

The background of the image is a photograph of ancient stone ruins, likely the Temple of Apollo in Side, Turkey. The ruins consist of several tall, fluted columns and a section of a wall, situated on a grassy hillside. A stone-paved path leads towards the ruins. In the background, there is a vast valley with rolling green hills and distant mountains under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The sun is visible in the upper left corner, creating a lens flare effect.

THE BOOK OF **GALATIANS**

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE: CHRIST IS ENOUGH

THE STUDY OF GALATIANS

The Gospel of Grace: Christ is Enough

The Crisis in Galatia

1. Paul preached the Gospel of grace.
2. The Galatians received Christ.
3. False teachers added Law and performance.
4. The churches began drifting.
5. Paul writes while there is still time to stop it...

BOOK THEME

The gospel doesn't merely forgive sinners; it transforms them into people who increasingly look like Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, producing the spiritual fruit that legalism can never manufacture.

"Grace Alone. Faith Alone. Christ Alone."

Galatians Answers 2 Questions:

1. How is someone made right with God?

2. How do we grow and continue living as Christians?

Key Verses: Gal. 2:19-21; 5:16-25

Recap: Galatians 1:1–10

- The gospel rests on God's authority and Christ's resurrection (1:1–2)
- It begins with grace not works (1:3–5)
- There is only one (1:6–7)
- It is worth fighting for (1:8–9)
- Live for the approval of Christ (1:10)

The Law Reveals

“By works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.”

—Rom. 3:20

(Rom. 7:7, 12–13; Gal. 3:19)

Galatians 2:17–2:21

Crucified With Christ

The Big Idea

The Christian life is not **me trying harder for Jesus.**

It is **Christ living in me** as I live by faith in Him.

Gal. 2:20

Galatians 2:16-21 NKJV

(16) "knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

(17) "But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! (18) "For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. (19) "For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

(20) "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. (21) "I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

2:17-19

I. The Law Brings Us to the End of Ourselves

(Rom. 3:20; Gal. 3:19–24)

New Problem(s)...

What about the Law then?

What about a Faith that works?

**What place does effort and merit have
in the kingdom of God?**

What does the law do?

Gal 2:19: “For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.”

Romans 7:12 says God's law is holy,
righteous and good.

The problem isn't the law.

The problem is us.

The law reveals God's righteousness,
but it also exposes our
unrighteousness.

What the Law Cannot Do

The law can tell you what righteousness looks like.

But it cannot make you righteous.

The law can expose your sin.

But it cannot wash your sin away.

(Rom. 3:20, 23; Jas. 2:10)

The Law Reveals

“By works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.”

—Rom. 3:20

(Rom. 7:7, 12–13; Gal. 3:19)

You Need a Savior

The law can pronounce you guilty.

But it cannot bear your guilt.

The law can show you the distance between you and God.

But it cannot carry you across that distance. You don't need another rule

You need a Savior.

(Jas. 2:10; Rom. 3:19–24)

The Law Brings Us to Christ

“The law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.”

—Gal. 3:24

(Rom. 10:4; Gal. 3:21–23)

Stop Trying

Stop trying to climb a ladder **you could never climb.**

Stop trying to pay a debt **you could never pay.**

Stop trying to earn a righteousness **you could never achieve.**

(Rom. 3:23; 6:23; Phil. 3:7–9)

Jesus Did What We Could Not

Jesus fulfilled what you could not

Jesus obeyed where you failed.

Jesus bore the curse you deserved.

Jesus paid the debt you owed.

(Matt. 5:17; Rom. 5:18–19; Gal. 3:13;
Col. 2:13–14)

Christ Bore the Curse

“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.”

—Gal. 3:13

(Deut. 21:23; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:24)

No Condemnation

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

—Rom. 8:1

(Rom. 5:1; 8:33–34)

We Obey From Acceptance

We don't obey **for acceptance.**

We don't pursue holiness to become sons and daughters.

We pursue holiness because in Christ we already are.

