

GALATIANS

NO OTHER GOSPEL

Book of Galatians

Freedom in Christ

Week	Section	Topic	Teacher
1: May 3 rd	Galatians Intro	Paul's Background & Introduction	Ron Grebe
2: May 10 th	Galatians 1:1-10	Greeting & No Other Gospel	Ron Grebe
3: May 17 th	Galatians 1:11-24	Paul Called by God	Stew Bruner
4: May 24 th	Galatians 2:1-10	Paul Accepted by the Apostles	Adam Collins
5: May 31 st	Galatians 2:11-21	Paul Opposes Peter	Mike Gann
6: June 7 th	Galatians 3:1-14	By Faith or Works of the Law	Stew Bruner
7: June 14 th	Galatians 3:15-29	The Law and the Promise	Ron Grebe
8: June 21 st	Galatians 4:1-20	Sons and Heirs & Paul's Concern	Mike Gann
9: June 28 th	Galatians 4:21-31	Example of Hagar and Sarah	Grant Phipps
10: July 5 th	Galatians 5:1-15	Christ Has Set Us Free	Ron Grebe
11: July 12 th	Galatians 5:16-26	Keep in Step with the Spirit	Grant Phipps
12: July 19 th	Galatians 6:1-10	Bear One Another's Burdens	Mike Gann
13: July 26 th	Galatians 6:11-18	Final Warning and Conclusion	Ron Grebe

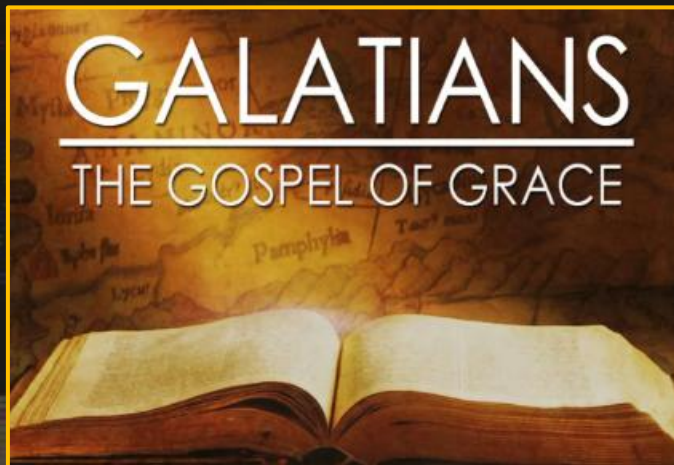
Book of Galatians

- No Other Gospel is a 13-week class on Paul's letter to the **Galatians**, where he not only defends the **one true gospel**, but also applies it to the life of the believer:
 - This letter reminds us that the gospel that saves is also the gospel that **transforms us, leading to a life of freedom, faith, and fruitfulness.**

- AI Overview:

- The Book of Galatians is a **foundational New Testament letter** known as the "**charter of Christian liberty**," emphasizing that salvation is by grace through faith alone, not by works of the law.

- Written by Paul to **combat legalism**, it asserts the gospel's universality, uniting Jews and Gentiles in a new, free family.



