**Seven Observations About the Office of an Apostle**

**The Greek word translated apostle is the word ἀπόστολος** (apostolos). The word means one who is sent out, a delegate, or a messenger.

**Below are seven observations about the New Testament office of an apostle:**

1. Term was originally used to describe the 12 whom Jesus chose (Mat 10:2, Luk 6:13, Luk 22:14).
2. Following Judas’ betrayal and suicide, Peter recommended they replace Judas with someone who was **“a witness to his resurrection”** (Acts 1:22).
3. Paul acknowledged that apostles were people who had **seen Jesus Christ** (ICor 9:1).
4. Here in just a couple of verses we will see that that the office of an apostle, is an office a person is appointed to by Christ (Rom 1:7) and chosen by the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:15).
5. We see that miracles were often wrought at the hands of the apostles (Acts 2:43, 5:12, 8:18). In Acts 19:11 Luke records that: ***“God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul.”***
6. Apostles had unique authority within the church and spoke and wrote with authority like the OT Scriptures (I Cor 14:37, Gal 1:8-9, I Thes 2:13, II Pet 3:15-16).
7. The apostles wrote or were directly involved with those who wrote, all of the New Testament.

**An apostle is different** than an **elder** (Acts 15:2, 15:6, 15:22) or a **brother** (Acts 11:1, 15:23, ICor 1:1)

As you think about the authority of the office of an apostle, I would remind you it was the apostles and their direct associates who wrote all of the New Testament. The apostles spoke with unique authority.