

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson One: An Introduction**



#### ***Galatians 1:1-10***

### **Introduction**

#### ***Galatians 1:1-2***

Paul an Apostle

Acts 1:21-26, Acts 9, 1 Corinthians 15:8-9

The brethren who are with me

To the Churches of Galatia

Acts 13:14-14:23

### **The True Gospel**

#### ***Galatians 1:3-4***

What God gives to us

*Grace and peace*

Why God gave him for us

*Deliverance, God's Plan*

God's purpose in all things

Ephesians 2:10

### **The Counterfeit Gospel**

#### ***Galatians 1:6-9***

It is possible to fall away

*In doctrine and loyalty*

The authority of the gospel

*Can not be altered by preachers or angels*

The fullness of the Gospel

*Anything else is accursed*

### **Paul's Obligation**

#### ***Galatians 1:10***

Not to please himself

*Paul could have chosen an easier life*

Not to please men

*Paul could have been much more popular*

But to please God

*Paul's desire was to know Christ, 1 Corinthians 2:2*



### ***Where were the Churches of Galatia?***

***"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,"***  
***Philippians 3:10***

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Two: The Certified Gospel**



***Galatians 1:11-24***

## **The Gospel is From God, Not Man**

***Galatians 1:11-12***

Which Gospel is the right gospel? 1:8-9

There is only one, so why is the one Paul preached the best?

The Certified Gospel, 1:11

Three ways Paul did not receive the gospel:

It was not something man made up

It was not the teaching of any man

It was not something that man taught Paul

The Gospel came from God alone, 1:12

## **Paul's Early Years and Conversion**

***Galatians 1:13-17***

Paul could not have been converted in Jerusalem, 1:13-14

There he persecuted the church

There he excelled in the traditions of his fathers

Paul was visited by Christ himself, 1:15-16

God set him apart at birth

God called him by grace

God revealed his Son in him

The Gospel was from God in the work of conversion, Acts 9, 22, 26

Paul's time in Arabia, 1:17

Paul did not need to consult the Jerusalem apostles for his doctrine

Paul needed time alone to grasp this teaching

Three years after, he went to Jerusalem and met Peter

## **Paul's Early Years as A Christian**

***Galatians 1:18-24***

Paul's Short time with just a few of the Apostles, 1:18-22

In three years, Paul had already preached the doctrine

Paul only saw a few of the Apostles, not all of them

Paul's Credentials, 1:23-24

Paul preached his relationship with Christ

Paul did not have to have the credentials of the Jerusalem Church

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Three: Freedom in Christ**



#### ***Galatians 2:1-10***

### **Paul Goes to Jerusalem**

*Galatians 2:1-2*

Fourteen Years, v. 1

*Likely from the end of the three year period of 1:18 (AD 49), Acts 11:30*

Paul's Purpose in Coming, v. 2

*Acts 15:2*

Paul's Approach to Problem Solving, v. 2

*Start personally before you start publicly*

***In Galatians Chapter One,***

***Paul asserts his***

***independence from the Jerusalem Apostles.***

***In Galatians Chapter Two,***

***Paul asserts his***

***unity with the Jerusalem Apostles***

### **The Matter of Circumcision**

*Galatians 2:3-5*

Why not have Titus circumcised?

*Acts 16:1-3*

Freedom in Christ

*Notice phrase "in Christ Jesus"*

The Purity of the Gospel

*"Did not yield submission for even an hour"*

***A major difficulty in Christianity is remembering what is gospel and what is tradition and keeping the two separated accordingly in our teaching and practice.***

### **Paul's Relationship to the Apostles**

*Galatians 2:6-9*

Paul's References to the Apostles in Jerusalem

*"those who were of reputation," "those who seemed to be something," "who seemed to be pillars"*

The Autonomy of the Church

*Was Acts 15 the 1<sup>st</sup> Church Council?*

The Unity of the Fellowship

*The right hand of fellowship*

***God's plan of church organization: autonomous congregations organized under local elderships is the best design for evangelism, benevolence and purity in the Church.***

### **Helping the Poor**

*Galatians 2:10*

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## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Four: Christ Alone Saves**



***Galatians 2:11-21***

## **The Incident and Indictment**

***Galatians 2:11-13***

Did this happen before or after Galatians 2:1-10?

Peter should have known better

Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Acts 2, Acts 10

What Could Have Been Peter's Motive?

