



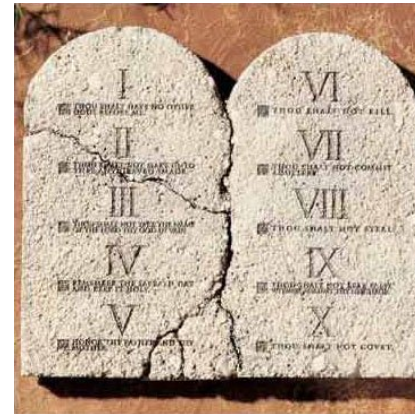
Notes

If you have questions during the week, please drop us an e-mail at jim@calvaryroswell.com or phil@calvaryroswell.com

For a digital form of this booklet, an mp3 version of the teaching and/or powerpoint slides from the teaching, visit our website at <http://www.calvaryroswell.com/biblestudies/index.htm>



Thru the Scriptures 2006-08



“But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for ‘the just shall live by faith.’”
 —Gal. 3:11

Galatians 1-6

April 26th– May 2nd, 2007

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Ti 3:16-17)

Galatians-

We may well say , especially to the young converts: Read Romans to be *grounded* in Christ doctrine; read Corinthians to be *guided* in Christian practice; read Galatians to be *guarded* against deceptive error.

—J. Sidlow Baxter, *Explore the Book*.

Helpful Study Links:

Additional Commentary: (Great Resource!)

http://preceptaustin.org/galatians_commentaries.htm

Sermon Links:

“The Work of the Holy Spirit” by Charles Spurgeon

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/0178.htm>

“Adoption—The Spirit and the Cry” by Charles Spurgeon

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/1435.HTM>

“The Offense of the Cross” by Charles Spurgeon

<http://www.biblebb.com/files/spurgeon/2594.htm>

“Galatians: Don’t Submit Again to the Slave’s Yoke”

by Ray C. Stedman

<http://www.pbc.org/library/files/html/0249.html>

Galatians



Author:

Paul (Gal 1:1)



Time:

The churches addressed were located in the cities Paul evangelized during his first missionary journey with Barnabas (Acts 13:13–14:23). This was just prior to the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15), so the Jerusalem visit described in 2:1–10 would have been the Acts 11:27–30 famine-relief visit, and the book of Galatians would have been written in AD 49.



Theme:

In one word, the theme is *legalism*. Paul is writing to deal with and protect against legalism creeping into the church then and to protect against it throughout the ages.

What is legalism? In a sense, that can best be defined by reading this whole epistle to see what the problem was. But in short—it can be seen as obedience being the source of the Christian life and not the fruit of a Christian life. It is to create a standard, biblically and more often extra-biblically to hold people to as a source of their Christian life and salvation.

This carefully written polemic approaches the problem from three directions:

- I. The gospel of grace defended (chs. 1–2)
- II. The gospel of grace explained (chs. 3–4)
- III. The gospel of grace applied (chs. 5–6).



Keys:

Like the epistle to the Romans, Galatians has played a strategic role in the history of the Christian church. Both Martin Luther and John Wesley recorded the crucial impact of this epistle on their lives.

Galatians is *God's strongest word against legalism*. The flesh loves to do things religiously—celebrate holy days, practice rituals, attempt to do good works for God. Many religious systems today mix law and grace and present a garbled, confused way of salvation that is actually a way of bondage (Gal. 2:4; 4:9; 5:1).

Daily Bible Study

Friday, April 27, 2007

Passage for today: Galatians 2

Questions to Ponder

1. Paul, in this chapter, is still seeking to prove that the gospel he preached was indeed the true gospel. What two proofs does he give as to the authenticity of (1) the gospel he preached and (2) his being one of the true apostles?
2. Why was it important that the apostles in Jerusalem saw Titus as having been made righteous by faith, even though he had not been circumcised? Why was it important that Peter be rebuked for not eating with the Gentile brothers at Antioch? What might be some issues in the church today that are being pushed as necessary for salvation and holy living that truly “set aside the grace of God” and prompt people to work for righteousness?
3. Today, are you made holy before God by your *works* or by your *faith in Christ Jesus*? Does your life line up with your answer? Explain.

"I am crucified with Christ."

