
THE BOOK OF
GALATIANS
THE GOSPEL OF GRACE: CHRIST IS ENOUGH

Galatians 6:11–18

No Bragging Rights

Except in the Cross

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 Overview

The Gospel Defended (1–2)

The Gospel Explained (3–4)

The Gospel Applied (5–6)

Recap

The Spirit produces love.
Love shows up when life gets messy.
Jesus carried what we could not.
Love Him and others because He first loved us. Sow what lasts

(Matt 11:28; John 13:34–35; Rom. 15:3; Phil. 2:3–5; 1 John 3:18; 4:19)

BIG IDEA

The cross changes what we boast in, who we are, and what we live for.

(Gal. 2:20; 6:14–18)

1. LOOKING GOOD

A good outward showing.
A fear of the cross.

ἀναγκάζω (anankazō) = compel

(Gal. 6:11–13; 5:11; 1 Thess. 2:4)

A Reel or Real?

You can arrange the appearance.
Only Jesus produces new life.

People are not trophies.

(Gal. 6:12–13; Matt. 6:1; 2 Cor. 4:5)

2. BOASTING IN THE CROSS

The world saw shame.
Paul saw his Savior.

καυχάομαι (kauchaomai) = boast

(Gal. 6:14; 2:20; 1 Cor. 1:18–31)

Not a New Badge.

A new creation.
Not religious performance.

(Gal. 6:14–15; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph 2:10, 15; 4:24; Col 3:10)

3. MARKED BY GRACE

Not religious trophies. Scars of costly faithfulness. Grace gets the final word.

“Grace is not opposed to effort.
It is opposed to earning.
Effort is action. Earning is attitude.” D.W.

(Gal. 6:16–18; 2 Cor. 11:23–27)

ONE GOSPEL. ONE SAVIOR.

No other gospel.
Grace alone. Faith alone. Christ alone.

Jesus + nothing = everything.
Nothing to add. Nothing to earn.

(Gal. 1:6–9; 2:16; 3:3; 6:14–15)

Grace Overview

Grace is how we are saved (1–2)

Grace is how we grow (3–4)

Grace is how we live (5–6)

THE TAKEAWAY

1. Stop trying to earn God's approval.
2. Change what you're sowing.
3. Show someone the grace you've received.

Saved by grace. Changed by grace.

(Gal. 2:16; 5:16–25; 6:1–10, 14–15)

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PAUL'S HANDWRITTEN POSTCRIPT

pēlikois grammasin (6:11): "what large letters."

Paul commonly authenticated letters in his own hand.

Large script may emphasize his final warning.

Poor eyesight is a suggestion, not an established fact.

The closing contrast concerns motives and the cross.

(Gal. 6:11; 1 Cor. 16:21; 2 Thess. 3:17)

APPEARANCE OR THE CROSS?

anankazō (6:12): compel or pressure.

The opponents sought outward recognition and safety.

Circumcision was not the problem by itself;

requiring it for standing with God was.

Paul boasts only in Christ’s cross.

(Gal. 6:12–14; 2:3–5; 5:11; Phil. 3:3–9)

NEW CREATION & ISRAEL OF GOD

kainē ktisis (6:15): new creation.

The identity of “the Israel of God” (6:16) is debated:

Jewish believers in Jesus, or all believers in Christ.

Avoid presenting either reading as uncontested.

The emphasis is peace and mercy for those in Christ.

(Gal. 3:26–29; 5:6; 6:15–16; 2 Cor. 5:17)

SCARS, GRACE & THE WHOLE LETTER

stigmata (6:17): marks or brands; Paul’s scars from suffering for Christ, not mystical wounds.

Chs. 1–2: the gospel defended.

Chs. 3–4: the gospel explained.

Chs. 5–6: the gospel lived by the Spirit.

The letter opens and closes with grace.

(Acts 14:19; Gal. 1:3; 6:17–18; 2 Cor. 11:23–27)

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

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)

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…

GALATIANS and HISTORY

"The Magna Carta of Christian Liberty"

Luther called it "my epistle.” He never found peace through religious practics — 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 arives…. **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.


Pisidian Antioch
Iconium
Derbe
Perga
Lystra
Antioch
Seleucia
CYPRUS
Salamis
Paphos
Mediterranean Sea
PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY
AD 44-46
Jerusalem

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.