

Galatians: *A Sizzling Letter*

Galatians 1:1-10

It all starts when a man who hunted
Christians became
Christianity's greatest missionary.

Who was Paul?

He was a Hellenistic (Greek) Jew, a Pharisee, part of the rabbinical class

May have witnessed the crucifixion of Christ, heard about the resurrection, and witnessed the *aftermath of Pentecost*.

His response to all of this was *to wage a religious war* against the Christian Church. (Acts 8 & 9)

A trip to Damascus changed everything...

Jesus appeared to him

Changed him and led him to faith in Christ

No one is impossible for God to save...

Then Paul became a missionary...

As a missionary Paul

Traveled the Mediterranean

Preached the gospel

Organized new churches

Paul's Method:

Convert – plant – equip

His ministry was not without *conflict*...

The Judaizer's hybrid gospel

Acts 15:1 “But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.””

Mixing grace with works, makes the good news – *bad news*.

Jerusalem Council

This issue was so big that the first ecumenical council was held to deal with this corruption!!

So, Paul wrote his first ever letter

He is writing with a flaming pen!

His central issue is:

How is salvation appropriated, is it by grace alone or by a mixture of works?

The gospel is THE issue... (1 Corinthians 15:3-5)

v.3-5 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

So what?

You must believe the gospel.

The gospel must be our highest priority...

*The gospel must be protected from
corruption...*