(John 1:12; Rom. 8:15–17; Eph. 2:8–10; Rom. 5:8)

II. The Christian Life Is Christ Living in Us

Gal. 2:20

(Rom. 6:4–6; Col. 3:1–4)

This Is Christianity

Not simply: Christ died for me.

But: **I died with Christ.**

Not simply: Christ rose from the dead.

But: **His resurrection life is now at work in me.**

(Rom. 6:4–6; Col. 3:1–3)

Crucified With Christ

“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

—Gal. 2:20

(Rom. 6:6; Gal. 5:24; Col. 3:3)

Dependence, Not Self-Reliance

Not: I need to become strong enough to live the Christian life.

But: I need to become dependent enough to let Christ live His life through me.

(Gal. 2:20; Phil. 2:13)

Our Problem

We're trying to live a **supernatural life through natural strength.**

We're trying to **manufacture fruit** instead of abiding in the Vine.

(Gal. 3:3; 5:22–23; John 15:4–5)

Abide in Christ

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself... neither can you, unless you abide in me... apart from me you can do nothing.”

—John 15:4–5

(Ps. 1:1–3; Col. 2:6–7)

Deeper Dependence

The answer isn't greater confidence in yourself.

It's deeper dependence upon Christ.

(Prov. 3:5–6; 2 Cor. 12:9–10)

Christ Lives in You

(Gal. 2:20; 5:22–23; Col. 3:12–13; 1
Cor. 10:13; 2 Cor. 12:9)

Grace in Weakness

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

—2 Cor. 12:9

(Isa. 40:29–31; 2 Cor. 4:7)

God Works in You

“For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”

—Phil. 2:13

(1 Cor. 15:10; Col. 1:29)

Your Hope

You don't have to wake up wondering:

“Am I strong enough for today?”

You're not. **And that's good news.**

Your hope was never supposed to be your strength.

(2 Cor. 3:5; 12:9–10)

By Faith

The Christian life **begins by faith.**

The Christian life **continues by faith.**

The Christian life **will be completed by faith.**

(Gal. 2:20; Col. 2:6–7; Heb. 10:38; 12:2)

III. Grace Means Christ Is Enough

Gal. 2:21

(Rom. 11:6; Eph. 2:8–9)

If Righteousness Could Come...

If righteousness could come through
religion...

If righteousness could come through
morality...

If righteousness could come through
our effort... Christ died for nothing.

(Gal. 2:21; Rom. 3:20; Phil. 3:4–9)

Grace Means Christ Is Enough

“I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.”

—Gal. 2:21

(Rom. 11:6)

Jesus Did It

You couldn't.

(John 1:14; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:7; 1 Cor.
15:20; Eph. 2:8–9)

Our Righteousness

“For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

—2 Cor. 5:21

(Isa. 53:5–6; Rom. 5:18–19; 1 Pet. 2:24)

Finished

The debt: **Paid.**

The sacrifice: **Offered.**

The curse: **Borne.**

The Justification work: **Finished.**

(Col. 2:14; Gal. 3:13; Heb. 10:12–14)

One Offering

“For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.”

—Heb. 10:14

(Heb. 7:25; 9:28; 10:10–12)

Jesus Plus

Every “**Jesus plus**” gospel eventually becomes a

“**Jesus is not enough**” gospel.

(Gal. 1:6–9; 2:21; 5:2–4)

Christ Is Enough

Enough for your salvation.

Enough for your sanctification.

(Col. 2:9–10; Heb. 7:25)

Where Are You Looking?

Pride: “Look what I’ve done.”

Shame: “Look what I’ve done.”

Fear: “What if I haven’t done enough?”

All three are looking at **self**.

(Rom. 3:27; Phil. 3:3–9)

Look at Jesus

“Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.”

—Heb. 12:2

(Rom. 3:27; 8:1)

The Cross

The cross destroys every reason for **boasting.**

The cross destroys every reason for **despair.**

Our confidence is **Christ**

(Rom. 3:27; 8:1; John 19:30; Heb. 10:14)

Takeaway 1

Stop trying to earn what Jesus has already accomplished

Where am I still trying to prove myself?