Paul's Letters in the New Testament

Churches First, Individuals Second

Longest

Romans

1 Corinthians

2 Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

1 Thessalonians

2 Thessalonians

1 Timothy

2 Timothy

Titus

Philemon

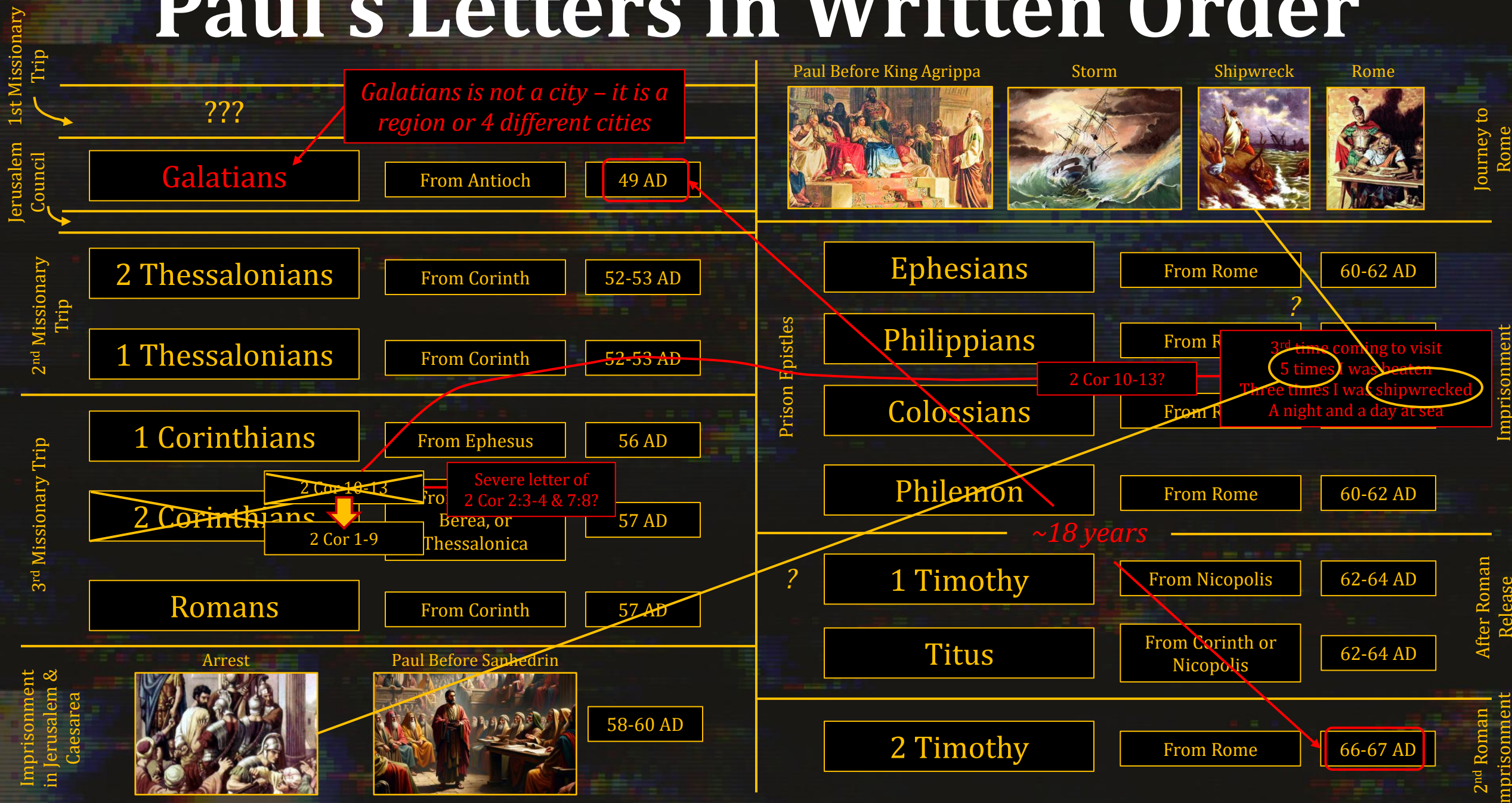
Shortest

Longest

Shortest

Remember – “ARC GE Power Company 3Ts”

Paul's Letters in Written Order



???

Galatians is not a city – it is a region or 4 different cities

Galatians

From Antioch

49 AD

2 Thessalonians

From Corinth

52-53 AD

1 Thessalonians

From Corinth

52-53 AD

1 Corinthians

From Ephesus

56 AD

~~2 Corinthians~~

~~2 Cor 10-13~~

Severe letter of 2 Cor 2:3-4 & 7:8?

From Berea, or Thessalonica

57 AD

2 Cor 1-9

Romans

From Corinth

57 AD

Arrest

Paul Before Sanhedrin

58-60 AD

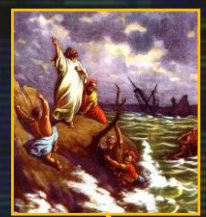
Paul Before King Agrippa



Storm



Shipwreck



Rome



Journey to Rome

Ephesians

From Rome

60-62 AD

Philippians

From Rome

60-62 AD

Colossians

From Rome

60-62 AD

3rd time coming to visit, 5 times I was beaten, Three times I was shipwrecked, A night and a day at sea

Philemon

From Rome

60-62 AD

1 Timothy

From Nicopolis

62-64 AD

Titus

From Corinth or Nicopolis

62-64 AD

2 Timothy

From Rome

66-67 AD

After Roman Release

2nd Roman Imprisonment

Prison Epistles

2 Cor 10-13?

~18 years

What are some modern-day
“false teachings” or
“different gospels” that
influence the church today?

Focus of Galatians

- Paul's address to the Galatians is singularly focused on **one issue** – **the Gospel** – unlike his other works where he covers a range of subjects, questions, and specific situations facing local churches and pastors. In Galatians, Paul is concerned with only one thing – **the Gospel**.¹

¹O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. ²Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ³Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? – Galatians 3:1-3

¹<https://www.keystoneproject.org/blog/why-was-the-apostle-paul-so-angry-with-the-galatians>

Tone of Galatians

- Paul has a very **harsh tone** throughout the letter:
 - No **commendation** or **praise** like his letters to **every other church**.
 - Paul is in an **agitated** state of mind.
- The Galatians were abandoning the **gospel of grace** for a false gospel of legalism.

