

“Galatians 1:1-5”

All Scripture is KJV: Galatians 1:1-5

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY?

Today I would like to preach a series on the Book of Galatians.

One of the reasons that I have chosen Galatians is that it addresses the issues of following after Jesus for salvation and not following after the Jewish Laws and fables for salvation.

In the Epistle written to the Galatians Paul will address many issues relating to salvation.

He will refute and expose the false way of salvation, and will bring those people to task who teach the wrong way of salvation.

He will then teach what salvation is all about. He will expose the Jews for their lies and rebuke them for trying to get Christians to return to the way of the law which was never able to save.

So it is going to be a very interesting experience and an eye opener to those who preach a different gospel. It will encourage those in Jesus Christ to remain true and to hold to the faith that was once delivered unto them by the word of God through the Prophets and Apostles.

Galatians 1 King James Version (KJV)

¹ Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)

1. In this verse Paul, states his purpose. And that purpose is that he is an Apostle.
2. An apostle as the bible states is a messenger for God, who has been specifically been chosen and given a message of new divine revelation, for which God has given to that Apostle, so that the Word and the will of the Lord may be given for instruction by God. An Apostle is also one who has seen Jesus. So today there are no more apostles.
3. Paul did not declare himself to be an Apostle, because it was God who had called him into that position as stated in the scriptures.
4. In almost every book of the NT which Paul had written he starts off with this statement of being an apostle called by God

In Acts Chapter 9 we read about the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. A man who was originally hostile to the people of God. A man who tried to destroy the very churches of God. A man who was a very zealous Jew, and a man who lived his religion to the letter of the law.

But God was greater than Saul, and began a work in him to which the church would eventually prosper with a convert who was totally committed to Jesus Christ as his saviour.

A man that God would use as an apostle who would author at least 13 books of the NT and 14 if you count that he may have written Hebrews as well.

- In Acts 9 we read the following account of his conversion.

Acts 9 King James Version (KJV)

¹ And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, ² And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

³ And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and **suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:** ⁴ And he fell to the earth, **and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?**

⁵ And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. ⁶ And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

⁷ And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. ⁸ And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

⁹ And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink. ¹⁰ And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

¹¹ And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called **Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,**

¹² And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. ¹³ Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

¹⁴ And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

¹⁵ But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: ¹⁶ For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

¹⁷ And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, **Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou**

camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

¹⁸ And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. ¹⁹ And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

²⁰ And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

²¹ But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests? ²² But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

²³ And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

- So by the time we get to the book of Galatians Paul is an old convert of Jesus Christ to the gospel. And by the time we read in Galatians Paul is well on his way to expose the Satanic teachings of the Jews, and to expose their lies.
 - That's why they wanted to kill Paul soon after his conversion.
 - And so that's why we see in the writing of Paul that he almost always opens the message to the churches with the Authority given to him by Jesus to be an Apostle. Because he was given that authority.
 - Many heretical churches today try and make the same claim that they are apostles sent by God, but those are false claims and they are false apostles.
- ❖ Some of the quotes of Pauls apostleship can be seen in the following opening verses of his writing o the church's and Epistle letters.

[1 Corinthians 1:1](#)

Paul called to be an **apostle** of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,

[Romans 1:1](#)

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an **apostle**, separated unto the gospel of God,

[Ephesians 1:1](#)

Paul, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

[Colossians 1:1](#)

Paul, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timotheus our brother,

[1 Timothy 1:1](#)

Paul, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;

[2 Timothy 1:1](#)

Paul, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus,

[Titus 1:1](#) Paul, a servant of God, and an **apostle** of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness;

- ❖ [1 Corinthians 9:1](#) Am I am not an **apostle**? am I not free? **have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord?** are not ye my work in the Lord? *(the bright light of Acts 9:3)*
- ❖ [1 Corinthians 9:2](#) If I be not an **apostle** unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine **apostleship** are ye in the Lord.

