

## Teaching through Galatians

### The Believer's Liberty in Christ

Lesson:      Topic and Chapter:

1. Paul Defends His Gospel as Authentic (Chapter 1)
2. Paul Defends His Gospel as Approved (Chapter 2)
3. Paul Presents the Primacy of Faith to Law (Chapter 3)
4. Paul Presents the Primacy of Freedom to Bondage (Chapter 4)
5. Paul Presents the Primacy of the Spirit to the Flesh (Chapter 5)
6. Paul Presents the Marks of a Spiritual Man (Chapter 6)

Lesson 1:            Paul Defended His Gospel as Authentic (Galatians 1)

Key Verse:        "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel." (Galatians 1:6)

Prologue:        Paul Greeted the Galatian Churches (1:1-5)

I. Paul Defended the Purity of His Gospel (1:6-9)

- A. He disapproved their departure from the pure gospel (6)
- B. Their departure was to a different gospel (6)
- C. Their different gospel was perverted (7)
- D. He declared perverters as accursed (8-9)

II. Paul Defended the Source of His Gospel (1:10-19)

- A. His Gospel was not from a human source (10-17)
  - 1. It was not received from men (10-11)
  - 2. He did not confer with men (13-16)
  - 3. He did not confer with the Apostles (17)
- B. His Gospel was from a heavenly source (12-19)
  - 1. It was received by revelation (12, 16)
  - 2. It was revealed in Arabia for three years (17-18)
- C. He conferred afterward with Apostles briefly (18-19)
  - 1. It was after the three years in Arabia (18)
  - 2. It was only for fifteen days (18)
  - 3. It was only with Peter and James (18-19)

III. Paul Defended the Validity of His Gospel (1:20-24)

- A. Though he was unknown to Jerusalem church (20-22)
- B. His early ministry was known to them (23)
- C. He was approved by the Jerusalem church (24)

Lesson 2:            Paul Defends His Gospel as Approved (Galatians 2)

Key Verse:            "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)

I. Paul's Gospel Was Approved by the Apostles (2:1-10)

- A. Paul reported his gospel to the Apostles (1-2)
  - 1. He went to Jerusalem after fourteen years (1)
  - 2. He reported his gospel privately to them (2)
  - 3. He feared lest he preached in vain (2)
- B. The Apostles did not require Gentiles to be circumcised (3-5)
  - 1. They did not compel Titus to be circumcised (3)
  - 2. Though certain Judaizers tried to force it on Titus (4)
  - 3. Paul's company did not yield subjection (5)
- C. The Apostles found nothing lacking in Paul's gospel (6)
- D. The Apostles acknowledged Paul's authority to Gentiles (7-8)
- E. The Apostles gave Paul the right hand of fellowship (9-10)

II. Paul's Gospel Was Approved at Antioch (2:11-21)

- A. Paul successfully rebuked Peter's deviation there (11-14)
  - 1. Paul withstood Peter at Antioch (11-13)
    - a. Peter yielded subjection to Judaizers (12)
    - b. Other Jews followed his error (13)
    - c. Paul rebuked Peter for this (11)
  - 2. Paul challenged Peter's lapse into legalism (14)
- B. Paul successfully reasoned with Peter about faith (15-21)
  - 1. They as Jews are justified by faith with works (15-16)
  - 2. Rebuilding the law makes Christ a minister of sin (17-18)
  - 3. Believers dead to law, alive to God (19-20)
  - 4. This does not frustrate God's grace (21)

Lesson 3:            Paul Presents the Primacy of Faith to Law (Galatians 3)

Key Verse:            "But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just righteous shall live by faith." (Galatians 3:11)

I. Paul Presents Evidence That Salvation Is by Faith Not Law (3:1-18)

- A. He presents evidence from personal history (1-5)  
(Five questions about their experience with faith.)
  - 1. Who bewitched you to abandon faith?
  - 2. Did you receive the Holy Spirit by faith or law?
  - 3. Are you made perfect by the flesh?
  - 4. Have you suffered for faith in vain?
  - 5. Have miracles been performed by faith or law?
  
- B. He presents evidence from past history (6-9)  
(Abraham was justified by faith not law.)
  
- C. He presents evidence from prophetic history (10-14)
  - 1. The Scripture puts a curse on those under the law (10)
  - 2. The Scripture declares justification by faith (11)
  - 3. The Scripture declares that law is not of faith (12)
  - 4. Christ has redeemed us from law's curse (13-14)
  
- D. He presents evidence from promise history (15-18)
  - 1. Promise covenants cannot be dismissed (15)
  - 2. God confirmed a promise covenant with Abraham (16)
  - 3. This covenant cannot be disannulled by later law (17)
  - 4. God gave the inheritance by this promise, not law (18)

II. Paul Presents the Relationship of Law to Faith (3:19-29)

- A. The law was temporary until faith came (19-23)
  - 1. The law was temporary until Christ came (19-20)
  - 2. The law was not contrary to faith, just powerless (21)
  - 3. The law concludes all under sin, that all may believe (22)
  - 4. Israel was kept under law until faith came (23)
  
