GALATIANS

You Are Free!



Dr. Andy Woods

Questions Answered



- Who wrote it? Paul
- Who was it written to? Galatian believers
- Where was it written from? Syrian Antioch
- When was it written? A.D. 49
- Why was it written? Counteract the Judaizers teaching sanctification by works

3 Phases of Salvation



- **Justification**: freedom from sin's penalty
- **Sanctification**: freedom from sin's power
- **Glorification**: freedom from sin's presence

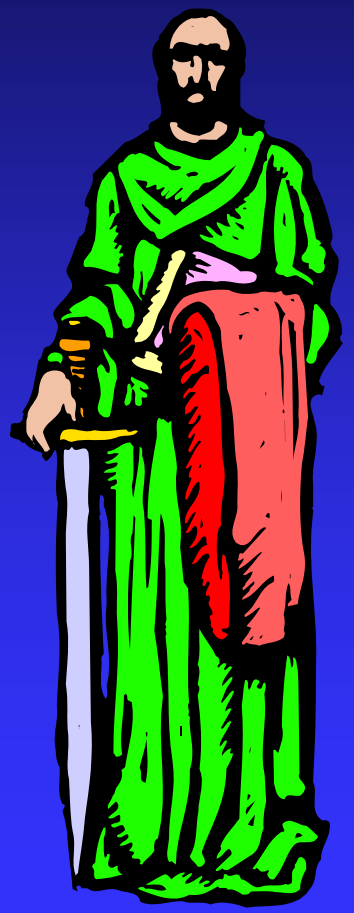
Questions Answered



- What is inside? Autobiography, doctrine, application
- What is it about? Sanctification attained the same way as justification
- How does the book apply to daily life? How to be holy

Introduction (Gal 1:1-10)

- Greeting (Gal 1:1-2)
- Gospel (Gal 1:3-5)
- Denunciation (Gal 1:6-10)

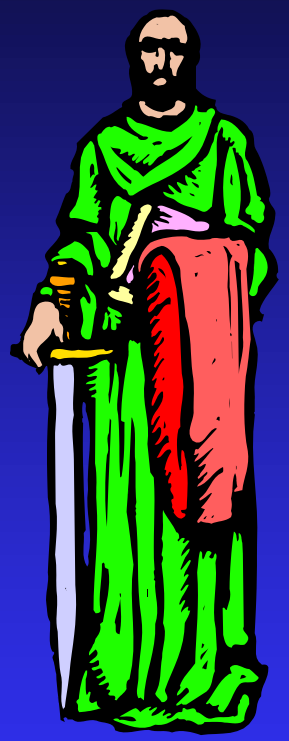


Why Ws It Written? Occasion

- Ad hominem attack against Paul
  - Acts 1:21-22
  - Apostleship (1 Cor 15:8-9)



Paul Defends His Apostleship (Gal 1:11—2:21)



- Independence (Gal 1:11-24)
- Interdependence (Gal 2:1-10)
- Rebuke of a lead apostle (Gal 2:11-21)

What is Inside? Structure

- 1–2: Autobiographical section
- 3–4: Doctrinal section
- 5–6: Practical section



Gal 3:1-5 Outline

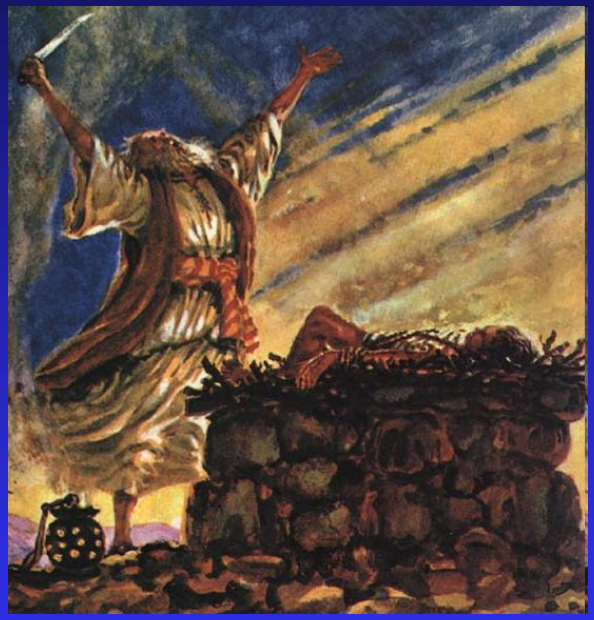


- I. The charge (3:1)

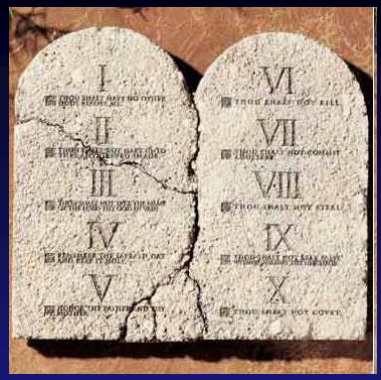
- II. The questions (3:2-5)
  - A. How did you receive the Spirit? (2)
  - B. Are you now being perfected by the flesh? (3)
  - C. Have you suffered so much in vain? (4)
  - D. On what basis does God work miracles among you? (5)

