

A workbook aid for studying

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE
GALATIANS

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PREFACE

This study book is intended to aid a Bible class in the study of Paul's epistle to the Galatians. The material herein will not take the student on a verse-by-verse analysis of the text, but is intended to bring attention to significant portions of the text. Rather than providing textual insight from the writer, the booklet has been designed with questions to provoke thought and further study on the student's part, so that principles and lessons applicable for the Christian's life can be learned.

The usefulness of the material, and the success of the Bible class is primarily dependent upon the preparation which is given by each participant. Verse references from Galatians are provided with each question. These are given as a starting point for answering the questions. Seldom will a question be fully answered and all the relevant points of a discussion exhausted by the given verses. Students are encouraged to look beyond the designated texts for related passages which will help to answer questions and reveal the lessons to be learned from the inspired record. Some questions given may require diligent investigation on the student's part to completely answer.

It is my hope that the questions provided will touch on all the important lessons which can be gleaned by the child of God today from these books. However, the class should not be limited to these questions. Perhaps segments of text which the given questions do not directly deal with, or detailed points which are found in the text will provoke questions on the student's part. Such questions are welcomed and encouraged. Though the intent of this class material is to benefit us for Christian living today, the class should also be conducted in such a manner that we also come to a better appreciation of the events and customs which are found in the times of old.

May this workbook be used to the glory of God and the strengthening of saints.

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Not From Men Nor Through Man

GALATIANS 1:1-24

"Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead)..." (1:1)

1. How does Paul speak of his calling as an apostle? (1:1)

Apostle (Gr. *apostolos*)

A delegate or messenger sent forth with orders.

2. What benefit do we receive from the gospel of Christ? (1:3-5)
3. How does Paul describe the gospel the Galatians have turned to? What principle is taught in this? (1:6-7)
4. What powerful warning does the apostle give regarding the gospel? Discuss the all-encompassing nature of this admonition. (1:8-9)
5. Discuss Paul's statement in **verse 10**.
6. From whom did Paul learn the gospel message that he preached? (1:11-12)

**"...it came through
the revelation of Jesus Christ..."**

"...I command, yet not I but the Lord..." (1 Cor 7:10)

"...I received from the Lord that which I also delivered..." (1 Cor 11:23)

"...I delivered to you first of all that which I also received..." (1 Cor 15:3)

"...by revelation He made known to me the mystery..." (Eph 3:3)

7. Paul mentions his “...*former conduct in Judaism...*” How did he conduct himself, and what encouragement can we derive from these words today? (1:13-15)

8. In considering his own salvation and call to preach the gospel, what three things does Paul ascribe God with doing? (1:15-16)

9. Following his conversion to Christ, Paul says “...*I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem...*” What did he do? (1:16-17)

10. How much time passed before Paul went to Jerusalem? Who did he see there? Why did he wait so long to go to Jerusalem? (1:18-19)

11. Why is James, the Lord’s brother called an apostle? (1:19)

12. Comment on Paul’s popularity among the saints in Judea. (1:20-24)

Lessons and principles:

[List and discuss what we can learn from this study to better our service before the Lord]

By The Works Of The Law No Flesh Shall Be Justified

GALATIANS 2:1-21

“...even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified...” (2:16)

1. Paul refers to his first visit (**1:18-19; Acts 9:26-30**), and now the third (**Acts 15**). Why might the second trip (**Acts 11:27-30**) not be mentioned?

Three Trips To Jerusalem Following Paul's Conversion

Acts 9	Paul tried to join the disciples in Jerusalem, but was not accepted until Barnabas took him to the apostles.
Acts 11	Paul and Barnabas delivered relief from the church at Antioch to the elders in Judea.
Acts 15	Paul, Barnabas and certain others went to Jerusalem, participating in a discussion with the apostles and elders.

2. What does Paul identify as his compulsion to go to Jerusalem? Who did Paul meet with upon arriving in Jerusalem? (**2:2**, compare **Acts 15:1-5**)
3. Paul sought a private discussion with the eminent men, “...lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain.” What was Paul’s concern? How might his run have been vain? (**2:2**)
4. What did some at this private meeting attempt to force on Paul and his companions? How does Paul refer to these individuals? What was his reaction to them? (**2:3-5**)
5. Who are “...those who seemed to be something...”(**2:6**)

6. After Paul had revealed to James, Peter and John the work he and Barnabas had performed among the Gentiles, what was their reaction? **(2:7-10)**

7. What did Peter do in Antioch that required Paul to withstand him to his face? **(2:11-12)**

8. How did Peter's sin affect others? **(2:13)**

9. How was Peter living "*...in the manner of Gentiles...*" How did he "*...compel Gentiles to live as Jews*"? **(2:14)**

10. Why should it be surprising that Peter would transgress as he did in Antioch? **(2:15-18)**

11. What does Paul stress about man's justification, whether Jew or Gentile? **(2:16, 20)**

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The Just Shall Live By Faith

GALATIANS 3:1-29

"But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for 'the just shall live by faith'." (3:11)

1. Why is Paul surprised at the Galatians turning away from obedience to the truth? **(3:1-5)**

"...who has bewitched you..."

The word "bewitched" is translated from the Greek *baskaino*, meaning to speak ill of, to bring evil on one by feigning praise or an evil eye, to charm. The Galatians had been charmed to do and believe evil.

