154 – Least of all

Anyone who has studied with me over these past nearly three years, knows of my love, admiration and respect for the Apostle Paul; and yet, the chapter that is dedicated to him was woefully short in the first edition, compared to the magnitude of contribution. Revelation came one day, as Barbara was reading through the book, helping me edit it and clarify different areas; all of a sudden, she got excited, because she saw what I had not seen about Paul since I began studying the scriptures more than 41 years ago! I have been asking the Lord myself, what is it about Paul that goes beyond the facts of his revelation and training, that account for his standing so apart from his contemporaries among the other apostles? I love the man dearly, and I cannot wait to meet him – I pray to throw my arms around him almost as much as I pray to do the same with Yeshua. Paul is such a rogue and a radical that I fell in love with him when I first met him in the book of Romans, in February, 1972.

When Barbara asked me in late 2008 or early 2009, what I thought my purpose was, I said, almost without hesitation, "To complete Paul's ministry." Well, somewhere amidst my Pauline enthrallment, I missed what Barbara saw instantly, and because she saw it, the chapter, titled "Who Picked This Guy?" went from 10 pages to 26 pages; plus I added a more personal *Epilogue* of 10 pages. The whole book is now 310 pages, and it could easily be another 200 pages or more if I got into all the ground we've covered in *Light up the Scriptures* – don't worry, though... I'm stopping at 310, and *Light Up The Scriptures* will be a book probably for Barbara to tackle some other time.

Let me also say that Go GOD! In its new and greatly expanded version is now co-authored by Barbara Brown. She has gone far beyond helping me edit and correct and clarify. She has helped create this final work, and she will be the one who carries its messages forward to the world, as the Lord leads. I've always known that this book would not exist but for Barbara in my life, but you have no idea how much more concretely that is true today, now that it's nearly ready to print the first proofs. Anyone who's been waiting for books to be available will be really glad to have waited.