

Study Notes For Galatians

(Chapter One)

Galatians 1:1 –

- Paul an Apostle by Jesus and the Father; not of or by men (**Acts 9:1-20, I Corinthians 1:1, II Corinthians 1:1, Ephesians 1:1, I Timothy 1:1, I Timothy 2:5-7, and II Timothy 1:1**). *Here he establishes his authority.
 - The phrase “not of men” (**Mark 11:30-33**).
 - The phrase “by man” (**I Corinthians 15:21**).
 - Paul was chosen later than the others (**I Corinthians 15:8-10**).
- God the Father raised Jesus from the dead (**Acts 2:22-24, Acts 3:15, Romans 10:9, I Corinthians 6:14, and Hebrews 13:20**). Remember, the resurrection is the foundation of our faith (**I Corinthians 15:1-19**).

Galatians 1:2 –

- At times, there were brethren with Paul when he wrote (**I Corinthians 1:1, II Corinthians 1:1, Philippians 1:1, Philippians 4:21-22, Colossians 1:1-4, I Thessalonians 1:1-2, II Thessalonians 1:1, and Philemon 1:1**).
- This epistle is written to “churches” [congregations] in the area of Galatia. Obviously all of God’s inspired word is good for all men to read and obey (**I Thessalonians 5:27 and II Timothy 3:16-17**; cf. **I Corinthians 16:1-2**). Aside from that obvious point, some epistles were to directed to be shared amongst multiple congregations in a certain region (**Colossians 4:16 and Revelation 1:4**).
- Efforts to teach the Galatians were certainly made (**Acts 16:6, Acts 18:23, II Timothy 4:10, and I Peter 1:1**).

Galatians 1:3 –

- Grace is from God (**Acts 20:32, Colossians 1:5-6, II Thessalonians 2:16, and Titus 2:11**) and is now also through Christ (**Romans 5:15, Ephesians 2:1-5, and I Peter 5:10**).
- Peace is from God (**Romans 15:33, I Corinthians 14:33, Colossians 3:15, and Hebrews 13:20**) and such is through Christ (**Acts 10:36, Romans 5:1, Ephesians 6:23, and Philippians 4:7**).
- Let’s not forget, though not mentioned, that the Holy Ghost also fits these things (**Romans 14:17, Romans 15:13, and II Corinthians 13:14**).

Galatians 1:4 –

- Jesus gave Himself for our sins (**Matthew 20:28, John 10:17-18, Romans 3:25, Ephesians 5:2, I Timothy 2:5-6, Titus 2:13-14, Hebrews 9:13-17, and I Peter 2:21-24**).
- To deliver us not only from this world (**Colossians 1:12-18**), but also from the wrath to come (**I Thessalonians 1:10**).
- Deliver from this present evil world (**John 15:19, John 17:14-17, Romans 12:1-2, II Corinthians 6:14-18, and I John 5:19**).

- According to the will of God the Father (**John 4:34, John 5:30, John 6:38, John 8:29, John 12:27-28, John 14:30-31, Hebrews 5:8-9, and Hebrews 10:4-10**).
- Yet, some of them desired to be under the Law (**Galatians 4:21**), which would nullify the benefits of being in Christ (**Galatians 5:4**; cf. **Acts 13:38-39**).

Galatians 1:5 –

- Glory to God (**Psalms 108:5, Jeremiah 13:16-17, Luke 2:14, Luke 17:11-19, Acts 12:1-23, I Corinthians 10:31, Philippians 1:10-11, Philippians 4:20, I Timothy 1:17, Jude 1:25, and Revelation 1:6**).

Galatians 1:6 –

- Paul marveled as it is nearly unbelievable how some people can easily be turned to disbelief of the truth (cf. **Mark 6:1-6**).
 - Understand, the word translated “marvel” is the kind of amazement that occurs when someone sees something like a miracle (**Matthew 9:1-8 and Acts 7:30-31**).
- They were “so soon” (**Psalms 106:3-14, Luke 8:13, and Galatians 3:1-3**) removed (**Isaiah 29:13 and II Peter 2:20-22**).
- To another gospel (**II Corinthians 11:4**). The next verse (**Galatians 1:7**) will identify that it was a perversion of the Gospel of Christ. More there...

Galatians 1:7 –

- Not an entirely new teaching, but a perversion of the truth (**II Corinthians 2:17, Galatians 5:7-9, Colossians 2:4-8, I Timothy 1:3-7, II Timothy 2:14-18, II Timothy 3:1-9, and II Peter 3:15-17**).
 - Example: Some preachers know exactly how to preach using the Scriptures. Then, when they want something unauthorized, they will preach a lesson without Scriptures and twist the few they do use (**II Peter 3:15-17**). W.A. Bradfield’s (preacher of the past among “churches of Christ” that worked with Freed Hardeman University) sermon outlines show this clearly (<http://www.wordsoftruth.net/wabradfield2Outlines.pdf>).
- Paul wanted these troublers (cf. **Acts 15:1-2 and Acts 15:24**), who perverted the Gospel of Christ, to be cut off (**Galatians 5:12**).
- Some people throw themselves at those who pervert the truth (**Isaiah 30:9-11 and II Timothy 4:2-5**).

Galatians 1:8 –

- Apostles had authority that was to be followed (**Acts 2:42, I Corinthians 4:6, I Corinthians 14:37, II Corinthians 5:18-20, and II Thessalonians 3:14-15**).
- However, they could not teach whatever they wanted to teach (**Deuteronomy 13:1-3, Galatians 2:11-17, and I Timothy 6:1-5**). *More on this in a few more verses (**Galatians 1:10-12**).

