

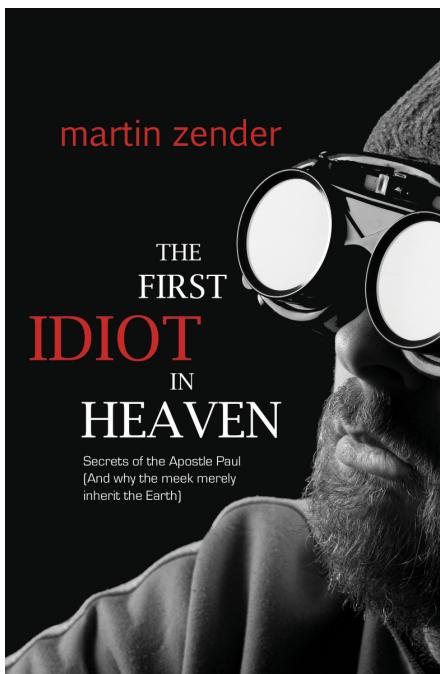


# ZWF

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2012 Zapping-you Whenever Thoughts Flow

## Not all believers are in the body of Christ

Greetings! The Paul book is finally with the printer. Here are the front *and* back covers of *The First Idiot in Heaven*. Thanks to all of you who sent us comments about the cover. You universally loved it. A couple of readers sent in suggestions, which we appreciated and considered. We realize it's hard to leave the word "idiot" hanging out there so boldly, but we are out to make an impression.



**W**hile on Earth, Jesus said some difficult things. He told the rich to give away all their money, and the joyful to become mourners. If you wanted to inherit the Earth, you had to be meek. If your eye offended you, no problem—as long as you plucked it out. A friend of mine said, “Can I start following Jesus on Monday? I’d like to enjoy the weekend.”

Obviously, the words and commandments of Jesus are pure, perfect, holy—and meant for Israelites. Jesus Himself said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel” (Matthew 15:24).

Is it possible we have been struggling along someone else’s path? What if the words in red were never meant to be our marching orders?

Several months after leaving Earth, the Jewish Messiah appeared as a very non-Jewish light to a self-righteous idiot en route to Damascus to kill Christians.

Up next? Not only a startling new destiny for believers (heaven instead of Earth) but a new message of pure grace for *all* humanity.

This is that story.

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Certainly, Paul was not an idiot in the sense of mentally deficient, but in the more modern sense of an ignorant, stupid person. We know, of course, that Paul

is not in heaven at present (he's dead), but he was the first of a class that will be taken to heaven. That class is: complete unworthies. “The First Idiot in Heaven,” then, is a figure of speech for, “the first idiot who will be in heaven.”

When people are drawn to this book in a bookstore or online, the first place they will go, after ogling the front cover, is the back cover. Here, they will discover that *The First Idiot in Heaven* is a smart, informative book. If they sensed even a whiff of flippancy or light-heartedness in the cover and title, the back cover will dispel that. We trust it will do the same for you.

Probably one of the most surprising aspects of *The First Idiot in Heaven* is not that Paul teaches a distinct gospel from the one the terrestrial Jesus gave Peter, but that the terrestrial gospel (“the gospel of the Circumcision”—Galatians 2:7) can still be embraced today by Israelites and any religious person who loves law.

While the prospects of the terrestrial kingdom crumbled in the book of Acts, Paul’s gospel among the nations went great guns. If you had been a Jerusalem Jew in those days, you’d have been glum. James, the brother of our Lord, had been killed, Stephen stoned, and Peter exiled to Babylon. With this latest rejection of the spirit, it seemed that God had finally forsaken His

chosen people. Especially among the nations—where Paul gained converts to his gospel by the hundreds—the prevailing wisdom was: “We’re in the driver’s seat now, and God is finished with Israel.”

Paul wrote the 11th chapter of Romans to combat such error. Paul said that hardness, in part, had come upon Israel, until the fullness of the nations comes in (Romans 11:25). In other words, after God calls the last member of the body of Christ, that body is snatched away from Earth into the celestial world, and God resumes business with His terrestrial people.

"Callousness, in part, on Israel has come" (Romans 11:25). This means that not all Israelites would be deafened to their call. In Romans 11:5, Paul calls these faithful "a remnant": "Thus, then, in the current era, there has come to be a remnant."

Paul asked in verse 1: "Does God thrust away His people?" The answer was "no," and the proof was the remnant. As long as there is a remnant, then God has not thrust away His people. What is "the current era"? The era we are now living in, which seems to contain nothing but disbelieving Israelites.