Gal 3:6-9 Outline

- I. The pattern of Abraham (3:6)
- II. The progeny of Abraham (3:7)
- III. The purpose of Abraham (3:8)
- IV. The promise of Abraham (3:9)



Gal 3:10-25 Outline



- I. The Law's inability to justify (3:10-12)
- II. Christ redeemed us from the Law's curse (3:13-14)
- III. The Law does not nullify faith (3:15-18)
- IV. The purpose of the Law is to lead us to Christ (3:19-25)

The Privileges of Adulthood (3:26-29)

- 26-Sons of God
- 27-Baptism into Christ
- 28-One with other Christians
- 29-Children of Abraham



Gal 3–4 Overview

- 3: Doctrine explained
- 4: Doctrine illustrated



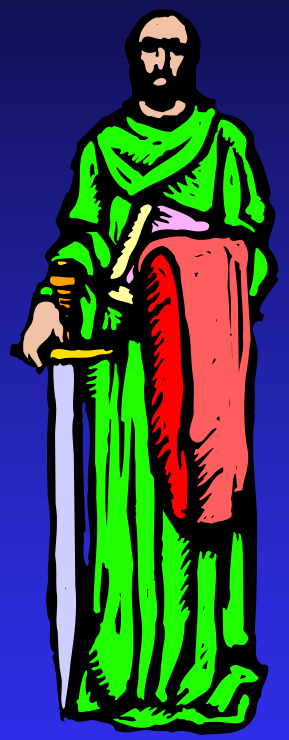
Gal 4 Overview

- 4: Doctrine illustrated
  - Domestic (1-11)
  - Personal (12-20)
  - Biblical (21-31)



Gal 4:21-31 Overview

- Introductory question (21)
- History (22-23)
- Allegory (24-26)
- Application (27-30)
- Conclusion (31)



Introductory Question (4:21)

- The Judaizers were zealous for the law



- Thus, Paul will use an example from the first book of the Law (Gen 16; 21)

History (Gal 4:22-23)



- Birth of Abraham's first two sons
- Natural birth of Ishmael from the slave woman Hagar (Gen 16)
- Supernatural birth of Isaac from the free woman Sarah (Gen 21)

Allegory (Gal 4:24a)



- Believers are not to allegorize the Bible
- The biblical text will tell us when allegorization is permissible (Rev 11:8)
- Paul's allegorization did not de-historicize
- Paul used the Judaizers tactics against them

Dangers of Allegorization



- Scripture is not being interpreted
- No way to test the conclusions of the allegorist
- Authority transfers from the text to the interpreter
- Eisegesis rather than exegesis

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Reformers Denounced Allegories



Luther said: “Allegories are empty speculations and as it were the scum of Holy Scripture.” “Origen’s allegories are not worth so much dirt.”

Martin Luther; Quoted by Zuck, *Basics of Bible Interpretation*, 45.

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Mother	Hagar	Sarah
Mother's status	Slave	Free
Child	Ishmael	Isaac
Birth order	1st	2nd
Scripture	Gen 16	Gen 21
Birth	Natural	Supernatural
Work	Man	God
Accomplished	Works	Faith
Covenant	Mosaic	Abrahamic
City	Earthly Jerusalem	Heavenly Jerusalem
Salvation	By the Law	By faith
Result	Slavery	Freedom

Grace Ushers in Blessing (4:27)



- Sarah/Isaac line=
  the line of blessing
- Isaiah 54:1
- Sarah has greater progeny than Hagar despite Sarah's initial barrenness
- Gen 22:2

Continue on in the Supernatural (4:28)



- Galatian believers are like Isaac who had a supernatural birth
- Continue on in sanctification through the same supernatural means
- Gal 3:3

Understand Why You Are Being Persecuted (4:29)



- Legalists always persecute those who walk by faith
- Illustration: Ishmael mocked Isaac at Isaac's weaning (Gen 21:8-9)

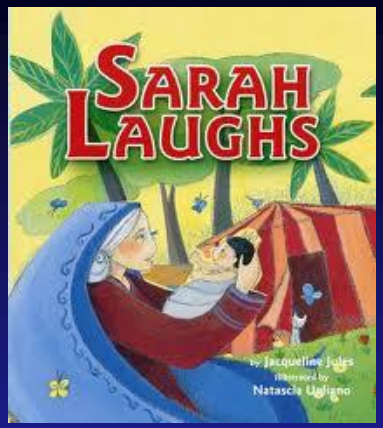
Excommunicate the Judaizers (4:30)



- Illustration-Sarah had Ishmael expelled so Isaac could receive the inheritance (Gen 21:10-12)

- Galatian believers are to expel the Judaizers since the Law brings no inheritance

Application (4:27-30)



- Grace Ushers in Blessing (4:27)
- Continue on in the Supernatural (4:28)
- Understand Why You Are Being Persecuted (4:29)
- Excommunicate the Judaizers (4:30)

Conclusion (4:31)



- You are the children of Sarah rather than Hagar
- Live according to this new identity
- Repudiate the bondage of the Law and instead live in the freedom offered by the Holy Spirit

Gal 4:21-31 Overview

- Introductory question (21)
- History (22-23)
- Allegory (24-26)
- Application (27-30)
- Conclusion (31)

