

Fighting Over Jesus: James Versus Paul

*Led by
Dr. Barrie Wilson*

Where: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
When: Saturday, March 20th, 2010
Time: Doors open at 10:00 a.m., seminar starts at 10:30 a.m.
Cost: 20\$ per person, pre-registration required; contact
St. Andrew's Church at 519-822-4772

Seminar Leader: Barrie Wilson, Professor, Religious Studies, York University, Toronto and author of the recent best-seller, "How Jesus Became Christian". This workshop will appeal to those who are prepared to think critically about Biblical material and who are open to new ideas and alternative interpretations

Seminar Description: New writings such as the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Gnostic gospels have given us a better basis for understanding the complexities of early Christian movements. For one thing, we can now put Jesus' first followers in Jerusalem in clearer perspective. Who was James (Jesus' brother)? How did he and his community understand Jesus?

For another, we can see how truly different Paul was. He developed a concept of the Christ that differed from the Jewish expectation of a Messiah. He was at odds with Jesus' first followers in Jerusalem. He vehemently rejected Torah. More than that, the later Book of Acts presents a different picture of Paul than Paul presents of himself. So who was this talented, complex, tormented person... really? Was Paul a faithful follower of Jesus? Or was he a religious genius who inspired a new religion?

Should we continue to view early Christianity through "the eyeglasses of Paul" or is it time for a different way of seeing?

*Come explore these and other questions
as we journey into early Christianity*