*“The letter to the Galatians stands apart from the Apostle Paul’s other writings due to a number of distinctions, but the most prominent may be the **detectable anger** in which the letter is written.”¹*

*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** – Gal 1:6*

*If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be **accursed** – Gal 1:9*

*O **foolish** Galatians! Who has **bewitched** you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. – Gal 3:1*

***Are you so foolish?** Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? – Gal 3:3*

*I am afraid I may have **labored over you in vain**. – Gal 4:11*

*I wish I could be present with you now and **change my tone**, for I am **perplexed** about you. – Gal 4:20*

*You are **severed from Christ**, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. – Gal 5:4*

*I wish those who unsettle you would **emasculate themselves!** – Gal 5:12*

mutilate

*For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he **deceives himself**. – Gal 6:2*

***Do not be deceived:** God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap – Gal 6:7*

¹<https://www.keystoneproject.org/blog/why-was-the-apostle-paul-so-angry-with-the-galatians>

Tone of Galatians

- Paul's praise for other churches:

Church	Commendation, Prayer, Praise, or Thanksgiving
Romans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world (1:8)• that without ceasing I mention you always in my prayers (1:9-10)• But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart (6:17)• I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae (16:1-1)• Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well (16:3-4)• For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil (16:9)
1 Corinthians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you (1:4)• If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you, for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord (9:2)• Now I commend you because you remember me in everything (11:2)
2 Corinthians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts (3:2)• As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting (7:9)• I rejoice, because I have complete confidence in you (7:16)• Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! (9:15)• Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another (13:11)
Galatians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None

Tone of Galatians

- Paul's praise for other churches:

Church	Commendation, Prayer, Praise, or Thanksgiving
Galatians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None
Ephesians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers (1:15-16)
Philippians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy (1:3-4)• Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you (3:1)• Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice (4:4)• no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only (4:15)
Colossians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you (1:3)• And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you (1:9)
1 Thessalonians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers (1:2)• And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God (2:13)
2 Thessalonians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing (1:3)

The lack of praise in Galatians is significant.

What made Paul's gospel so different from the message of the Judaizers?

*Final one-time sacrifice of Jesus
Jesus permanently secured our salvation
Believers are perfected for all time*

*¹⁰For since the law has but a **shadow** of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. ²Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? ³But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*

– Hebrews 10:1-4

Galatians

- In Galatians the **Apostle Paul** draws, in effect, a crucial distinction between two kinds of righteousness: **active** and **passive**:¹

Active Righteousness / Judaizers	Passive Righteousness / Paul
Relying on our own fulfillment of the law for our ultimate justification before God.	Permitting someone else – namely, God to bring about our salvation.
Our actively working to appease God's wrath.	Accepting by faith a gift we in no way deserve because God has acted in Christ to justify us.

*"It is a marvelous thing and unknown to the world to teach Christians to **ignore the Law** and to live before God as though there were no Law whatever ... **to mix law and Gospel not only clouds the knowledge of grace, it cuts out Christ altogether.**" – Martin Luther²*

Galatians

Against Active Righteousness

Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? – 3:3

But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." – 3:12

²Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you. ³I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.

⁴You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. – 5:2-4



Passive Righteousness

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

¹⁵We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. – 2:15-16

²⁰I 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. ²¹I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose. – 2:20-21

²Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? ⁷Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ¹⁰For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." ¹⁴so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. – 3:2-14

Galatians Outline

- In Galatians, Paul aggressively defends his **apostolic authority** and the gospel of grace against "**false teachers**" claiming that Gentile Christians must follow Jewish laws (circumcision) to be saved.
- Outline of Galatians:

Galatians		
Chapters 1-2 Defense of Authority	Chapters 3-4 Justification by Faith	Chapters 5-6 Freedom and the Spirit
Paul defends his apostolic calling and asserts that his gospel message came directly from Jesus Christ, not men.	Righteousness comes through faith, just as Abraham was justified, not by adhering to the law. The law was a temporary guardian until Christ arrived.	Believers are called to freedom, not to use it as an opportunity for the flesh, but to walk in the Spirit, producing "fruits" such as love, joy, and peace.

Key Verses

*¹¹Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." ¹²But the law is not of faith.
– 2:11-12*

*²⁰I 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.
– 2:20*

*Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.
– 3:7*

²¹For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²²But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe." – 3:21-22

²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. – 3:24-25

The Law is like John the Baptist – it prepared the way for the gospel.

