

Paul's Letter to the Galatians

Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Series objective

The church in Galatia was divided over issues of observing Jewish laws regulations according to the Torah. Many leaders within this church were requiring non-Jewish Christians to live by Jewish laws that missed the main point of the Gospel message in that Jesus fulfilled the law and saved all who believe in him. As has always been true when people trust in Jesus as the Messiah, His life, death, and resurrection become the basis of their salvation. they become new creations. The book of Galatians reminds Jesus' followers to embrace the Gospel message of the crucified Messiah, that justifies all people through faith and empowers them to live like Jesus did.¹



Overview of Chapter 1

Verses 1 – 5 Introductory remarks

Verses 6 – 10 No other Gospel

Verses 11 – 24 Paul called by God

Questions

1. In verse 4 Paul talks about how Jesus' death rescues (saves) us from the present evil age. These words are as true today as when Paul wrote them in 50 AD. What are some things for which Jesus has rescued us?
2. In verses 6 through 10 Paul makes a very big deal about the "true" Gospel.
 - a. What are the essential elements of the Gospel?
 - b. What are things that some have attempted to "add" to the Gospel over the years? Do you think some of these are what Paul warned the church in Galatia to avoid?
3. Reading "between the lines" in verse 10 what does Paul seem to be up against? If you've ever been placed in this type of position, how did you respond?
4. The message in verses 11 through 24 is profound in terms of the call that God had for Paul. What are some of the important ideas and concepts we have in the church today that come from Paul's letters?

¹ Bibleproject.com

5. Going back to Acts 9:1-19, for what reasons did Paul (Saul) oppose the early church and what happened to him? Consider also what's written in Galatians 1: 13-14.

6. We don't often use the word "chosen" or "set apart" in the church today because of their divisiveness among some Christians. In verse 15 Paul talks about being "set apart from his mother's womb." Regardless of your background or beliefs on election or predestination, how does the thought or idea that God picked you before you were born to a follower of Jesus make you feel?

7. According to verses 17 and 18 how long was Paul in Arabia? What did he do while in Arabia (hint: verses 11 and 12)?

8. In reading about Paul and through his letters, there is no doubt he lived with purpose. I think for many Christians this is a challenge that results in our struggling with knowing what to do, when to do it, and understanding why. Consider that we basically have four (4) months left this year. Considering the following in relation to our remaining time in 2021.
 - a. What are some things you'd like to do personally before the end of the year?

 - b. As a Bible study group, what are some things we can do as a group here in High Meadow Ranch?