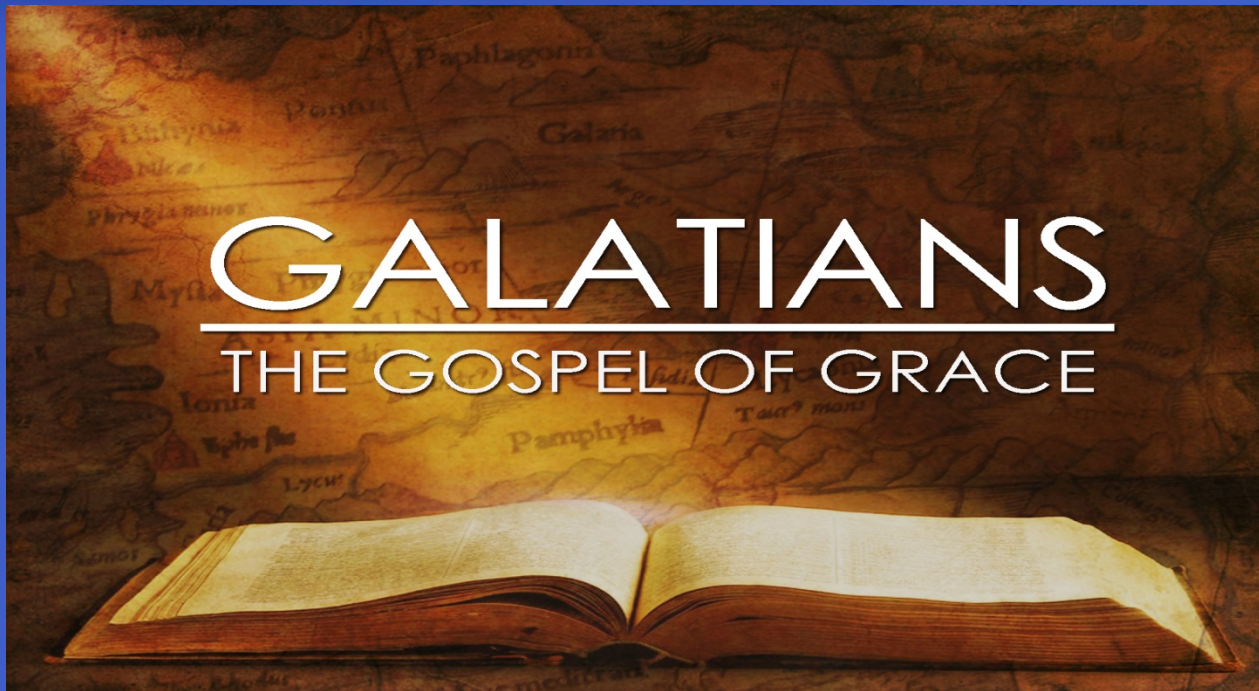


# Paul's Epistle to the Galatians



# Paul's Epistle to the Galatians!

**The Text:**

***Galatians 3:1-9!***

**The Theme:**

***The Gospel of Jesus Christ!***

**The Title:**

***Choosing Between  
Legalism & Liberty!***

# Paul Writes to Defend Three Truths That are Under Attack:

**Paul is under attack by the Judaizers**

**1<sup>ST</sup> ... His calling as a MESSENGER of God's Gospel!**

**2<sup>ND</sup> ... The MESSAGE of the Gospel which he preached!**

**3<sup>RD</sup> ... His MINISTRY to the Gentiles!**

# *The Outline of Galatians!*

I. (1:1-10) The **PROLOGUE** to the Galatians.

II. (1:11-2:21) The **PERSONAL** defense of Paul:

- A. **The Focus:** Paul's personal authority.
- B. **The Message:** Paul's authority is from God.

III. (3:1-4:31) The **POLEMIC** argument of Paul:

- A. **The Focus:** The two gospels: Faith vs Works.
- B. **The Message:** Paul's message (of grace through faith) is God's message.

IV. (5:1-6:10) The **PRACTICAL** exhortation of Paul:

- A. **The Focus:** The application of two gospels.
- B. **The Message:** God's gospel liberates while man's gospel is labor-sum.

V. (6:11-18) The **POSTLUDE** to the Galatians.

# *The Section Outline!*

- I. (1:1-10) The Prologue to the Galatians!
- II. (1:11-2:21) The Personal defense of Paul!
- III. (3:1-4:31) The Polemic argument of Paul!

In this third section Paul defends the truth of the Gospel, that a man is justified before God by grace through faith and not by the works of the Law!

To defend this truth he uses five arguments:

- A. (3:1-5) The argument from experience.
- B. (3:6-9) The argument from Abraham.
- C. (3:10-4:11) The argument from the Law.
- D. (4:12-20) The argument from personal testimony.
- E. (4:21-31) The argument from an allegory.

# The Setting for Today's Message:

## **The Argument of the Judaizers!**

The believers in Galatia were being told that a more complete salvation and a greater sanctification was the result of keeping the Law. For a person to be a good Christian, he must first become a good Jew.

## **The Answer by Paul!**

There is only one way to God. And that way is by grace through faith in Christ alone. To supplement Christ's work on Calvary is to reject God's gift of justification for salvation.

# Today's Sermon Outline:

## I. (3:1-5) The Argument from **EXPERIENCE!**

Here Paul's defense of God's Gospel rests on **five questions**:

- A. (v.1) Who caused you to stray so far from the truth?
- B. (v.2) How did you receive the Spirit?
- C. (v.3) How is a person sanctified before God?
- D. (v.4) Did you suffer for your faith in vain?
- E. (v.5) On what basis did God perform signs in you?

## II. (3:6-9) The Argument from **ABRAHAM!**

Here Paul addresses the charge addressed in 2:3 – **Circumcision!**

# *Applying the Truth from Today's Sermon!*

## **1. Legalism is an aggressive enemy; don't embrace it!**

Resist the temptation to exalt yourself before men.

God alone deserves the credit for both your salvation and your sanctification.

Robbing God of His glory is expensive – Numbers 20!

## **1. Backsliding is temporary insanity; refuse to reason with it!**

Some of the most irrational people are backslidden.

Because their relationship with God has been interrupted, they have lost their sense of what is right and wrong.

Count the cost of removing yourself from God's grace – Hebrews 12:6!

## **3. Salvation is God's gift; you can't earn it!**

Grace is God holding out His hand, offering the sinner complete forgiveness and restoration. You can't buy it. It has already been purchased by Jesus.

It is offered to all through faith in Christ alone – John 3:16!



# 1st Missionary Journey Acts 13 & 14

*Modern Day Turkey*



Satellite Image - NASA