*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
– 3:28*

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. – 4:4-5

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. – 5:1

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. – 5:13

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. – 5:16

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. – 5:22-23

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. – 6:2

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. – 6:9

For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. – 6:15

Greeting

Galatians 1:1-5

Galatians 1:1-5

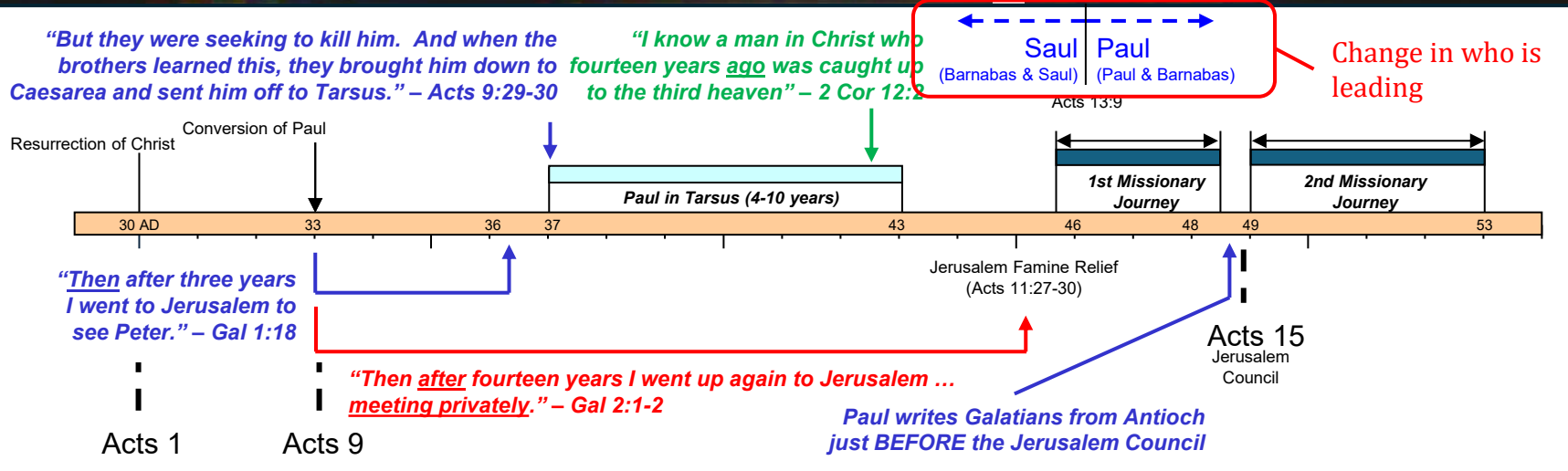
Greeting

¹*Paul, an apostle – not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead – ²and all the brothers who are with me,*

To the churches of Galatia:

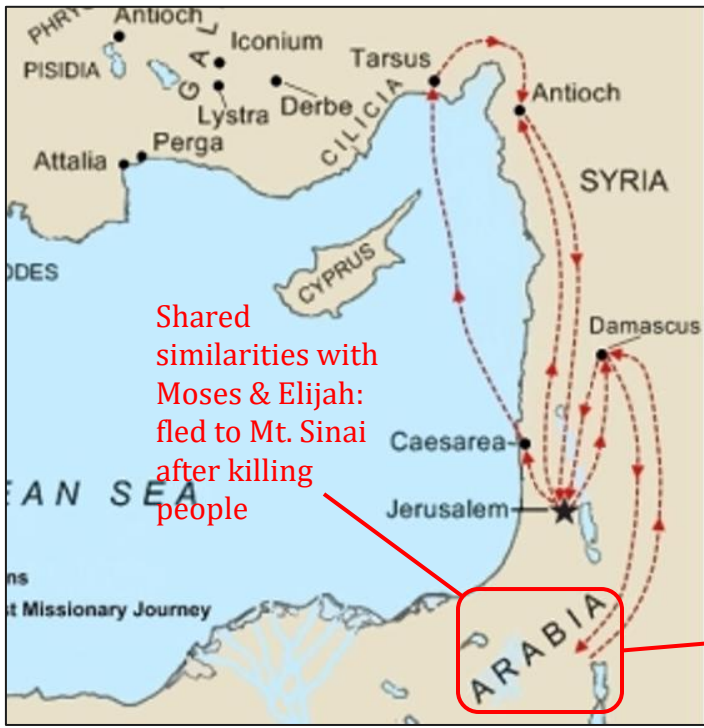
³*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen*

The Apostle Paul



The Apostle Paul

- Was born in Tarsus which is in the southern part of Galatia (Acts 9:11, 21:39, 22:3)
- Was from the tribe of Benjamin (Rom 11:1; Phil 3:5)
- Was named Saul by birth – most probably in honor of King Saul of the tribe of Benjamin (1 Sam 9:1-2)
- Born in approximately AD 2
- His father was a Pharisee (Acts 23:6)
- Had at least one sister (Acts 23:16)
- Was born as a free Roman citizen (Acts 22:28)
- Was a tentmaker by trade (Acts 18:3)



- Paul was a **Jewish Pharisee** (Acts 23:6; Phil 3:5) was trained by a well known Jewish Rabbi named **Gamaliel** (Acts 22:3).¹
- In his **zealous** pursuit of "righteousness" as understood through the Judaism of his day, Paul excelled beyond his peers (Gal. 1:13-14).¹
- Paul **persecuted** the church before his conversion (Acts 23:3-4).¹
 - Was at the death of **Stephen** (Acts 7:58, 8:1) and voted to put to death numerous other Christians (Acts 26:9-11)

Apostle – Big A vs Little A

Greeting

apostolos – a delegate, messenger, one sent forth with orders

¹Paul, an *apostle* – not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead

- Apostles can be categorized into two groups: **A**postles and **a**postles (big “A” vs. little “a”).
- Paul and the twelve were considered **Apostles** and were specifically commissioned by Jesus to preach the gospel, build the church, and to take the gospel into all nations:



- Paul was not part of the original twelve disciples but was selected by Jesus to be an apostle (Gal 1:11-12).
- Paul’s apostleship resulted from a **special call** from Jesus Christ himself while on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-19, Acts 22:1-16, Acts 26:1-18).