Historical context: Jewish wars and patriotism

### **OUTLINE OF GALATIANS**

#### **Chapter 1 & 2**

Paul was not under the Authority of the Law-Binding Jews

#### **Chapters 3 & 4**

The Law-Binding Jews Misused the Law

#### **Chapters 5 & 6**

The Gospel Does What the Law Cannot

## **The Issue Defined and Defended**

***Galatians 2:14-19***

The symptom: division in the Church

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

The problem: smug superiority

John 3:9, John 8:33

The lesson: all are equal without Christ

Ephesians 2:1-3

The example: Peter rebuked privately and publicly

Galatians 2:11, 14; Matthew 18

### **WHAT WAS PETER'S SIN?**

#### **1. Wrong Motivation**

*(men pleaser)*

#### **2. Stumbling Block**

*(even Barnabas)*

#### **3. Hypocrisy**

*(practice did not fit teachings)*

#### **4. Denied the Power of the Gospel**

*(still under Law)*

## **The Christian Life and Motive**

***Galatians 2:20-21***

Context is not sanctification

Rather context is sufficiency of Christ

Our choice:

Live by faith in Christ or

Seek Salvation through another way

### **LESSONS FROM THIS PASSAGE**

**1. The Fallibility of Great Giants of the Faith**

**2. Even Serious Church Problems Can Have Positive Benefits.**

**3. Our Authority Comes from Biblical Principles, not Religious Offices.**

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Five: Justified By Faith**



#### ***Galatians 3:1-14***

### **The Source of Their Faith**

#### ***Galatians 3:1-5***

They were distracted from Christ

1 Corinthians 2:2, Hebrews 12:12-17

Paul reminds them of the source of their faith

Romans 1:5, 16:26

Paul reminds them of the power of their faith

Acts 2:38, Galatians 4:6, 1 Corinthians 12:10

### **The Father of Their Faith**

#### ***Galatians 3:6-9***

Abraham's Lesson: A Test Case for Justification

Romans 4:3-12, James 2:21

Who Are the True Sons of Abraham?

John 8:39, Galatians 3:26-27

The Gift Was for All Nations

Genesis 12:1-3, Acts 3:25

### **The Curse of the Law**

#### ***Galatians 3:10-13***

The Law Cannot Free Man

Deuteronomy 27:26

The Law Cannot Justify Man

Romans 7, Habakkuk 2:4

The Law Cannot Redeem Man

Deuteronomy 21:23

### **God's Scheme of Redemption**

#### ***Galatians 3:14***

For Abraham

Genesis 12:1-3

For the Gentiles

Isaiah 2:1-4

For Man Today

Mark 16:15-16

*He (Jesus) indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God*  
*1 Peter 1:20-21*

#### **OUTLINE OF GALATIANS**

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The Law-Binding Jews Misused the Law

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The Gospel Does What the Law Cannot

#### **Abraham:**

*Was Not Saved by the Law of Moses*  
*Was Not Saved by Faith Alone*  
*He Was Saved By Faithful Obedience*

#### **The Difference in the Law of Moses and the Law of Faith**

*If the Jew did his best to live up to the law (and failed, as all must fail), he nevertheless stood condemned anyway; but if the Christian does his best to keep all of the commandments of the gospel (failing in particulars, as all must fail), he is nevertheless justified and remains uncondemned, because of his identity in Christ.*

Burton Coffman, Commentary on Galatians, p 44

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Six: The Law's Aim**



***Galatians 3:15-29***

## **Abraham's Covenant With God**

***Galatians 3:15-18***

The Old Law Did Not Modify or Replace Abraham's Covenant

Christ is the only way of salvation  
Genesis 12:1-3, John 14:6

Did God save through his Law or his Promise?  
Law=Jewish nationalism, Promise=Gospel to all nations

### **430 Years?**

**Exodus 12:40 or Acts 7:6**

*Moses received the law 430 years after the ratification of the Abrahamic covenant, when Israel (Jacob) went to Egypt (Genesis 46:1-4); (Exodus 12:40). The law came 645 years after the initial promise to Abraham. Stephen's sermon refers to the time that Israel was in bondage to Egypt.*

## **The Purpose of the Mosaic Law**

***Galatians 3:19-25***

It was designed as a "stop-gap" until the Seed came  
Romans 3:19-26

It identified what sin really was  
Romans 7

It guarded the godly for the future  
Mark 7:13

It led the faithful to Christ  
Romans 15:4

Now all of these purposes have been fulfilled  
Hebrews 5:9

### **The Mosaic Law is like...**

A Dentist's Mirror—it can find a cavity or decay but then the dentist must use another tool to fix the problem.

