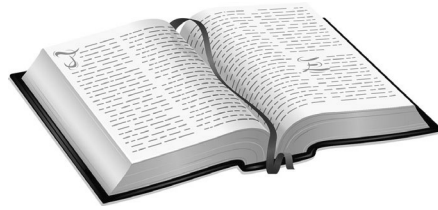


Bible Correspondence Fellowship



Galatians Lesson

The theme of Galatians is the apostle Paul's defense of the gospel of grace, without any ordinances of the Mosaic Law.

MEMORY VERSES FOR THIS LESSON:

*For I would have you know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel which was preached by me is not of human invention. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. **GALATIANS 1:11-12 NASB***

Judaizers were Jewish Christians who believed, among other things, that a number of the ceremonial practices of the Old Testament Law were still binding on Christians. Following Paul's successful campaign in Galatia, they insisted that Gentile converts to Christianity must abide by certain rites of the Law, especially circumcision.

Galatians is an eloquent and vigorous apologetic for the truth that man is justified by faith in Jesus Christ – by nothing less and nothing more – and that he is sanctified not by legalistic works but by obedience that comes from faith in God's work for him, in him, and through him by the power of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Chapter 1

Please carefully read Galatians 1:1-24. _____ Check.

1. (v. 1:1) In this chapter Paul defends his authority as an apostle in order to defend his message. Who chose Paul to be an apostle? Jesus Christ, and God the Father
2. (v. 1:3) Note Paul's greeting is used in all of his epistles. Two words are consistently used to introduce Paul's message. They are: Grace and peace

3. (v. 1:4) Give the twofold purpose of Christ's death for us:

1. gave himself for our sins
2. deliver us from this present evil world

4. (v. 1:6) What surprised Paul?

How soon they were removed from God who called them into the grace of Christ

5. (v. 1:9) What did Paul say about anyone who preached any other gospel?

If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that you have received, let him be accursed.

6. (v. 1:10) Why didn't Paul seek to please men? He was working to please God.

7. (vv. 1:11-12) Paul says he did not receive the gospel that he preached from man.

How did he receive it? by the revelation of Jesus Christ

8. (Acts 20:24) What did Paul call this gospel? the gospel of the God's grace

The Galatians were being led astray by Judaizers (Jewish converts to Christianity) who told them they had to observe some of the things of the Law in order to be saved. Paul refers to his past way of life in the Jewish religion to show that the Law is not able to save anyone.

9. (vs. 1:15-16) When was Paul chosen to preach his gospel and how was he called of God?

separated me from my mother's womb and called Paul by his grace

10. (vs. 1:11-18) After God saved Paul, he said that he did not see any of the 12 apostles for the space of three years (Also see Ephesians 3:2-13.). How does this show that he did not receive his gospel from any man?

Paul did not meet nor was he around any man that could have taught him the gospel

From whom did Paul receive his gospel? by the revelation of Jesus Christ

11. (vs 1:18-22) In stating his independence from the 12 apostles, Paul said he saw only two of the 12 apostles, Peter and James.

Also he was unknown by the believers in Judea.

However, he did preach in the Gentile regions of Syria and Cilicia.

Chapter 2

In the first chapter we learned that Paul received the gospel of grace by revelation of the Lord. He mentioned that although he had been zealous in the Jewish religion, he forsook it for something better, salvation by grace. Then he says that he had preached this message of grace years before he met any of the twelve apostles. Chapter Two records some events and statements that further show Paul's authority and the doctrine of justification by faith.

Please carefully read Galatians 2:1-21. _____ Check

1. (v. 2:1) Paul's second visit to Jerusalem was how many years after the first one? 14
2. (v. 2:2) How did Paul know that God wanted him to go to Jerusalem? by revelation
3. (v. 2:2) What did Paul communicate (explain) to the leaders in Jerusalem?
that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles
4. (v. 2:3) Titus was a faithful preacher and companion of Paul. He came with Paul as an example of a Gentile believer. Titus did not observe which Jewish rite?
The rite of circumcision
5. (v. 2:4) Give two reasons why the false brethren came to this conference in Jerusalem.
 1. to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus
 2. that they might bring us into bondage
6. (v. 2:5) Why didn't Paul give into (yield to) these teachers?
that the truth of the gospel might continue with you
7. (vv. 2:8-9) We read of the leaders of the church in Galatia in these verses. What are their names? James, Cephas, and John,
(Note: Peter is also known as Cephas.)
9. (v.2:8) Peter shows his authority as God's apostle of the circumcision
Paul was given authority as an apostle to whom? Gentiles

10. (v.2:9-10) We read that the leaders understood the grace given to Paul to preach the gospel of grace to the Gentiles. Why did James, Peter, and John give Paul and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship?