Apostle – Big A vs Little A

- List of other “**apostles**” or “**messengers**”:

Apostles in Scripture	
1. Jesus (Hebrews 3:1)	18. James (Galatians 1:19)
2-13. The original twelve (Matthew 10:2-4)	19. Apollos (1 Corinthians 4:6-9)
14. Matthias who replaced Judas (Acts 1:16-26)	20-21. Andronicus and Junia (Romans 16:7 depending on the translation)
15. Barnabas (Acts 4:36, Acts 14:4, Acts 14:14)	22-23. Two unnamed apostles in 2 Corinthians 8:23 (depending on the translation)
16-17. Timothy and Silvanus (1 Thessalonians 1:1 combined with 2:6)	24. Epaphroditus (Philippians 2:25 depending on the translation)

*Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider **Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession.** – Hebrews 3:1*

- A total of **19-24** ^{+ Paul} apostles are listed in Scripture.

¹¹And he gave the **apostles**, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,
¹²**to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.**
– Ephesians 4:11-12 (see also 1 Cor 12:27-31)

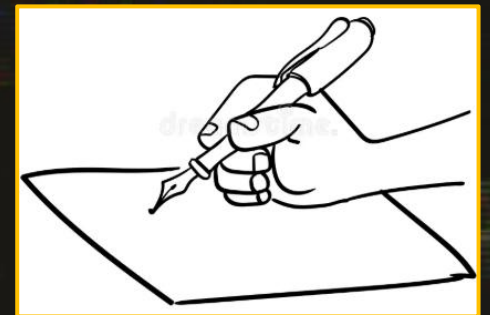
Apostle – Big A vs Little A

Greeting

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

Why does this matter?

- Paul's claim to be an Apostle was based on **three** factors used to distinguish between **apostles** and **Apostles**:
 1. He had been **called directly** by Jesus Christ (compare Luke 6:13 vs. Gal 1:1)
 2. He had **seen** the resurrected Lord (compare Acts 1:21-22 vs. 1 Cor 9:1-2, 15:3-9)
 3. He had **performed miracles and signs** (compare Mark 16:20 vs. 2 Cor 12:12)
- Paul claimed to be an Apostle in **every epistle** except **Philippians, 2 Thessalonians, and Philemon**:
 - See Romans 1:1, 11:13; 1 Corinthians 1:1, 4:9, 9:1-2, 15:9; 2 Corinthians 1:1, 11:5, 12:11-12; Galatians 1:1; Ephesians 1:1, 3:1-5; Colossians 1:1; 1 Thessalonians 2:6; 1 Timothy 1:1, 2:7; 2 Timothy 1:1, 1:11; Titus 1:1.



Signs and Wonders of Paul

- Paul performed numerous **signs** and **wonders** throughout his ministry.

*Men of Israel, hear these words: **Jesus** of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. – Acts 2:22*

*It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, **while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. – Hebrews 2:3-4***

3 periods of signs and wonders:

1. Moses & Joshua
2. Elijah & Elisha
3. Jesus & Apostles

Scripture	Location	Signs & Wonders Performed by Paul
Acts 13:8-12	Salmis on Cyprus	Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him (Elymas), and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand.
Acts 14:1-3	Iconium	So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.
Acts 14:8-12	Lystra	He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, said in a loud voice, “ Stand upright on your feet. ” And he sprang up and began walking

Signs and Wonders of Paul

- Paul performed numerous **signs** and **wonders** throughout his ministry.

Scripture	Location	Signs & Wonders Performed by Paul
Acts 16:16-18	Philippi	And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.
Acts 19:11-13	Ephesus	And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul , so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them.
Acts 20:9-12	Troas	But Paul went down and bent over him (Eutychus), and taking him in his arms, said, “Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him.”
Acts 28:7-9	Malta	It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery, and Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him, he was cured. When this had taken place, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured.

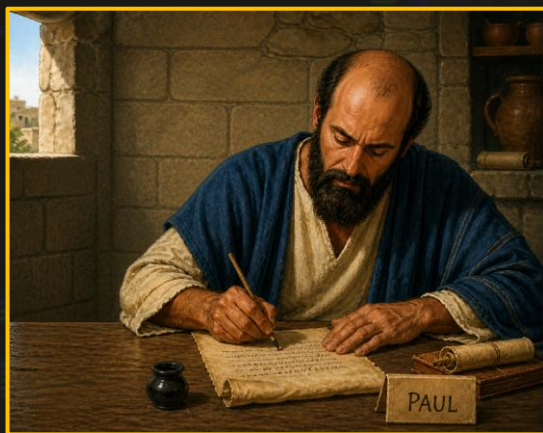
This one does not count – Paul had bored Eutychus to death with his preaching. 😊

The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works. – 2 Cor 12:12

Companions

¹Paul, an apostle – not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead – ²and all the **brothers** who are with me

- Why didn't he mention **Barnabas** or **Titus** who are listed in chapter 2?
 - Might have written it without Barnabas' knowledge (Gal 2:13)
 - Some say it is because he wrote Galatians after they separated



<u>Letter</u>	<u>Co-author</u>
Galatians	Brothers
1 Thess	Timothy & Silvanus
2 Thess	Timothy & Silvanus
1 Cor	Sosthenes
2 Cor	Timothy
Romans	No co-author
Ephesians	No co-author
Philippians	Timothy
Colossians	Timothy

- He does not mention Silas (Silvanus) either:
 - Silas became Paul's main co-traveling companion (along with Timothy) **AFTER** the Jerusalem Council.