A Flashlight—if you blow a fuse in your house, you can use a flashlight to lead you to the fuse box. Putting the flashlight into the fuse box won't fix the problem, but it will show you where to put the fuse.

A Plumbline—builders check their work by using a weighted string. If this plumbline reveals that the work is not true to the vertical, the plumbline cannot correct it. The builder must get out a hammer, saw and square.

Like the mirror, flashlight and plumbline, the Law points out the problem—sin, but it does not provide the solution. The solution is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **The Power of the Gospel**

***Galatians 3:26-29***

It makes us children of God  
1 John 3:1

It clothes us with Christ  
Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38

It unites us together as one  
Ephesians 4:4-6, 1 Corinthians 12

It fulfills God's promise

### ***Are we now under no law?***

The Gospel is often called Law

Rom. 3:27, 8:2, James 1:25, 2:8, 2:12, Gal. 6:2

We are now under the Law of Christ

Hebrews 7:12

If there is no Law, sin cannot be identified

Rom. 5:13, 4:14, 1 John 3:4, Rom. 6:14

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Seven: The Law's Aim**



#### ***Galatians 4:1-20***

### **God's Working of Redemption**

*Galatians 4:1-7*

Children must wait for inheritance, v. 1-3

The fullness of time, v. 4

We were redeemed for adoption, v. 5-7

### **The Fullness of Time**

In Prophecy

In World Politics

In Judaism

### **The Weaknesses of the Old Ways**

*Galatians 4:8-11*

The futility of false religion, v. 8-9

The futility of false observances, v. 10

The possibility of falling away, v. 11

#### ***The Build-a-god Workshop***

*Isaiah says idolaters find a tree, cut it and design an image, use the rest of the tree to burn and then expect the first part to protect and comfort them!*

***Isn't that smart???***

Isaiah 44:9-20

### **Paul's Ministry With the Galatians**

*Galatians 4:12-15*

Paul's example to the Galatians, v. 12

Paul's experience among the Galatians, v. 13-14

Paul's love for the Galatians, v. 15

*Jesus said:*

*"For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, sister and mother."*

*Matthew 12:47-50*

### **Paul's Warnings for the Galatians**

*Galatians 4:16-20*

The importance of truth, v. 16

The motives of false teachers, v. 17-18

The danger of false doctrine, v. 19-20



*When you examine teachers with opposing doctrines, be aware of their motives!*

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## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Eight: Abraham's "Other" Child**



#### ***Galatians 4:21-31***

### **Remember Abraham's Life**

#### ***Galatians 4:21-23***

Those who desire to be under law  
The danger of ceremonial religion  
We must recognize the implications of what we do

Abraham's mistake, Genesis 16:1-6, 17:15-27, 21:1-7  
He was promised a child of inheritance  
He had a child of works alone

***The Jews cried out  
"We are children of  
Abraham!"***

***Paul responds, "Yes,  
but Abraham had two  
children."***

### **Recognize Abraham's Meaning**

#### ***Galatians 4:24-27***

Children of Bondage:  
Hagar, Fleshly Israel  
Acts 15:10, Mt. 23:4

Children of Freedom:  
Isaac, the Church

Abraham is a type for God  
Hagar represents Israel  
Sarah represents the Church

The Church now outnumbers  
Fleshly Israel

#### **Judaism**

The bondwoman, Hagar  
Son of slavery, Ishmael  
Natural birth  
Mt. Sinai, The Law  
Earthly Jerusalem  
Enslaved  
Fruitful  
Small offspring  
Persecuting  
Expulsion  
Judaism is bondage

#### **Christianity**

The freewoman, Sarah  
Son of freedom, Isaac  
Supernatural birth, of promise  
Mt. Zion, Law of Christ  
Heavenly Jerusalem  
Free  
Barren (at first)  
Large offspring  
Persecuted  
Inheritance  
Christianity is freedom

### **Respond to Abraham's Faith**

#### ***Galatians 4:28-31***

There is enmity between the two brothers  
Not friendship!