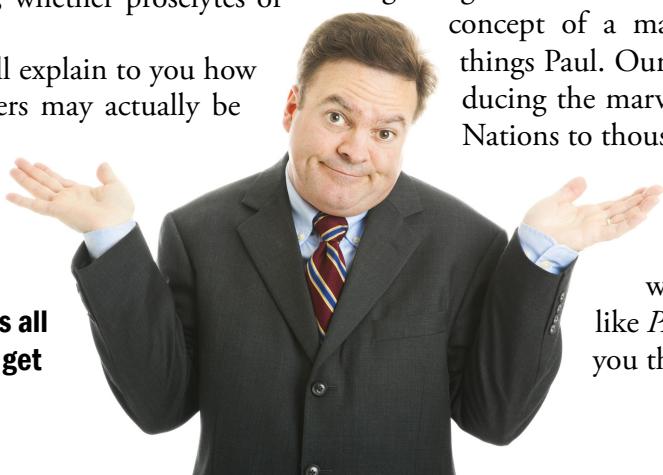
In order to embrace Israel's calling, one needn't be a Jew. Proselytes were those without Davidic blood, yet who nevertheless loved the Jewish message. This was perfectly acceptable, and still is. A proselyte enjoys fewer privileges than a natural-born Jew, but being a dog under Israel's table is better than sleeping in the woods.

Many today (especially church people) love the law. They love ceremony; they love the four gospels; they love reading James; they love the idea of stoning people. Paul is a mystery to them. Some people would say, "If these people believe in Jesus at all, then they are members of the body of Christ."

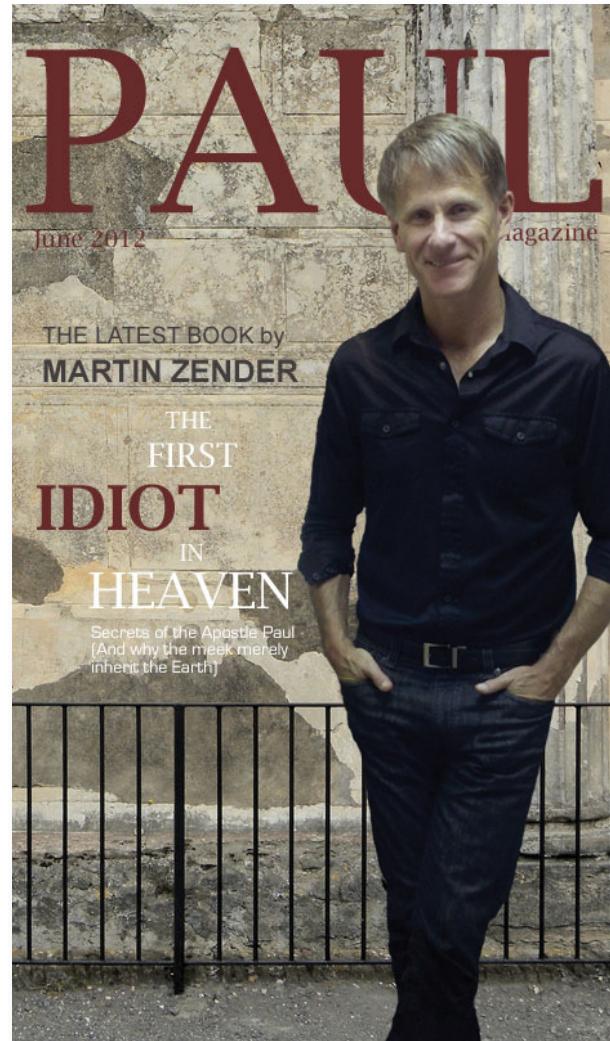
But how can they be, if they don't get Paul? (Only Paul's evangel teaches the glorious truths of the body of Christ and our future, celestial home.) In the current era, there is a small remnant of those who legitimately (without mixing it with Paul's gospel of grace) embrace the gospel of the Circumcision, whether proselytes or natural Jews.

*The First Idiot in Heaven* will explain to you how your friends and family members may actually be saved for the eons, even while disbelieving every essential of Paul's gospel. ■

**What can he say? He loves all things Israel, but doesn't get Paul.**



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## WOULDNT A MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO THE TRUTHS OF THE APOSTLE PAUL BE COOL?

Ha. The faux magazine cover above is just me goofing around with my author photo and the concept of a magazine dedicated to all things Paul. Our new book will be introducing the marvels of the Apostle to the Nations to thousands of new people, and

I was thinking how great it would be to serve this new audience with a slick publication like *PAUL Magazine*. What do you think? ■