- B. The law was a teacher to lead us to faith (24-29)
  - 1. The law was a school master (24)
  - 2. The schoolmaster is no longer needed (25)
    - a. Because believers are sons of God by faith (26)
    - b. Because believers have put on Christ (27)
    - c. Because in Christ there are no distinctions (28)
    - d. Because in Christ believers of Abraham's promise (29)

Lesson 4:            Paul Presents the Primacy of Freedom to Bondage (Galatians 4)

Key Verse:            "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." (Galatians 4:4-5)

I. Christ Has Set You Free from Bondage (4:1-11)

- A. You formerly were under bondage (1-3)
  - 1. Minor children are in the status of servants (1-2)
  - 2. Likewise you were in bondage to the world (3)
  
- B. Christ has made us free heirs (4-7)
  - 1. God sent His Son to make us free sons (4-5)
    - a. He redeemed us from under the law
    - b. He redeemed us unto the adoption of sons
  - 2. Because we are sons we have the Holy Spirit (6)
  - 3. Therefore we are no longer slaves, but free heirs (7)
  
- C. Since you are free heirs, why do you seek bondage again? (8-11)

II. Paul Desires Your Freedom, Not Bondage (4:12-20)

- A. Paul desires your freedom (12-16)
  - 1. I want you to be free as I am (12)
  - 2. You formerly respected me as a preacher of freedom (13-15)
  
- B. The Judaizers desire your bondage (17-20)

III. The Law Portrays Your Freedom from Bondage (4:21-31)

- A. Don't you hear the types in the law? (21)
- B. Abraham's sons are types of works and faith (22-23)
- C. Abraham's wives are types of law and promise (24-27)
- D. We are children of promise, like Isaac (28)
- E. Ishmael typifies enmity between works and faith (29)
- F. The Scripture declares the heir is free (30-31)

Lesson 5:        Paul Presents the Priority of the Spirit to the Flesh (Galatians 5)

Key Verse:        "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."  
(Galatians 5:16)

I. Spiritual Faith Is Superior to Fleshly Legalism (5:1-6)

- A. Fleshly legalism robs you of benefits (1-4)
  - 1. Legalism puts you in bondage, not liberty (1)
  - 2. Legalism puts you outside Christ's profit (2)
  - 3. Legalism puts you in debt to the law (3)
  - 4. Legalism puts you outside God's grace (4)
  
- B. Spiritual faith results in benefits (5-6)
  - 1. Faith gives hope for righteousness(5)
  - 2. Faith achieves what works cannot (6)

II. Spiritual Calling Is Superior to Fleshly Persuasion (5:7-15)

- A. Your fleshly persuasion is faulty (7-12)
  - 1. Your fleshly persuasion is not from God (7-9)
  - 2. Your fleshly persuasion should be abandoned (10)
  - 3. Your fleshly persuaders will be judged (10)
  - 4. Your fleshly persuasion is contrary to the cross (11-12)
  
- B. Your spiritual calling is fruitful (13-15)
  - 1. Your spiritual calling is to liberty and love (13)
  - 2. Your spiritual calling fulfills the law (14-15)

III. Spiritual Walk Is Superior to Fleshly Works (5:16-26)

- A. The spirit is superior to the flesh (16-18)
  - 1. The walk of the spirit gives victory over the flesh (16)
  - 2. The will of the spirit is contrary to the flesh (17)
  - 3. The way of the spirit is outside the law (18)
  
- B. The fruit of the spirit is superior to the works of the flesh (19-23)
  - 1. The works of the flesh exclude from the kingdom (19-21)
  - 2. The fruit of the spirit has no prohibiting laws (22-23)
  
- C. The spiritual life is superior to fleshly walk (24-26)
  - 1. The spiritual life has crucified the flesh (24)
  - 2. The spiritual life should produce a spiritual walk (25-26)

Lesson 6:        Paul Presents the Marks of a Spiritual Man (Galatians 6)

Key Verse:        "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things." (Galatians 6:6)

- I. The Spiritual Man Is Marked by Compassion (6:1-6)
  - A. The spiritual man compassionately restores the weak (1)
  - B. The spiritual man compassionately bears with burdens (2)
  - C. The spiritual man carefully avoids deceitful pride (3-4)
  - D. The spiritual man carries his own load (5)
- II. The Spiritual Man Is Marked by Correct Husbandry (6:7-10)
  - A. The spiritual man knows the law of divine retribution (7)
  - B. The spiritual man knows how the law applies to life (8)
  - C. The spiritual man knows the patience of sowing (9-10)
- III. The Spiritual Man Is Marked by Christ's Glory (6:11-15)
  - A. The legalists seek to glory in the flesh (11-13)
  - B. True glory should be in Christ's cross (14)
  - C. Because in Christ, only the new life is important (15)

Epilogue (6:16-18)

- A. Paul pronounced blessings on true believers (16)
- B. Paul produced his marks of freedom (!7)
- C. Paul pronounced a benediction on the Galatians (18)