[2 Corinthians 1:1](#) Paul, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, **with all the saints which are in all Achaia:**

- ❖ [Romans 11:13](#) For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the **apostle of the Gentiles**, I magnify mine office:
 1. In every claim Paul says that it was by the will of God that he was made an Apostle. \
 2. But, yet with the false claims of the apostate churches, who claim to have Apostles for their ministers is a false claim and they have not been sent by God, neither are they of the will of God.
 3. It is to these churches that Paul sent a warning such as we see in 2 Corinthians 11:13 below.

[2 Corinthians 11:13](#)

For such are false **apostles**, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the **apostles** of Christ.

[Revelation 2:2](#)

I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are **apostles**, and are not, and hast found them liars:

4. Even Jesus in Revelation 2:2 agrees with Paul, that there are false apostles and these people will be tried as such.
 - After Paul introduces himself as an Apostle he qualified his position and office by making this statement also.
 - **(not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)**
 - To have this office it could and only can come from God. No man today can give you this office, and no man today can claim this office with Jesus Christ giving him that office. But yet today there are those that claim it for themselves.
 - The Risen Jesus Christ is the only one who has the power to give out this office.
 - Paul office was **“not of men”**, and **“neither by man”**
 - In other words, He was not put there by man or for mans convenience. Because his office was for the sole purpose of serving Jesus Christ.

² And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

1. Here Paul is writing unto all the churches in Galicia. Because he is addressing churches' plural.

2. This is a message which is written to “all” churches. It was not a message specific to an individual church. But rather to all churches, specifically those at the time in Galatia. Because we find these terms in all the letters written by Paul to the different churches like at Corinth.
3. **“all the brethren which are with me”** is a reference to all those people who Paul had preached to, and who were now under his ministry in the Lord in all Galatia. This is the same quote he uses in the book of 2 Corinthians 1:1 in his opening statement to them.

[2 Corinthians 1:1](#) Paul, an **apostle** of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, **with all the saints which are in all Achaia:**

³ Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,

1. Like most of Paul's letter to the churches he opens with grace and peace. This is a direct reference to the gospel of how they got saved. That all men are saved by God's grace through their faith. Peace is a result of that saving grace.
2. You see the peace Paul was sending to them was the peace that was coming from both God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ as a result of and because of their salvation which now resulted in a peace from God, rather than Judgement which would have been the alternative if they were not saved.
3. Jesus is the one who said “my peace I give unto you”. That peace is salvation.

[John 14:27](#) **Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you:** not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

4. The world (the unsaved) brings judgement, but Jesus brings peace.

⁴ Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

1. You see the diffract relationship to peace in verse 3 is clarified for us here in verse 4. Where Paul says of Jesus that “ **Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world,**”
2. It is Jesus which has delivered us from the world and judgement. It is not the keeping of the Law, or some tradition of observing days and years and new moons.
3. No.....it's by his blood which has saved us. Not by anything which we can do to save us (Titus 3:5).
 - We need to remember that Paul was the Apostle to the Gentiles. He knew full well of what the Jews were up to. And even today the Jewdiasers will try and have you believe that you need to keep all the feasts of the Jews to be saved, and to be one big happy family in God's eyes.
 - But yet they are the very ones that destroyed Jesus, and they are the very ones which Jesus rebukes in Revelation 2:9 and Revelation 3:9 calling them the synagogue of Satan and that their father is the devil.
 - So who are you going to believe? For your salvation.

1 Thessalonians 2:14-16 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁴ For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they have of the Jews:

¹⁵ Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men:

¹⁶ Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.

- According to the scriptures the wrath of God abides upon the Jews to the uttermost. So who are you going to trust for your salvation?
- The bible also says call no man Rabbi for there is only one Rabi and that is Jesus.
- But what do they call their religious leaders.....Rabbi's.

Matthew 23:6-8 King James Version (KJV)

⁶ And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, ⁷ And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi. ⁸ But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

⁵ To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1. The Word ends here with the word Amen. Which is the word used to ask you do you agree.
2. It is a word that is used to state the truth.
3. And if your response is with the same word amen, it means that you are in agreement with what the scripture is saying.
4. It is stating that the glory of God, is the magnificence and splendour for always and beyond that what we would call and eternity, which the bible refers to as forever and ever.
5. So Gods glory and splendour is forever and ever.

PRAYER.....CLOSE