They perceived the grace that was given unto Paul

What solemn agreement did the leaders make with Paul and Barnabas?

They agreed that Paul and Barnabas would go to the Gentiles and they would go to the Jews.

11. (vs 2:11-12) The scene changes to Antioch, a city far north of Israel in Gentile country. According to Acts 11:25-26, Paul and Barnabas taught many believers there for a year. When Peter was visiting the church there, he made a serious error. What was it?

He tried to hide his association with the gentiles and
did not want to be seen eating with the them

12. In verse 14, Paul said that Peter and the others did not walk according to the truth of the gospel. What truth was he referring to? (See Galatians 3:28.)

The truth is, under the grace of Jesus Christ, we live by grace not by the law.
Both Jew and Gentile are the same.

13. (vv. 2:15-16) Though Peter and Paul were Jews by birth, what did they both know?

that a man is not justified by the works of the law,
but by the faith of Jesus Christ

14. (vv. 2:19-20) Paul says he was crucified with Christ.

What did he mean by this statement?

Paul is dead to the law. the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God

16. (v. 2:21) What does Paul mean when he says that Christ's death for us was unnecessary if righteousness could be obtained under the law?

Since it is not possible for men to be perfect, man cannot obtain righteousness
under the Law it was necessary for Christ to be born a man,
suffer and die to redeem us from our sins and reconcile us to God.

(Answer will vary)

Galatians - Chapter 3

In chapter three, Paul is asking the Galatians to decide how they are justified, either by observance of the Mosaic law or by faith in Jesus Christ and the gospel of grace they had heard.

Please carefully read Galatians 3:1-29. _____ Check.

1. (v. 3:1) What truth about Christ had been clearly given to the Galatians?

Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you

2. (v. 3:2) Paul asked the Galatians the following question: "Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law or by believing what you heard?"

How would you answer the same question?

Received by the hearing and believing of faith.

(Answer will vary)

3. (v. 3:6) Why does Paul ask the Galatians to consider Abraham?

Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

4. (v. 3:7) The Jewish legalists relied on their descent from Abraham and their law keeping for acceptance with God. But who are the true children of Abraham?

they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

5. (vv.3: 8-9) What did the scriptures foresee?

The scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith

6. (v. 3:10) What is the truth about those who rely on keeping the law?

Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything in the entire law.

7. (v. 3:11) Paul uses two quotes from the Old Testament, one from Psalms and one from Habakkuk, to show that God's principle of justification by faith is true throughout the Bible. **Read Habakkuk 2:4 _____ check.**

Write out the last part of Galatians 3:11 as it is written in the Old Testament.

the just shall live by his faith.

8. (v. 3:13) How did Christ redeem us from the curse of the law?

being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree

9. (v. 3:14) The blessings of Abraham include the promise of the Spirit. In Ezekiel 36:27, a prophecy of the New Covenant, God said, "I will put my Spirit within you . . ."

How does this blessing come to us? through Jesus Christ

How do we receive the promise of the Spirit? through faith.

11. (vv. 3:15-16) We read of the promise God made to Abraham in Genesis 22:18.

Please read _____ check.

Who is the seed that is spoken of here? Jesus Christ

12. (v. 3:17) God made the covenant (promise) to Abraham 430 years before the Law was given. Did the Law cancel (do away with) the promise? No

13. (v. 3:19) The Law was given through a mediator.

Read Acts 7:37-38, John 1:17. _____ check.

Who was this mediator? Moses

14. (v. 3:19) What was the purpose of the Law? Why was it given to Israel?