Churches of Galatia

Read Acts 13:13-14:23

To the *churches* of Galatia:

Only one of his letters addressed to a region and not a single church

• Likely churches:

Acts 13:48 As many as were appointed to eternal life believed

• **Antioch** – Gentiles received word, Jews filled with jealousy.

Acts 13:50 Drove them out of their district

• **Iconium** – remained a long time but then some Jews & Gentiles attempted to stone them.

100 miles

• **Lystra** – Paul heals a crippled man which causes “the gods have come down to us”. Jews from Antioch & Iconium followed and they **stoned** Paul.

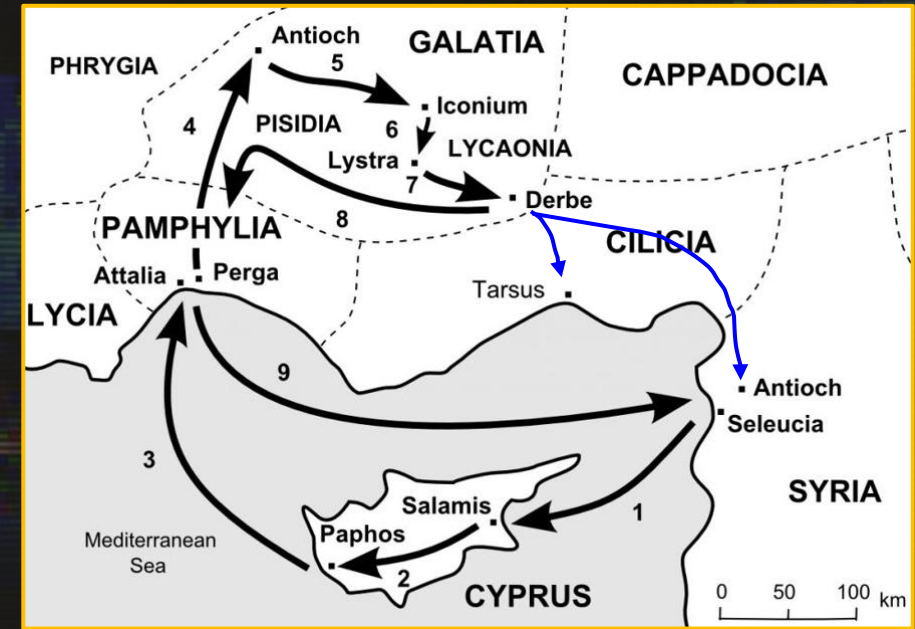
60 miles

Some scholars see this as a symbolic resurrection by Paul

Gal 2:20?

• **Derbe** – next day traveled to Derbe and preached gospel and made many disciples.

Acts 14:23 They returned and appointed elders in every church



Gal 6:17 From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

Churches of Galatia

they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city (*Lystra*). – Acts 14:19



A disciple was there (*Lystra*), named *Timothy*, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek – Acts 16:1



Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him (*Stephen*). And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named *Saul*. – Acts 7:58

¹⁰You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at *Lystra* – which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. – 2 Timothy 3:10-11

You should know that our brother *Timothy* has been released, with whom I shall see you if he comes soon. – Hebrews 13:23

Grace to You and Peace from God

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

- Paul starts each of his letters with some variation of **grace and peace**.
- What does “**Grace to You and Peace from God**” mean to you?

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Apostolic Greeting</u>
Galatians	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
1 Thess	Grace to you and peace.
2 Thess	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Cor	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
2 Cor	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
Ephesians	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Philippians	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Colossians	Grace to you and peace from God our Father.
Philemon	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
1 Timothy	Grace, mercy , and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
Titus	Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior .
2 Timothy	Grace, mercy , and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
Philemon	Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you could only have one – which would you rather have?

Grace to You and Peace from God

³*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*

- Grace (*charis*) – good will, loving-kindness, favour.
 - Of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, **turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases** them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection, and **kindles** them to the exercise of the Christian virtues. *These are action terms by God. Grace is not a passive thing in our life.*
- Grace is the word which best summarizes the Christian gospel as a whole:¹

We are saved by grace, meaning, we don't deserve it, nor earn it. We rather deserve the opposite. But the gospel is that God in mercy sent Christ so that sinners can be justified, so that those who deserve to be separated from God can be brought near to him, so that those who are enemies may become God's friends, so that those who should face eternal punishment receive eternal life. All of that is ours not because of anything we've done, but all by God's grace.¹

Grace to You and Peace from God

³*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ*

- Peace (*eirēnē*) – of the Messiah’s peace.
 - The tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and content with its earthly lot, of whatsoever sort that is.
- The word “**peace**” meant more to Jews like Paul than just “on God’s side” or “not fighting with one another.” The word “**peace**” in Paul’s greetings is the Greek version of the Hebrew word *shalom*. And *shalom* is a massive concept with much hope attached to it:¹
 - God’s *shalom* is one of the main themes of the Old Testament.
 - The Israelites were redeemed as God’s people through God’s covenant, receiving God’s *hesed* (covenantal love), so that they could be a holy nation and worship God, all so that there might experience and share God’s *shalom* – an everything-as-it-should-be peace.

