

TANNA - attach 2

Paul was a tanna, a rabbi and Pharisee who is accused of breaking the chain of Jewish Traditions by not faithfully or accurately passing on Tradition. (noun, plural tan·na·im [Sephardic Hebrew tah-nah-eem; Ashkenazic Hebrew, English tah-nah-im]. (often initial capital letter) The word translates as “repeater” as in “teacher”.

In Judaism, this is **one of a group of Jewish scholars**, active in Palestine during the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D., whose teachings are mainly in the Mishnah.) **Tannas memorized the Old Testament and Jewish writings and oral religious history supplements during those ages.** Misleading the people is a grave offense for Paul to defend himself from.

He carefully assured his readership the pillars of the church in Jerusalem had recognized its truth and his right to preach it in its present form.

He denied the charge of tanna-oriented dependency, and continued to maintain consistency with Jerusalem on all important matters.

Paul's reasoning in GALATIANS 1:11-2:14 also reveals that in the 14 to 17 years after his conversion he spent time in Arabia and Damascus 1:17 and Syria and Cilicia v. 21.

He had three contacts with some of the Jerusalem apostles' in Jerusalem 1:18-20; 2:1-10 and Antioch 2:11-14.

These contacts were too infrequent and too brief for the tannaitic process of tedious repetition and memorization to occur. This, coupled with Jesus Christ's direct teaching of Paul 1:11-12 and the Jerusalem acceptance of Paul's gospel 1:22-24; 2:7-10 powerfully refutes the Judaizers' claims against him.

NOTE: The Sadducees hated oral Tradition. Yet, Pharisees were never deterred and included it. If Sadducees could eliminate it, they would be free to interpret (twist)written scriptures, just as we see done with laws and our Constitution. But this is the duty of the Pharisees who kept oral and written Traditions to ensure accurate context and intent. This is a serious conflict between them.

10-80 C.E.: This generation of major tannaim includes Rabban Gamaliel the Elder, Paul's mentor. Gamaliel is the 3rd generation in his family to be one. He, his father and grandfather were all living during the time when Joseph and Mary lost track of Jesus and found him in the temple “asking many questions there”.

SPECULATION: It is chronologically possible that during that Passover festival, Jesus may have been in the presence of one or more of them and had discourse with them. It certainly would seem to fit in God's plan.