- Angels were/are subject to God and the truth (**Revelation 22:8-9**). If they err they were/will be accursed (**II Peter 2:4** and **Jude 1:6**).
- Stick with the truth that had been taught (**Proverbs 4:4**, **Proverbs 4:13**, **Proverbs 23:23**, **Matthew 7:21-28**, **Matthew 28:20**, **Luke 11:28**, **I Thessalonians 5:21**, and **II Timothy 1:13**).
- Anything else is accursed (**Deuteronomy 4:2**, **Deuteronomy 12:32**, **Proverbs 30:5-6**, and **Revelation 22:18-19**).

Galatians 1:9 –

- Repeating something is rather emphatic (**Philippians 3:1**).
- Repetitiveness is not always because of a negative either (**Philippians 4:4**, **II Peter 1:12**, and **II Peter 3:1-2**).

Galatians 1:10 –

- There is a way wherein we should please men (**Romans 15:1-3**).
- However, when it comes to the truth, compromising to please men is not acceptable (**Luke 6:26**, **Luke 16:15**, **Acts 4:13-20**, **Acts 5:27-29**, **I Thessalonians 2:1-6**, **James 4:4**, **Jude 1:3**, and **II John 1:9-11**).

Galatians 1:11-12 –

- Paul was not teaching his words or the words of any other man (**Matthew 10:16-20**, **John 14:26**, **John 16:13**, **I Corinthians 2:9-13**, **I Corinthians 11:23**, **Ephesians 3:1-9**, **I Thessalonians 2:13**, and **I John 2:27**).
- Even when Paul spoke “his words”, they were by permission of God through the Spirit (**I Corinthians 7:6-9**; **39-40**).

Galatians 1:13 –

- Paul had a notable past among the Jews (**Acts 9:26** and **Acts 26:4-5**).
- He persecuted the church of our Lord beyond measure (**Acts 9:1-2**, **Acts 9:13-14**, **Acts 22:4-5**, and **I Timothy 1:12-16**).
- He said he “wasted” [destroyed] the church (**Acts 8:3-4** and **Acts 9:21**).

Galatians 1:14 –

- Paul had a past of being a zealous Jew (**Philippians 3:4-6**).
- Zeal doesn't amount to anything though if it is wrong (**Romans 10:1-3**).
- He held to the Jewish traditions, which were very important to the Jews (**Matthew 15:1-2**).
- However, those traditions were vain (**Matthew 15:7-9** and **I Peter 1:18**).
- Traditions are learned from past generations (**Jeremiah 9:13-14**).
- Pressure to keep those traditions made it hard for people to leave them (**John 12:37-43**).

Galatians 1:15 –

- When it pleased God (**Ephesians 1:9**).

- Separated me from my mother's womb could have similar meaning as to what God said concerning Jeremiah (**Jeremiah 1:5**) and John (**Luke 1:13-17**).
- Paul was definitely a chosen vessel (**Acts 9:15, Acts 13:1-2, Acts 22:12-16**, and **II Timothy 1:8-11**).
- Paul's "calling" was definitely different than how God calls us (**II Thessalonians 2:14**).

Galatians 1:16 –

- Jesus being revealed to Paul (**Acts 9:3-8**).
- Paul was to preach Christ to the heathen (**Romans 1:13-16, Romans 15:16**, and **Colossians 1:23-29**; cf. **Mark 16:15-16**).
- Immediately (**Acts 9:20-23**; cf. **Psalms 119:60**).
- He did not confer with man as to what to do (**Psalms 118:8** and **Galatians 1:10-12**).

Galatians 1:17 –

- He went first to Arabia (which we have no record of) and then back to Damascus. Damascus was a troubling place for Paul (**Acts 9:22-25** and **II Corinthians 11:32-33**).
- *Remember in early references concerning Paul, his name was Saul. It wasn't until **Acts 13:9** that his name changed.

Galatians 1:18 –

- Then, after that, he came to Jerusalem (This could be a reference, though it may not be: **Acts 9:26-31**).

Galatians 1:19 –

- He saw James, the Lord's brother (cf. **Matthew 13:55**).
- Jesus did not place His physical family any higher than other disciples (**Matthew 12:46-50**).
- The siblings of Jesus were not always believers of Him or His works either (**John 7:1-7**).

Galatians 1:20 –

- Paul knew the importance of speaking the truth (**Acts 26:25, Ephesians 4:15, Ephesians 4:25**, and **I Timothy 2:7**).
- Paul was not afraid to allow deity to be his witness (**Romans 1:9, Romans 9:1, II Corinthians 1:23, II Corinthians 11:31, II Corinthians 12:19, Philippians 1:8**, and **I Timothy 5:21**).
- They could possible verify these things with the Holy Ghost (**I Corinthians 14:37** and **I John 2:27**).

Galatians 1:21-22 –

- Paul traveled, preaching, but was mainly known in Judea through reputation rather than bodily presence. When you study the book of Acts you notice that from **Acts 9:32-Acts 11:25** you read nothing of Paul. Then, very little until **Acts 13** wherein the book of Acts then begins to record more about Paul's work than any others from that point forward.

Galatians 1:23 –

- Paul's actions showed his repentance, which is exactly what God expects of those who turn from sin (**Isaiah 1:15-17, Jeremiah 7:3, Ezekiel 14:6, Matthew 3:8, Matthew 12:33, Luke 19:1-10, Acts 26:18-20, James 4:8-10, and Revelation 2:1-5**).
- His reputation is now good (**Proverbs 22:1, Ecclesiastes 7:1, and I Peter 2:12**).

Galatians 1:24 –

- Glorified God in him (**Matthew 5:14-16, John 15:8, and I Corinthians 1:30-31**).