Action: Identify one area where your worth is tied to performance. Read Rom. 8:1 and Gal. 2:20 over that area this week. (Rom. 8:1; Eph. 2:8–10; Gal. 2:20)

Takeaway 2

Live today in dependence upon Christ “Apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:4–5

Action: Begin each morning with Gal. 2:20. Identify one situation where you need to consciously depend upon Christ that day. (Col. 2:6–7)

Takeaway 3 - Surrender

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.” - Luke 9:23

Action: Name one area of resistance and take one concrete step of repentance and obedience this week.

(; Rom. 12:1–2; Gal. 2:20)

Grace Means Christ Is Enough

Rest in what Christ has done.

Depend upon Christ living in you.

Surrender every area of your life to Him.

Christ is enough.

(Gal. 2:20–21)

Takeaway 1

Guard the Gospel

2 Tim. 1:13–14; Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:1;

Know and rest in the Gospel well enough
that you recognize the counterfeit.

Have a Gospel Reset...

Takeaway 2

Faith Over Fear

Identify where fear, pride, habit, comfort, or people-pleasing contradicts what you believe.

(Gal. 2:14; Prov. 29:25; Phil. 1:27)

Takeaway 3

Share your testimony in a way that glorify God and magnify His grace

Ps. 66:16; 1 Cor. 15:10; 2 Cor. 4:5; 1 Tim. 1:15–16 Ps. 115:1 — “Not to us... but to your name give glory.”

Reveal Jesus to be the hero of your life!

Resources/ Bibliography:

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THE REDEMPTION STORY: FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION

- The Bible is one beautiful story of Jesus and redemption (Ephesians 1:7-10)
- Scripture presents a purposeful narrative revealing God's redemptive plan (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

From Genesis to Galatians

- Genesis introduces the promise.
- Galatians explains how that promise is fulfilled through Christ—not through the Law. (Gen. 3:15; Gal. 3:16-29; Eph. 1:7–10; Heb 11:13–16)

Overview

Galatians

The Gospel Defended (1–2)

The Gospel Explained (3–4)

The Gospel Applied (5–6)

GALATIANS and HISTORY

"The Magna Carta of Christian Liberty"

Luther called it "my epistle." He never found peace through religious practices — until **Galatians** reminded him that sinners are justified by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Called "a founding document of the Reformation".

Catching Up

1. Jesus died and rose again
2. Paul persecuted the Church
3. Jesus confronted him on the Damascus Road
4. Paul got saved and changed
5. Barnabas welcomed him

Catching Up (cont.)

6. Antioch became the missionary sending church ([Acts 13](#))
7. Churches planted in Galatia ([Acts 14](#))
8. False teachers arrived after Paul left.
9. The mail arrives.... **Boom, Roasted.**

Around A.D. 47–48, the Spirit and the Church called Paul and Barnabas to carry the gospel into modern-day Turkey.

Acts 13:2–3

"The Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul.'"

Acts 14:19–20

In Lystra, Paul was stoned and dragged from the city, "supposing that he was dead."

These churches were planted through suffering.



1st Missionary Journey: Galatians

Saul and Barnabas sent out by Antioch

Acts 13:1-3

Paul preaches; jealous Jews stir up
opposition Acts 13:14-15

They stay a long time; but a Gentile plot
on their lives forces them on. Acts 14:1-7

Galatia at a Glance

1. **Region** - not a City, a network of churches.
2. Located in modern-day central **Turkey**.
3. Settled by **Celtic** (Gallic) tribes around 278 BC. Roman in 25 BC.

4. Crossroads — Where cultures, commerce, and ideas collided.
5. Diverse — Celts, Greeks, Romans, and Jews lived together.
6. Religious — Paganism, emperor worship, and Judaism all competed for hearts.
7. Earliest New Testament letter?