It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should

come to whom the promise was made

15. (v. 3:22) What does the Scripture declare about the whole world?

all under sin,

16. (vv. 3:23-25) The law is referred to as a schoolmaster or tutor.

Why are we no longer under this school-master or tutor?

Christ came that we might be justified by faith.

17. (vv. 3:26-28) Paul refers to the work of the Holy Spirit because He baptizes (places) us into Christ.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:13 _____ Check.

In Christ there is neither _____

Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female

What are we in the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13)?

by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body

Chapter 4

In Paul's day a child was under tutors and governors until he came of age, at which time the father declared his son to have full rights and inheritance in the family. Chapter 4 teaches us our position, with all of its privileges and inheritance as sons of God.

Please carefully read Galatians 4:1-31. _____ Check.

1. (vs. 4:1-2) How was the heir treated as a child?

A child was treated as a servant (slave) even though he might own the whole estate.

2. (v. 4:3) Paul mentions the elements of the world. This refers to the Law, the elementary religion of Israel, which instructed them in right and wrong as well as all the requirements given through Moses. How were children treated under this system?

when we were underage, we were in slavery

3. (vv. 4:4-5) How are believers made free from that Law?

God sent forth his Son To redeem them that were under the law

4. (v. 4:6) Romans 8:15-16, also written by Paul, is similar. How do we know that we are sons and that God is our Father?

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts

5. (vv.4: 9-11) The Law (the weak, elemental principles) told us what sin is but it could not save us from sin, so it was unable to provide deliverance.

What question does Paul ask (v. 4:9b)?

Why did they want to be under the Law?

(v 4:11) Why does Paul fear for the Galatians?

I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labour in vain. [Wasted his time.]

6. (vs. 4:12-20) Paul makes a personal appeal rather than a theological one. In spite of his physical appearance and infirmities, how was Paul received by the Galatians when he first preached the gospel to them?

You received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

7. (vs. 4:15-16) There was once spiritual blessing and love for Paul, but now that he had reproved the Galatians for legalism, how does he feel they see him?

Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?

8. (v. 4:19) How does Paul refer to these immature believers? My little children

What is his desire for them? Christ be formed in you

9. (vs. 4:21-31) In explaining the difference between freedom and bondage, Paul uses the allegory of Abraham's two sons. **Read Genesis 16:15** _____ **Check.**

What was the name of Abraham's son of the bondmaid, Hagar? Ishmael

Read also Genesis 21:3 _____ **Check.**

What was the name of the son of the freewoman, Sarah? Isaac

10. (v. 4:23) What was the important difference between these two sons?

He who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by [God's] promise.

11. (vv. 4:26-27) The barren woman was Sarah. What did she represent?

Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.

12. (v. 4:28) Why are we like Isaac?

Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

13. (vs. 4:30-31) To further separate the Galatians from the Mosaic Law, Paul refers to the scripture, "Cast out the bondwoman and her son" Since the bondwoman represents the Law (a slave to the Law) referring to verse 7, who is a person who is not under the works and ceremonies of the Law? God has made you also an heir.

Chapter 5

In Chapters 5 and 6 Paul urges believers to preserve their freedom in Christ and to walk in the Spirit. Christ has set the believer free. He is not under the Law or its bondage, yet he must not misuse his freedom.

Please carefully read Galatians 5:1-26. _____ Check.

1. (v. 5:1) What two things must we do to resist returning to bondage or slavery?

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free

be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

2. (vv. 5:2-3) What would it show if a man submitted to the Jewish rite of circumcision?

Christ shall profit him nothing. and he is a debtor to do the whole law.

3. (v. 5:4) If a person was observing the law (works) to be justified (counted righteous), what had he done?

Christ is become of no effect unto you and ye are fallen from grace.

4. (v. 5:5) The hope of righteousness refers to the perfect righteousness that will come with the redemption of the body at the resurrection. How are we to wait for this promise to be fulfilled?

wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

5. (v. 5:6) In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything. How does faith work?

Faith works (expresses itself) through love

6. (vs. 5:7-8) **Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-26** _____ **Check.**

Paul often uses the word running to signify seeking the goal of Christ-likeness.

