

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. In the foreground, a path made of large, flat stones leads towards the ruins. The background shows a vast, rolling landscape of green hills and valleys, with distant mountains visible under a bright blue sky filled with fluffy white clouds. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden light and long shadows.

THE BOOK OF

GALATIANS

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE: CHRIST IS ENOUGH

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 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

Overview

Galatians

The Gospel Defended (1–2)

The Gospel Explained (3–4)

The Gospel Applied (5–6)

Last Week: Galatians 1:1–5

- Intro to Galatia
- Vertical and horizontal authority and accountability.
- A living, risen Christ, rescues
- Grace, not performance, and Peace to pursue a life with God

Galatians 1:6-10

No Other Gospel

The Big Idea

No Other Gospel

When the Gospel Changes,
Everything Changes

No Other Gospel

1. Die for and live by the one true
Gospel v. 6–7

2. Know what is worth fighting for v. 8–9

3. Live for the Approval of Christ v. 10

Galatians 1:1-10 NKJV

1 Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead),

2 and all the brethren who are with me,
To the churches of Galatia:

3 Grace to you and peace from God the
Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,
4 who gave Himself for our sins, that He
might deliver us from this present evil age,
according to the will of our God and Father,
5 to whom be glory forever and ever.
Amen.

6 “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—

7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.”

I. THERE IS ONLY ONE GOSPEL, DON'T DISTORT IT

Galatians 1:6–7

**Grace produces peace;
Distortion produces confusion**

6 “I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—

7 not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

Paul's Normal Letters:

Greeting → Thanksgiving → Teaching

Galatians:

“Grace and peace...” → “I AM
ASTONISHED.”

I AM ASTONISHED

thaumazō =

I can't believe what I am hearing!

He is moved with passion because he cares deeply.

Speak up with love and truth for those in your life.

DESERTING HIM

metatithēmi — to transfer allegiance,
change sides, to defect.

False doctrine is never merely intellectual.
To abandon the gospel is ultimately to
abandon the God of the gospel.

SO QUICKLY

- Yesterday's understanding of the gospel does not eliminate today's need for discernment.
- Know the truth—and stand in the truth.

(Gal. 3:1; 5:7; Eph. 6:13)

- **Different gospel** — **heteros**: another of a different kind.
- There are not several legitimate versions of the gospel.
- A distorted gospel isn't a weaker gospel. It is the opposite of the gospel.

Romans 11:6 “But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.”

Ephesians 2:8–10 “For by grace you have been saved through faith... not a result of works... For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works...”

THE DANGER OF “ALMOST”

The closer the counterfeit is to the truth, the more dangerous it becomes.

The greatest threat is often not an outright denial of Jesus—but a subtle revision of Jesus.

**Grace produces peace;
Distortion produces confusion**

II. KNOW WHAT IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

Galatians 1:8–9

8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

9 As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

MESSAGE > MESSENGER

Don't judge the gospel by the messenger.

Judge the messenger by the gospel.

1 John 4:1 • Matthew 24:24

“LET HIM BE ACCURSED” ANATHEMA

2x because eternity is at stake.

His severity comes from love.

There are truths worth fighting/dying/
living for—and the gospel is one of them.

“Let love be genuine.

Abhor what is evil;

hold fast to what is good.”

— Romans 12:9

Love does not compromise with what
destroys the people it loves.

DIE — DIVIDE — DEBATE — DECIDE

Some doctrines we **die** for.

Some we **divide** over.

Some we **debate**.

Some we **decide** differently.

The Gospel is in the first category: **DIE FOR**

DOCTRINAL CLARITY WITH CHRISTLIKE CHARITY

Ephesians 4:15 • 2 Timothy 1:13–14

DIE FOR - Core, Non-Negotiable Truths

The GOSPEL! The Trinity, deity of Christ, bodily death, and resurrection of Jesus, authority, and inerrancy of scripture, Salvation by grace through faith, etc.

We stand here with conviction, clarity, and courage. Jude 3; Gal. 1:8–9

DIVIDE FOR - Important Local-Church **Convictions**

Baptism, Communion, Church
governance, Spiritual gifts, etc...

Faithful Christians may disagree, but
healthy ministry often requires practical
alignment in doctrine and practice.

Amos 3:3; 1 Cor. 1:10

DEBATE FOR - Secondary & Tertiary Issues

End-times timelines, Predestination vs free will, Difficult passages, etc...

We can sharpen one another through respectful dialogue without breaking fellowship. Prov. 27:17; 2 Tim. 2:23–25

DECIDE FOR - Personal Convictions

Entertainment, Schooling, Political involvement, Liberties and convictions, etc...

Be cautious about turning personal convictions into God's universal commands. 1 Cor. 10:31; Rom. 14:5

Conviction where Scripture is clear. Charity where faithful believers may differ.

THEOLOGICAL MATURITY

Truth and love.

Know where to draw a line.

How thick to draw it.

And how to love the person on the other side of it.

DON'T DIE ON EVERY HILL

But be willing to die on the hills God has made clear.

Protect essential truth, Preserve church unity, Encourage humble theological dialogue, Practice grace in personal conviction

TRUTH + LOVE

Doctrinal clarity with Christlike charity

Eph. 4:15

Truth without love becomes
harshness.

Love without truth becomes
sentimentality.

IV. DON'T TRADE GOD'S APPROVAL FOR MAN'S

Galatians 1:10 “Am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? ... If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.”

Flexible methods. Fixed message.

THE AUDIENCE OF ONE

If you live for the applause of people, you will eventually compromise for people.

If you live for the approval of Christ, you can faithfully love people without being controlled by them.

“Well done, good and faithful servant.” —
Matthew 25:21

HOW DO WE RECOGNIZE A FALSE GOSPEL?

1. What does it say about Jesus?
2. What does it say about salvation?
3. Where does it put your confidence?

Takeaway 1

Guard the Gospel

2 Tim. 1:13–14; Acts 17:11

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

Have a Gospel Reset...

Takeaway 2

Fight the right battles

Eph. 4:14–15;
Jude 3;
Rom. 14:5

Know what to hold tightly—and what to hold graciously. **Die** for the Gospel. **Divide** over convictions necessary for faithful church life. **Debate** secondary issues with humility. **Decide** matters of personal wisdom without judging others.

Takeaway 3

Live for Christ's Approval

2 Cor. 5:9; Prov. 29:25

Love people deeply—but live for the Audience of One.

Resources/ Bibliography:

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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

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

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.**

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?