

## Acts 13:47 and Romans 15:21 - Was Paul Not Jesus the "Fulfilment" of the Servant Prophecies?

Paul wrote in Galatians 3 "that Jesus is the singular seed of Abraham: 'Now the promises were to Abraham and to his seed [spermati]. He does not say, 'and to his seeds [spermasin], as a reference to many, but as to one, 'and to your seed [spermati] who is Christ (Gal 3:16). We can scarcely say that Paul was unfamiliar with the plural dimensions of the singular seed. He says in Galatians 3:29, 'And if you belong to Christ, then you are the seed [sperma] of Abraham, heirs according to his promise'".

See page 79, Paul Apostle of God's Glory in Christ, A Pauline Theology, Thomas R Schreiner, IVP Academic, Illinois, 2001.

Paul did not believe that Jesus lived just a few years before. The gospels were created to back up the lie about Jesus having lived and died in the first century.

If Acts is telling the truth about Paul's trials, then the story of Jesus' trials must have been based on them for the similarities between Paul's trials and the gospel trials of Jesus are startling.

The teaching of Jesus was stolen from Jewish preachers and from John the Baptist.

The early Christians thought the life of Jesus was predicted in the Old Testament so they used its fantasies to create a life story for Jesus. For example, Psalm 22 was turned into the story of the crucifixion though it had nothing to do with Jesus.

Jesus was a hitherto unmentioned Son of Abraham according to Paul.

Isaiah 53 predicts a man who seems to suffer for others and then whose fortunes change. It is thought to refer to Jesus who allegedly suffered and died for sinners and rose again.

But it does not actually say the man will die.

If Jesus lived before the time the prediction was written then it is not about him about perhaps about St Paul.

Isaiah 53 is about the servant of the Lord. There are other prophecies about this figure in Isaiah.

Paul applies the prophecy about the servant to himself in Romans 15:31. He says he will not build on the foundation set up by another evangelist. He wants to set up the Churches as opposed to him interfering with somebody else setting up. He cites Isaiah 52:15 which refers to the servant. It says that those who have never heard of him shall be told of him and those who have never heard shall understand. He says this prophecy is the reason he did not feel he should go to minister in Rome. Is he saying it is predicting his style of only teaching those who have not heard?

We must remember that if Paul's religion was so influential then they must have heard of Jesus. And the Romans had already heard of Jesus. The bit that says those who have never heard will understand must mean that people will realise that Paul is the servant though he is not saying it too clearly. The way he uses the prophecy shows it cannot mean Jesus. The servant then has to be Paul himself not Jesus.

Acts 13:47 has Paul and others saying that the command to the servant that he be a light for the world and bring salvation to the corners of the world is addressed to them by the Lord. Paul is the spokesman so he means himself in particular.

Paul claimed to be suffering for others and that he would be glorified for it in the end. The sufferings predicted for the servant match the sufferings he endured.

Paul said he carried the death of Jesus in his body and his brand marks. He talks at times as if he is Jesus. The similarity is telling.

Paul was a better candidate for being the servant than Jesus was.