Paul wants the Galatians to know that they were hindered and persuaded by someone, but not by the one who had called them.

Who do you think hindered them? Satan, the Judaizers

Who is the one who called them? God, Jesus Christ

7. (vs. 5:10-12) Paul suffered persecution for preaching against circumcision (the need to keep the Law), which is to say that he preached salvation by faith in Jesus Christ.

Read Romans 9:32-33 _____ **Check**

What is the offense (or stumbling stone) that Paul is referring to? the cross

8. (v. 5:13) How are brethren supposed to use their liberty?

by love serve one another

9. (v. 5:14) How are all the requirements of the law fulfilled?

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

What does this mean to you? treat each other with love (Answer will vary)

10. (vs. 5:15-16) How are we to live (walk)? Walk in the Spirit

If we do this what will we not do? Fulfill the lust (desires) of the sinful nature (flesh)

11. (v. 5:17) The word lust by itself means “strong desire.” The NIV reads, “For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit, contrary to the sinful nature.” This warfare in the believer, then, is between the Spirit and the flesh.

Read Romans 7:18-23. _____ **Check**

These verses discuss the struggle between the old nature and the new nature in the Christian.

12. (v. 5:18) How does the believer escape bondage under the law?

But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

13. (vs. 5:19-21) The sins listed are referred to in verse 19a as what?

works of the flesh

The believer will not practice these things if he is led by the Spirit. What happens to the unbeliever who practices these sins?

they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

List any five of the sins: Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings

14. (vs. 5:22-23) What fruit can only the Holy Spirit produce?
 love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
 Meekness, temperance
15. (v. 5:24) In chapter one, verse 20 when Paul refers to our position in Christ; that we no longer live but Christ lives in us, what has happened to the old nature (the flesh)?
 crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.
16. (v. 5:25) What does Paul say we should do if we are living in the Spirit?
 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Chapter 6

Please carefully read Galatians 6:1-18. _____ Check.

Read John 15: 8-10, Romans 13: 8-10 and Galatians 5: 14 _____ Check.

We are to love each other as we are to love ourselves. This is not prideful love but nurturing love, love that watches out for the well-being of others.

1. (vs. 6:1-5) How are we to restore a brother (fellow Christian) who is caught up in sin (trespass)? restore such an one in the spirit of meekness
 Who is to restore a person caught in sin?
ye which are spiritual

Is it only the pastor's job? _____ Yes X No

2. (v. 6:2) In your own words write out the law of Christ (John 15: 9 – 13)
Love each other as He (Christ) loves us.

(Answer will vary)

3. (vs. 6:3-4) Whose work are we to examine? let every man prove his own work
What do you think we are to use as a standard of measurement? God's Word
4. (v. 6:5) Whose burden (load) are we to bear?
For every man shall bear his own burden.
5. (v. 6:6) The word communicate means to share or give. Who is to share with whom?
Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teaches in all good things.
_____ To
share "all good things" would not be just material giving but sharing spiritual gifts as well. Also see Philippians 4: 14-19.
6. (vs. 6:7-10) Paul is referring to God's law of reaping the same things you sow.
Read Genesis 1:12 _____ **Check.**
Those who sow to the flesh, in gratifying their own desires will reap corruption
The one who sows to the Spirit can look for a harvest of life everlasting
Name some things we can do to sow to the Spirit: _____ (Answer will vary)
7. (vs. 6:11-14) Paul declared that he would not glory in any religious tradition or practice of the law (as the legalists did). What did he glory in?
in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ
- The religious world ceremonies and legalism were brought to an end by the cross, so Paul said they were crucified to him. What, then, did he mean "and I unto the world"?
- Read Galatians 2:20** _____ **Check**
That Paul's sins were crucified with Jesus on the cross. When Paul was born again he was no longer a slave to the world (or his own sin nature)

8. (v. 6:15) What counts and what is important for spiritual life?
a new creature - being born again
9. (v. 6:17) Paul suffered much for preaching Christ and the gospel of grace. What did Paul bear on his body?
the marks of the Lord Jesus.
10. (v. 6:18) What phrase does Paul use in closing all of his epistles?
the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

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