in Rome. But, by the time that Paul had written the epistle to all that be in Rome, he already had the apostleship and information of his future sending(I will send thee) from his Acts 18:22 temple vision. So, in Romans 1:5, Paul declares that he "received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations". But that was written in Acts 20:3 and Paul had not yet gone to all men, he merely included all men in his doctrine (Romans1:5, 14, 3:22-26, 11:32).

All those details show that Paul was sent to all men in the ministry that he finally received and told about in Acts 20:24, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. The gospel of the grace of God was to be dispensed by Paul to all people after he had received his commission to do so in Acts 20:6,the beginning of the gospel, according to Philippians 4:15, when he"departed from Macedonia." (Philippi was a chief city in Macedonia).

Since Paul was sent to the Jew first and also to the Greek before he was later sent to all men, then the dispensing of the gospel of Christ to the Jew first and also to the Greek was before the dispensing of the gospel of the grace of God to all men after Acts 20:6.

To help confirm that, look at Paul's first stop after sailing away from Philippi Macedonia. In Troas, Paul had so much to tell that he preached all night long, the only time he is recorded to have done so.

The body of Christ began when it had a member in it. In Acts 9, Paul was the first to be in the body of Christ by First Corinthians 12:12-13,27. 1Timothy 1:16  "Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that IN ME FIRST Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, FOR A PATTERN to them which should HEREAFTER believe on him to life everlasting."