Compared to the Pax romana - (Latin for “Roman Peace”). Rome promised that Roman dominance was the greatest, most peace-giving rule.

Grace to You and Peace from God

³Grace to you *and peace from God* our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

- Peace¹:

- What was lost at the fall was *shalom*, and the final restoration of all things was not just to be a return to God, but a return to *shalom*.

²²For we know that the whole *creation has been groaning together* in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³*And not only the creation, but we ourselves*, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, *groan inwardly* as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. – Romans 8:22-23

- Paul was saying that in Christ is finally *shalom*. When Paul writes that “Jesus himself is our peace” in Ephesians 2:14, he is saying Jesus this Messiah is the Israelite’s, and now the Gentile’s, hoped-for *shalom*.

It represents a shift from worldly, transactional relationships to a state of reconciliation based on God's love, reversing the damage of sin.¹

No Other Gospel

Galatians 1:6-10

Galatians 1:6-10

No Other Gospel

⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸But 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. ⁹As 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.

¹⁰For 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.

No Other Gospel

Paul gets straight to the point.¹

thaumazō – wonder at or marvel. Also translated as amazed or surprised in many places in the NT.

No Other Gospel

In this context Paul is saying he is stunned or speechless. Pilate was amazed (thaumazō) that Jesus said nothing (Matthew 15:5).

⁶I am **astonished** that you are **so quickly deserting** him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a **different** gospel – ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the **gospel** of Christ.

This is not just semantics and things Christians can legitimately disagree about.²

euangelion – good tidings or good news. It comes from the Greek eu ("good") and angelion ("message" or "news"). In ancient times, this word was used to announce a military victory or a new king's ascension.

Not just that they are turning away – that they are doing it so quickly. Compare it to Galatians 5:7 "You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?"

Distort

metastrephō – to turn around. Some translations say “pervert”.

No Other Gospel

*⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to **distort** the gospel of Christ.*

Why would someone want to **pervert** the Gospel?¹

1. The gospel offends our **pride**. It tells us we need a savior, and that we cannot save ourselves. It gives no credit to us at all for our salvation; it is all the work of Jesus for us.
2. The gospel offends our **wisdom**. It saves us by something many consider foolish – God becoming man and dying a humiliating, disgraceful death on our behalf.
3. The gospel offends our **knowledge**. It tells us to believe something which goes against scientific knowledge and personal experience – that a dead man, Jesus Christ, rose from the dead in a glorious new body that would never die again.

¹Guzik, David, *Study Guide for Galatians*, https://www.blueletterbible.org/comm/guzik_david/study-guide/galatians/galatians-1.cfm?a=1092009

Accursed

No Other Gospel

⁶I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – ⁷not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸But 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.

accursed.

⁹As 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

anathema – a thing devoted to God without hope of being redeemed, and if an animal, to be slain; therefore a person or thing doomed to destruction.

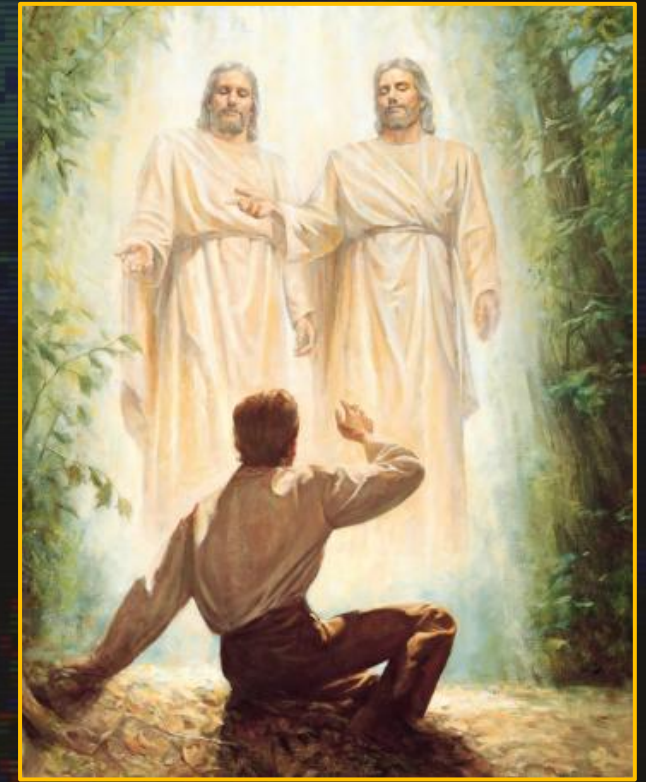
The curse was repeated for extra emphasis; it is really impossible for Paul to express this idea with any more strength than he did here.¹

¹Guzik, David, *Study Guide for Galatians*, https://www.blueletterbible.org/comm/guzik_david/study-guide/galatians/galatians-1.cfm?a=1092009

Accursed

Satan and his demon emissaries do their deceptive work usually through human beings and most often through religious leaders.²

- Can you think of any modern examples of what Paul is talking about?
- ESV Study Bible note on Galatians 1:8-9:¹
 - **Mormonism** is an example of a religion that is based on revelation supposedly given by an angel and **that teaches a gospel different from justification by faith alone** in the substitutionary death of Christ.
 - Joseph Smith (1805–1844) claimed to receive over **100 revelations**, recorded as direct, first-person communications from Jesus Christ, which form the basis of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These revelations, beginning in 1828, were often dictated in response to prayers regarding doctrinal questions, church administration, and the restoration of a "true" church. **Major revelations are canonized in their Doctrine and Covenants.**



¹MacArthur, John, *New Testament Commentary on Galatians*, page 10.