- Galatians 2:20

From *Morning and Evening*

By Charles Spurgeon

The Lord Jesus Christ acted in what he did as a great public representative person, and his dying upon the cross was the virtual dying of all his people. Then all his saints rendered unto justice what was due, and made an expiation to divine vengeance for all their sins. The apostle of the Gentiles delighted to think that as one of Christ's chosen people, he died upon the cross in Christ. He did more than believe this doctrinally, he accepted it confidently, resting his hope upon it. He believed that by virtue of Christ's death, he had satisfied divine justice, and found reconciliation with God. Beloved, what a blessed thing it is when the soul can, as it were, stretch itself upon the cross of Christ, and feel, "I am dead; the law has slain me, and I am therefore free from its power, because in my Surety I have borne the curse, and in the person of my Substitute the whole that the law could do, by way of condemnation, has been executed upon me, for I am crucified with Christ. "

But Paul meant even more than this. He not only believed in Christ's death, and trusted in it, but he actually felt its power in himself in causing the crucifixion of his old corrupt nature. When he saw the pleasures of sin, he said, "I cannot enjoy these: I am dead to them." Such is the experience of every true Christian. Having received Christ, he is to this world as one who is utterly dead. Yet, while conscious of death to the world, he can, at the same time, exclaim with the apostle, "Nevertheless I live." He is fully alive unto God. The Christian's life is a matchless riddle. No worldling can comprehend it; even the believer himself cannot understand it. Dead, yet alive! crucified with Christ, and yet at the same time risen with Christ in newness of life! Union with the suffering, bleeding Saviour, and death to the world and sin, are soul-cheering things. O for more enjoyment of them!

"The liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free."

- Galatians 5:1

From *Morning and Evening*

By Charles Spurgeon

This "liberty" makes us free to heaven's charter-the Bible. Here is a choice passage, believer, "When thou passest through the rivers, I will be with thee." You are free to that. Here is another: "The mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee"; you are free to that. You are a welcome guest at the table of the promises. Scripture is a never-failing treasury filled with boundless stores of grace. It is the bank of heaven; you may draw from it as much as you please, without let or hindrance. Come in faith and you are welcome to all covenant blessings. There is not a promise in the Word which shall be withheld. In the depths of tribulations let this freedom comfort you; amidst waves of distress let it cheer you; when sorrows surround thee let it be thy solace. This is thy Father's love-token; thou art free to it at all times. Thou art also free to the throne of grace. It is the believer's privilege to have access at all times to his heavenly Father. Whatever our desires, our difficulties, our wants, we are at liberty to spread all before him. It matters not how much we may have sinned, we may ask and expect pardon. It signifies nothing how poor we are, we may plead his promise that he will provide all things needful. We have permission to approach his throne at all times-in midnight's darkest hour, or in noontide's most burning heat. Exercise thy right, O believer, and live up to thy privilege. Thou art free to all that is treasured up in Christ-wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption. It matters not what thy need is, for there is fulness of supply in Christ, and it is there for thee. O what a "freedom" is thine! freedom from condemnation, freedom to the promises, freedom to the throne of grace, and at last freedom to enter heaven!

**"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit
against the flesh."**

- Galatians 5:17

From *Morning and Evening*

By Charles Spurgeon

In every believer's heart there is a constant struggle between the old nature and the new. The old nature is very active, and loses no opportunity of plying all the weapons of its deadly armoury against new-born grace; while on the other hand, the new nature is ever on the watch to resist and destroy its enemy. Grace within us will employ prayer, and faith, and hope, and love, to cast out the evil; it takes unto it the "whole armour of God," and wrestles earnestly. These two opposing natures will never cease to struggle so long as we are in this world. The battle of "Christian" with "Apollyon" lasted three hours, but the battle of Christian with himself lasted all the way from the Wicket Gate in the river Jordan. The enemy [the flesh] is so securely entrenched within us that he can never be driven out while we are in this body: but although we are closely beset, and often in sore conflict, we have an Almighty helper, even Jesus, the Captain of our salvation, who is ever with us, and who assures us that we shall eventually come off more than conquerors through him. With such assistance the new-born nature is more than a match for its foes. Are you fighting with the adversary to-day? Are Satan, the world, and the flesh, all against you? Be not discouraged nor dismayed. Fight on! For God himself is with you; Jehovah Nissi is your banner, and Jehovah Rophi is the healer of your wounds. Fear not, you shall overcome, for who can defeat Omnipotence? Fight on, "looking unto Jesus"; and though long and stern be the conflict, sweet will be the victory, and glorious the promised reward.

"From strength to strength go on;
Wrestle, and fight, and pray,
Tread all the powers of darkness down,
And win the well-fought day."