

The background of the image is a scenic landscape featuring ancient stone ruins on a hillside. Several tall, weathered columns stand prominently, with a stone path leading towards them. The ruins are set against a backdrop of rolling green hills and distant mountains under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The sun is visible in the upper left, creating a warm, golden light across the scene.

THE BOOK OF **GALATIANS**

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE: CHRIST IS ENOUGH

Galatians 4:1–5:1

From Bondage to Belonging

Big Idea:

Christ didn't redeem slaves to make them better slaves.

He redeemed us to make us sons and daughters who live in His freedom.

(Gal. 2:20; 5:1, 13)

The Two Big Questions

1. How are we made right with God?
2. How do we grow and mature?

Both are by grace through faith.

... What about the Law then?

(Gal. 2:16; 3:2–3; Eph. 2:8–10)

The Law Is the Warning Light—Not the Mechanic

Ezek. 36:26

The Law reveals our need.

Christ provides the rescue.

The Spirit produces the change.

(Rom. 3:20; 8:3–4; Gal. 5:16)

The Mosaic Law

Moral — Civil — Ceremonial

The Law was temporary, purposeful,
and good.

The promise came first.

The Law came later.

Christ is the fulfillment.

(Gal. 3:17–19, 24; Matt. 5:17; Col. 2:16–17)

Big Idea

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to make them better slaves.**

He redeemed us to make us
sons and daughters
who live in His freedom.

(Rom. 8:15–17; Gal. 5:1)

1. Know Who You Are

Gal. 4:1–7

A SON, NOT A SLAVE

(Rom. 8:15–17)

**“But When the Fullness of Time Had
Come...”**

Gal. 4:4–5

God sent His Son

Born of a woman

Born under the Law

To redeem

That we might receive adoption

(John 1:14; Rom. 8:3; Eph. 1:5)

Redeem — exagorazō

Gal. 3:13; 4:5

Redeemed FROM the curse

Redeemed FOR adoption

God sends.

Christ redeems.

We receive.

(1 Pet. 1:18–19; Rom. 8:15)

John Calvin on Redemption (1548)

Gal. 4:4–5

“By putting on himself the chains, he takes them off from the other.”

— John Calvin, Commentary on
Galatians

Slave → Son → Heir

Gal. 4:6–7

“Because you are sons...”

God sent the Spirit of His Son
into our hearts, crying:

“Abba! Father!”

(Rom. 8:15–17)

Identity Comes First

A slave obeys FOR acceptance.

A son obeys FROM acceptance.

Relationship comes first.

Obedience grows from relationship.

(Eph. 2:8–10; John 14:15)

2. Don't Go Back

Gal. 4:8–11

SLAVERY CAN LOOK RELIGIOUS

“You have come to know God,
or rather to be known by God.”

(Gal. 3:3; Col. 2:20–23)

Good Things Can Become Bad Masters

Bible reading • Prayer • Fasting

Sabbath • Church • Theology • Standards

The discipline is a trellis.

Jesus is the life.

Every false gospel adds something to Jesus.

(John 15:5; Col. 2:20–23)

3. Know the Goal

Gal. 4:12–20

CHRIST FORMED IN YOU

“My children... until Christ is formed in you.”

(Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18)

Formed — morphoō

Gal. 4:19

“To take shape or form”

Not merely knowing more about Jesus.

Not merely doing more things for Jesus.

**Becoming increasingly like Jesus
through the work of the Spirit.**

(Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 5:16)

Martin Luther on Formation (1535)

Gal. 4:19

“Every Christian pastor is a spiritual father who forms Christ in the hearts of his hearers.”

— Martin Luther, Commentary on Galatians

Formation Is Deeper Than Behavior Management

Rules can restrain behavior.

Only the Spirit can form Christ in a person.

The goal is not simply less bad behavior.

The goal is more of Christ.

(2 Cor. 3:18; Gal. 5:16, 22–23)

4. Live Like a Child of Promise

Gal. 4:21–31

NOT HUMAN EFFORT

Hagar → slavery / human effort

Sarah → freedom / promise

(Gen. 16:1–4; 21:1–2, 10)

Flesh — sarx

Gal. 4:23

kata sarka — “according to the flesh”

Flesh: “I can produce this.”

Faith: “God must provide this.”

(John 3:6; Gal. 5:16–17)

Children of Promise

Gal. 4:28

You did not save yourself.

You did not adopt yourself.

You did not make yourself an heir.

God did.

(John 1:12–13; Rom. 9:8)

FREE → FOR FREEDOM

Gal. 4:31; 5:1

eleutheros → eleutheria

“For freedom Christ has set us free...”

Christ has set you free.

Therefore stand firm.

Don't go back to the galley.

(John 8:36; Matt. 11:28–30)

John Chrysostom (c. 395)

Gal. 4:31–5:1

“How can those who have obtained freedom willingly subject themselves again to the yoke of bondage?”

— John Chrysostom, Homily on
Galatians 4

Christ Has Set You Free

Gal. 5:1

You were a slave.

God sent His Son. Christ redeemed you.

God adopted you. He gave you His Spirit.

You are an heir. A child of promise.

YOU ARE FREE.

Christ has set you free. Live like you're free.

(Rom. 8:15–17; John 8:36)

Takeaway 1

Live Like a Child, Not an Employee

Obey FROM acceptance, not FOR acceptance.

Action: When you fail, pray before you hide. Run to your Father.

(Rom. 8:15; Heb. 4:16)

Takeaway 2

Let Christ Be the Goal of Your Growth

The goal is Christ formed in you.

Action: Ask, “Christ formed in me here would look like...” Then practice one Spirit-dependent act of obedience.

(Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18)

Takeaway 3

Stand in the Freedom Christ Purchased

Do not add your performance to God's promise.

Action: Do what God has called you to do—and entrust the result to your Father.

(Gal. 5:1, 13, 16; Phil. 2:12–13)

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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

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)

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 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.