

to think that Paul was undertaking to give a complete list since there are appearances mentioned elsewhere which he does not record.

Are these appearances in chronological order? If not why did Paul say, eita, epeita, epeita, eita - (then, thereafter, thereafter, then)? His use of these expressions would seem to indicate that he is giving the appearances in the order of time.

The first appearance according to Paul's list is the one to Cephas. Who was Cephas? He was Peter. Here Paul uses the Aramaic form of the apostle's surname. The appearance to Cephas is paralleled in the account given by Luke in chapter 24, verse 34, where we read that the two disciples from Emmaus upon arriving at the upper room in Jerusalem were greeted with these words, "The Lord is risen and hath appeared to Simon."

"Then He appeared to the Twelve." What does Paul mean by the Twelve? The original group of apostles numbered twelve, but at this time there were just eleven apostles after the decease of Judas and before Matthias was chosen. This appearance recorded by Paul has been paralleled with the one narrated in Luke 24:36-43 and John 20:19-21. Here Jesus appears to the disciples at their first meeting with Thomas absent. Perhaps the number Twelve is used by Paul as an official designation of the apostolic body.

The next appearance is to a larger group. "After that, He appeared to above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto the present, but some are fallen asleep." Paul does not tell us where this appearance occurred. Some scholars suggest that this appearance took place in Galilee and may be parallel with Matthew 28:16-20. Paul's interest is in the great number. His reference to this appearance is striking for its numerical importance. Just think over five hundred people seeing the risen Christ at once. Twenty-five years after the event Paul could say that the greater