

## PAUL'S DESERT YEARS PREPARED HIM FOR HIS CALLING

by Jerry Pawlikowski

*“For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we may walk in them.”*  
*(Ephesians 2:10)*

You may be familiar with well-known Bible figures that had a wilderness experience such as Moses leading Israel 40 years in the wilderness, John the Baptist living and preaching in the desert and Jesus Christ 40 days of temptation. But **did you know that Paul spent three years in the Arabian desert after his conversion?** Paul stated in Galatians 1:17-18: “...I went away into Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years I went up to Jerusalem...”

It is said that this desert experience was a period of solitude and intense spiritual preparation for Paul where he received direct revelation from Jesus Christ, re-evaluated his understanding of the Law and the Gospel, and established the theological foundation for his future ministry...all this before meeting other apostles in Jerusalem.

I found this sermon about Paul's Desert Years given by Lawrence Blair titled **Paul's Desert Years: God's Preparation For Your Calling** at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=70X3o4OVBF8>

**From the website:** “What can Paul’s mysterious three years in Arabia teach us about waiting, preparation, and choosing a calling? This sermon explores the value of God’s hidden work in our lives, principles for selecting a profession, and how to make the most of the waiting season. Encouragement for anyone seeking God’s will and purpose.”

**Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You for Your presence with me, even in the wilderness. Help me to trust in Your goodness and guidance, and to find comfort in Your Word. Give me the strength and courage I need to face whatever challenges come my way and remind me that You are always with me. In Jesus' "Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, because she hid the men Joshua had sent as spies to Jericho—and she lives among the Israelites to this day."**

**Joshua 6:25**