2. What is the intent of Paul's questions in **verses 1-5**?
3. Explain Paul's statements "...only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham..." and "...those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham." **(3:6-9)**
4. How does Paul demonstrate from the Scriptures that those who desire to be saved by the Law cannot be? **(3:10-12)**
5. How can the Christ hanging on a tree and thus being cursed (**Deuteronomy 21:23**) free the Jews from the curse of the Law, and extend the promise of Abraham to the Gentiles? **(3:13-14)**
6. How secure is God's promise made to Abraham? Through whom would the promise be fulfilled? What relationship do the Law of Moses and the promise to Abraham have? **(3:15-18)**

7. Why did God give the Law? How long was the Law intended to last? (**3:19-25**)

8. How did the giving of the promise differ from the giving of the Law? (**3:20**)

9. To what does Paul liken the Law of Moses? What was the purpose of the Law of Moses? (**3:23-25**)

10. In **verse 26-27**, Paul answers the following questions. You do likewise:
 - a. Who are you?
 - b. How?
 - c. Where?
 - d. When?

11. What is the significance of Paul's statements in **verse 28 & 29**?

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Slaves And Sons/Bond Or Free

GALATIANS 4:1-31

"Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." (4:7)

1. In what way is there no difference between a son who is an heir and a slave? (4:1-2)
2. Describe the spiritual parallel to the physical illustration Paul uses in **verses 1-2**.
3. What have the sons of God received from the Father? Describe the blessed position of God's sons. (4:3-7)
4. What did the Galatians serve before they knew God? Now that they know God, what have they turned to serve? What evidence is there of their turn from God? (4:8-11)
5. What is Paul's plea to the Galatians? How does he encourage them in this? (4:12-15)
6. What things does Paul bring to the remembrance of the Galatian brethren? Describe the nature of Paul's relationship and respect among the Galatians. (4:13-16)

7. Paul speaks of the zeal which the Jewish legalists have exercised upon the Galatians. What is the purpose of their zeal? What does the apostle Paul himself know about misguided zeal? **(4:17-20)**

8. What is meant by “...for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you...” **(4:19)**

9. Paul appeals to the symbolism in Abraham’s two sons and their mothers. What do each of the following represent? **(4:21-26)**
 - a. Hagar (the bondwoman)
 - b. Sarah (the freewoman)
 - c. Ishmael (the son of a bondwoman)
 - d. Isaac (the son of a freewoman)

10. How does Paul continue to use the symbolism of Ishmael and Isaac to speak about issues which were present in the church during his time? **(4:27-31)**

Lessons and principles:

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Freed From The Law To Walk In The Spirit

GALATIANS 5:1-26

"I say then: walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." (5:16)

1. How does Paul refer to the Law of Moses? What burden is found in the Law? How does he speak of those who attempt to be justified by the Law? **(5:1-4)**
2. Where is hope found? **(5:5-6)**
3. How does Paul characterize the Galatians beginning in the faith? What does he say about the path they now walk?**(5:7-10)**
4. What does "...a little leaven leavens the whole lump..." mean? **(5:9)**
5. Did Paul ever "preach circumcision"? How does Paul reason with the Galatians concerning himself and "...those who trouble you..."?**(5:11-12)**
6. What reminder and warning does Paul give them about their calling in Christ? **(5:13-15)**
7. With their keen interest in keeping the Law, what summation of the Law does Paul give. **(5:14)**
8. What conflict does Paul present that takes place inside the Christian? What is his solution? **(5:16-18)**

9. Discuss the works of the flesh (5:19-21):
- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| a. adultery | j. outbursts of wrath |
| b. fornication | k. selfish ambitions |
| c. uncleanness | l. dissensions |
| d. lewdness | m. heresies |
| e. idolatry | n. envy |
| f. sorcery | o. murders |
| g. hatred | p. drunkenness |
| h. contentions | q. revelries |
| i. jealousies | r. and the like... |
10. Discuss the fruit of the Spirit (5:22-23):
- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| a. love | f. goodness |
| b. joy | g. faithfulness |
| c. peace | h. gentleness |
| d. longsuffering | i. self-control |
| e. kindness | |
11. Having considered the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit, what conclusion does he make? (5:24-26)

Lessons and principles:

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Christian Responsibilities And Closing Remarks

GALATIANS 6:1-18

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially those who are of the household of faith." (6:10)

1. What responsibility do we have to those who have been overcome by sin? How are we to act toward such individuals? Why? (6:1)
2. How might we "...bear one another's burdens..."? What is a "burden"? (6:2, consider context)
3. How might one think "...himself to be something..."? What words does Paul have for such a one? (6:3)
4. Discuss **verse 4** in conjunction with **1 Corinthians 11:31** and **2 Corinthians 13:5**.
5. Is there a contradiction between **verse 2** and **verse 5**? What does **verse 5** mean?
6. What does Paul mean, "Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches"? (6:6)
7. What is the law of sowing and reaping? (6:7-8)

8. What should the Christian's focus be when it comes to doing good? (**6:9-10**)

9. What motive does Paul attribute to those who compelled the Gentiles to be circumcised? What does Paul say about "...*those who are of the circumcision...*"? (**6:11-13**)

10. Where will Paul seek to boast? Why? (**6:14**)

11. What is of importance in Christ? To whom does Paul refer as the "...*Israel of God...*"? (**6:15-16**)

12. What evidence bore witness to Paul's devote service to the Lord? (**6:17-18**)

Lessons and principles:

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