We must cast out the bondservant!  
No longer are we under the Old Law

***As Ishmael's children  
constantly tried to hurt the  
people of God, so also  
anyone who tries to offer  
another way of salvation is  
opposed to the simple gospel  
of Christ!***



# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Nine:**



### ***Galatians 5:1-15***

#### **Stand Fast!**

*Galatians 5:1-6*

Stand fast is a military term

Acts 15:10, Ephesians 6:13

Christianity cannot be mixed with worldliness

***“You either obey Christ alone or don’t obey him at all.”***

Fallen from grace

Acts 8:13-24, 2 Peter 1:8-10

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision...  
but faith working through love (Galatians 5:6)

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision...  
but a new creature (Galatians 6:15)

Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision...  
but the keeping of the commandments of God  
(1 Corinthians 7:19)

***Faith working through love is equivalent to keeping the commandments of God!***

#### **Don’t Be Hindered!**

*Galatians 5:7-10*

The danger of influence

1 Corinthians 15:33, Gal. 6:12-13

Paul’s optimism

***Paul knew the power of Christ***

#### ***“Who hindered you?”***

*The original meaning of this word is a word picture of a guerilla force sent to destroy the road before an army to sabotage its advance.*

#### **Paul’s Frustration**

*Galatians 5:11-12*

Examining motives of teachers

*Paul had Timothy circumcised for a different reason, Acts 16:3*

Righteous indignation

***When is the last time false teaching made you angry?***

***As Jesus cleaned out the thieves from the Temple, the Apostles remembered Psalm 69:9, “Because zeal for Your house has eaten me up, and the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.”***

#### **Liberty’s Purpose**

*Galatians 5:13-15*

Liberty is not to be abused

1 Corinthians 8:9, Galatians 5:1

Liberty frees us to serve one another

Galatians 6:2, Mark 12:29-31, Romans 13:8-10

The danger of “Christian Cannibalism”

***Paul’s Point in Galatians:***  
*A person can be trained to act like a Christian without ever really being one. While we can pass additional rules to make behavior more acceptable, without the heart in the right place, it is all worthless.*

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Ten: Life in the Spirit**



***Galatians 5:16-26***

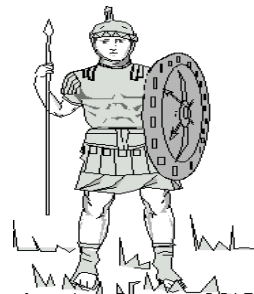
## **Examining Our Personal Battle**

*Galatians 5:16-18*

The Flesh vs. the Spirit

Romans 5:8:5-9

The Law vs. the Spirit

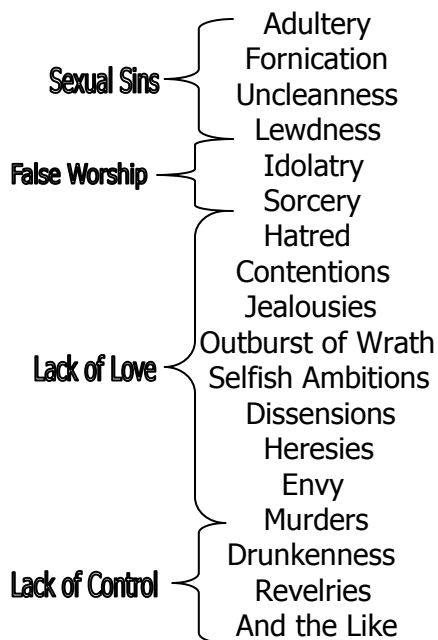


***These things are contrary  
to one another...***

## **Examining a Spirit-Led Life**

*Galatians 5:19-23*

### **The Works of the Flesh**



*Those who practice such will not  
inherit the Kingdom of God*

### **The Fruit of the Spirit**

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Longsuffering
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-control

*Against such there is no law*

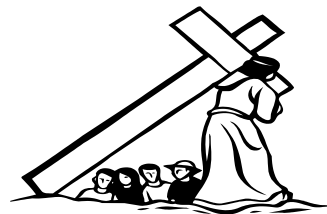
## **Examining the Difference**

*Galatians 5:24-26*

In our heart

In our walk (actions)

In our mind



***And those who are Christ's  
have crucified the flesh...***

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Eleven:**



### ***Galatians 6:1-10***

## **Responsibility to Others**

### ***Galatians 6:1-2***

Religious Responsibility

Luke 15:1-7, 8-10, 11-32

Social Responsibility

Hebrews 11:24-25, Acts 9:26-27

*The responsibility to bring back the erring brother is just as important as our responsibility to seek out the lost.*

## **Responsibility to Ourselves**

### ***Galatians 6:3-5***

The danger of pride

1 John 2:16, Proverbs 16:18

The danger of judgmental-ness

Matthew 7:1-5, 1 Corinthians 5

The danger of laziness

Proverbs 6:6-11, Ecclesiastes 10:18

## **Responsibility to Ministers**

### ***Galatians 6:6***

Why do we not have enough preachers?

