



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Galatians 1:1–10

Questions for the Week: What is the source of Paul's Gospel?

READ THE TEXT – Galatians 1:11–24

The Structure

1. The Source of Paul's Gospel (Gal 1:11–17)
 - 1.1. Paul's Gospel through "revelation" (1:11–12)
 - 1.2. Former Zealous Conduct advancing in *Judaism* (Gal 1:13–14)
 - 1.3. Calling, Revelation, Mission and Preparation (1:15–17)
2. Paul's Relationship to Jerusalem Leaders Prior to an Official Visit (Gal 1:18–24)
 - 2.1. Paul's First Visit to Jerusalem (Gal 1:18–20)
 - 2.2. Paul's time in Syria and Cilicia away from Jerusalem (1:21–24)

Questions this Week:

- Paul's Zealous "Judaism" (1:13–14)
 - Phinehas (Num 25:11, 13; Ps 106:28–31)
 - Elijah (1 Kgs 19:10, 14)
 - Prophets of Baal on Mt Carmel (1 Kgs 18:20–40)
 - Elijah's Encounter with YWHH (1 Kgs 19:11–18)
 - Mattathias (1 Macc 2:24, 26, 27, 50, 58)
 - ²³ When he had finished speaking these words, a Jew came forward in the sight of all to offer sacrifice on the altar in Modein, according to the king's command. ²⁴ When Mattathias saw it, he burned with zeal and his heart was stirred. He gave vent to righteous anger; he ran and killed him on the altar. ²⁵ At the same time he killed the king's officer who was forcing them to sacrifice, and he tore down the altar. ²⁶ Thus he burned with zeal for the law, just as Phinehas did against Zimri son of Salu. ²⁷ Then Mattathias cried out in the town with a loud voice, saying: "Let every one who is zealous for the law and supports the covenant come out with me!" ²⁸ Then he and his sons fled to the hills and left all that they had in the town. (1 Macc 2:23–28)
 - ⁵⁰ Now, my children, **show zeal for the law**, and give your lives for the covenant of our ancestors. ⁵¹ "**Remember the deeds of the ancestors**, which they did in their generations; and you will receive great honor and an everlasting name. ⁵² Was not Abraham found faithful when tested, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness? ⁵³ Joseph in the time of his distress kept the commandment, and became lord of Egypt. ⁵⁴ **Phinehas our ancestor, because**

he was deeply zealous, received the covenant of everlasting priesthood.

⁵⁵ Joshua, because he fulfilled the command, became a judge in Israel.

⁵⁶ Caleb, because he testified in the assembly, received an inheritance in the land. ⁵⁷ David, because he was merciful, inherited the throne of the kingdom forever.

⁵⁸ **Elijah, because of great zeal for the law, was taken up into heaven.**

⁵⁹ Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishaël believed and were saved from the flame. ⁶⁰ Daniel, because of his innocence, was delivered from the mouth of the lions. (1 Macc 2:50–60)

- Compare Paul's calling to the calling of the prophet Jeremiah (Jer 1:4–5)
- How do you know when someone has encountered Jesus? Paul was transformed (Gal 1:13–17; see also Acts 9:1–19; 22:1–22; 26:4–22).

Weekly Questions:

- What does this passage say about God?
- What stood out to you from the text this week?
- What does this text say about the Lord's reign and what it means to be his set apart people?
- Who are the characters of this story?
- What does this passage invite us to:
 - Do?
 - Think?
 - Feel?
- How did the sermon or passage encourage you to Love God and Love People?
- Which characters do you identify with most in the story? Why?