

By: David A. Sargent

The epistle contains Paul's classic closing salutation:

Hebrews 13:25, "Grace be with you all. Amen."

This is seen in Romans 16:24, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

And in 1 Corinthians 16:23, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

And also in 2 Corinthians 13:14, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen."

And Galatians 6:18, "Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen."

And Ephesians 6:24, "Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen."

And Philippians 4:23, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

And Colossians 4:18, "The salutation by the hand of me Paul. Remember my bonds. Grace be with you. Amen."

And 1 Thessalonians 5:28, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."

And also in 2 Thessalonians 3:18, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen."

And 1 Timothy 6:21, "Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen."

And 2 Timothy 4:22, "The Lord Jesus Christ be with thy spirit. Grace be with you. Amen."

And Titus 3:15, "All that are with me salute thee. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen."

And Philemon 1:25, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen."

And notice the context of this in Hebrews 13:21-25, "Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. And I beseech you, brethren, suffer the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words. Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you. Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you. Grace be with you all. Amen."

In Hebrews 13:23, "Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you." Timothy is referred to as a companion. Timothy was Paul's missionary companion the same way Jesus sent the disciples out in pairs. Also, stating that the letter was written from "Italy", Hebrews 13:24, "Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you." which also at the time fits Paul dictating to Timothy. This is also what is referred to in the post-script which is attached to all Paul's Epistles in the ending verses, and no other author in the New Testament has a post-script.

The term "salute" is used by Paul quite often; which no one else uses in the manor to salute all the saints as in Hebrews 13:24 which shows up in Romans 16:5, 7, 9-16, 21, 22; 1 Corinthians 16:19; 2 Corinthians 13:13; Philippians 4:21, 22; Colossians 4:15; 2 Timothy 4:19; Titus 3:15; Philemon 1:23. While John uses it once in this fashion: 3 John 1:14. This makes it a Paulism of sorts. What I find interesting enough is that the post-script matches the person or persons that are with Paul.

Hebrews 5:12-14, "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Counterpart is 1 Corinthians 2:6-16, "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."

The above is a practical application between the verse by 1 Corinthians 3:1, "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able."

Notice the usage of "...the oracles of God..." in Hebrews 5:12 which has a counterpart in Romans 3:2, "Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God." Who is the THEM in that passage? It is the Hebrews!

Peter also refers to "...the oracles of God..." in 1 Peter 4:11; however Peter being the fisherman that he was did not have the background for writing Hebrews like Paul did.

Another Paulism is the phrase "...not made with hands..." Hebrews 9:11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;"

2 Corinthians 5:1, "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

The same can be said of "...made without hands..." as in Colossians 2:11, "In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:"

Again another Paulism is "...by him, and for him..." in Colossians 1:16-17, "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all

things, and by him all things consist." "...by him..." Hebrews 7:21, 25; 13:15 and "...look for him..." 1 Corinthians 16:11, "Let no man therefore despise him: but conduct him forth in peace, that he may come unto me: for I look for him with the brethren." With Hebrews 9:28, "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

The conclusion to all these things is that Paul in fact was the instrument God used to write the book of Hebrews commonly called The Epistle of Paul to The Hebrews.