¹ESV Study Bible, Note on Galatians 1:8-9, page 2453

Approval of Man or of God?

¹⁰For 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.

- Paul is defending his ministry against accusations that he was "watering down" the message to make it more acceptable to people.

Which
looks
easier?

Judaizers/False Teachers	Paul
Convert to Judaism	Not Needed
Follow Law of Moses (Dietary & Ritual Law)	Not Needed
Need to be Circumcised	Not Needed

Which
would
you like
to select?

Application for us:

We will not be able to serve Jesus and we will not be able to please God if we are slaves to pleasing others or their opinions of us.¹

Approval of Man or of God?

- Brings to mind the **Parable of the Laborers** in the Vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16) taught by Jesus:
 - Early workers agreed to 1 denarius. Late workers received the same.
 - Teaches that God's kingdom operates on grace, not merit, offering the same reward of eternal life to all believers regardless of when they begin serving.
- Is frequently interpreted as representing God's grace extended to both Israel and the Gentiles. The "first" laborers (hired early) represent **Israel**, who worked throughout salvation history, while the "last" laborers (hired at the end) represent **Gentiles** receiving equal grace.
- **Warning Against Envy:** The early workers' frustration with the late workers' pay serves as a warning against jealousy and legalism, encouraging joy in God's kindness to others.



Summary

- Paul's apostolic authority was established by God – not man.

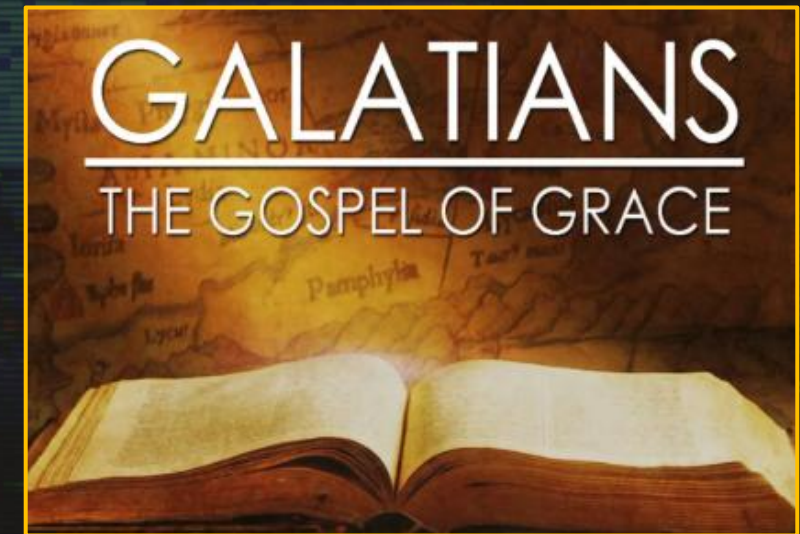
Unmerited favor

- Grace and peace are the root of the gospel.

Shalom

- Paul soundly condemns anyone who would denigrate the grace of God and attempt to change the gospel:¹

- People have been trying to distort the true gospel for two-thousand years.
- Anything more than faith alone in Christ is adding to the gospel.
- The true gospel must be fought for.



¹<https://www.gotquestions.org/Book-of-Galatians.html>

Book of Galatians

Freedom in Christ

Week	Section	Topic	Teacher
1: May 3 rd	Galatians Intro	Paul's Background & Introduction	Ron Grebe
2: May 10 th	Galatians 1:1-10	Greeting & No Other Gospel	Ron Grebe
3: May 17 th	Galatians 1:11-24	Paul Called by God	Stew Bruner
4: May 24 th	Galatians 2:1-10	Paul Accepted by the Apostles	Adam Collins
5: May 31 st	Galatians 2:11-21	Paul Opposes Peter	Mike Gann
6: June 7 th	Galatians 3:1-14	By Faith or Works of the Law	Stew Bruner
7: June 14 th	Galatians 3:15-22	God's Promise	Ron Grebe
8: June 21 st	Galatians 3:23-25	Paul's Concern	Mike Gann
9: June 28 th	Galatians 4:1-10	Paul and Sarah	Grant Phipps
10: July 5 th	Galatians 4:11-20	Free	Ron Grebe
11: July 12 th	Galatians 5:16-26	Keep in Step with the Spirit	Grant Phipps
12: July 19 th	Galatians 6:1-10	Bear One Another's Burdens	Mike Gann
13: July 26 th	Galatians 6:11-18	Final Warning and Conclusion	Ron Grebe

Meet in FSM room
on second floor on
5/31 and 6/7 due
to VBS

GALATIANS

NO OTHER GOSPEL