Honor? Money? Work?

What is our responsibility to them?

1 Corinthians 9:4-14, Luke 10:7

## **Responsibility to our Future**

### ***Galatians 6:7-9***

The illustration of the farmer

Hosea 8:7, Everything produces after its kind

Continue to work

Matthew 21:15, Matthew 25:31-46

## **Summary of Our Responsibility**

### ***Galatians 6:10***

### **Is There a Contradiction Here?**

**v. 2 burden (BAROS)** means a weight, such as a spiritual burden  
***Christians need to bear one another's sorrows, due to sins and misfortunes***

**v. 5 burden (PHORTION)** means a load, such as a ship or beast of burden carries  
***Every person needs to fulfill his own responsibility and find his own purpose in life.***



**A Basic Law of Nature**  
***We reap much more than we sow (plant)***

***EXAMPLE: ONE KERNEL OF CORN WILL PRODUCE DOZENS OF EARS OF CORN IN JUST ONE GENERATION***

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Twelve:**



***Galatians 6:11-18***

## **Comparing the Two Motives**

*Galatians 6:11-13*

Paul's writing to them

Paul had the authority of an Apostle, 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Those with itching ears

2 Timothy 4:2-5, Matthew 15:8-9

Those looking to boast

A main lesson of the gospel: "It's not about me!"

## **Glorying in the Cross**

*Galatians 6:14-16*

This was Paul's supreme goal

Philippians 1:21, Philippians 3:14-16

He was crucified to the world

Galatians 2:20, Romans 12:1-2

Therefore he was a new creation

2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Romans 6:3-4

## **Paul's Conclusion**

*Galatians 6:16-18*

Blessings are found in Christ

Ephesians 1:3, Romans 8:1

Paul lived what he taught

Philippians 3:10, Colossians 1:24

God's grace will see us through

Hebrews 13:5-6, Matthew 28:18-20

# ***The Heart Set Free***

## **A Study of Galatians**

### **Lesson Thirteen:**

#### ***An Overview of Galatians***



### **Key Verse: Galatians 2:16-17**

### **Basic Outline of the Book:**

Galatians One: The Gospel's certified, 1:8-12

Galatians Two: The Gospel's personal (no favoritism) 2:20

Galatians Three: The Gospel's greater than Moses, 3:28

Galatians Four: The Gospel is God's Plan, 4:4

Galatians Five: The Gospel improves our living, 5:25

Galatians Six: The Gospel focuses on God's work, 6:14

### **Lessons From the Book**

#### **The Law of Moses**

The gospel of Christ produces freedom from the bondage of the Law of Moses, 3:10-14, 3:23, 4:1-7, 4:22-31, 5:1

The Law of Moses had a purpose, and that purpose is now fulfilled, 3:19-29

Christians are the true spiritual descendants of Abraham, 3:29, 6:16

#### **Everyday Christian Living**

One cannot serve God and the world at the same time, 1:10, 5:11

God is no respecter of persons, 2:6, 3:28

Hypocrisy has no place in the life of a Christian, 2:11-14

We must walk by the Spirit, 5:16-18, 5:22-23, 5:25, 6:8

We must avoid the works of the flesh, 5:16-17, 5:19-21, 5:24

One reaps what he sows, 6:7-8

#### **Life in the Church**

Maintaining doctrinal purity is a must, 1:6-9, 2:4-5, 4:16, 5:7-9

It matters what you believe 1:6-9, 3:1-5, 5:7-9

The Scriptures are inspired by God, 1:11-12

Great is the fellowship of Christians, 2:9, 4:13-14, 6:2, 6:10

Public rebuking is sometimes necessary, 2:11-14

We must see the need to restore the erring, 6:1

#### **Salvation**

Salvation is God's great gift to man, 1:4, 2:16, 2:20, 3:8, 3:13-14, 3:26-29, 4:4-5, 5:1, 6:8

Justification is through faith, not the Law of Moses, 2:16-21, 3:1-14, 3:21-23, 4:1-5, 4:22-31

It is possible to fall from grace, 5:4

Freedom in Christ is not license to sin, 5:13-15

Reward comes to those who endure, 6:9

*Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. <sup>17</sup> "But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not!" Galatians 2:16-17*