

## Bible Study – Outline

### GALATIANS

Author Paul  
Date Written Approx. 49AD from Antioch  
Audience: The churches in southern Galatia (Iconium, Lystra, Derbe)

#### Major Theme(s) Christian Liberty

- The Gospel
  - Its authenticity
  - Its superiority
  - Freedom
- Law
- Faith
- Holy Spirit

#### Key People

Paul  
Peter, Barnabas, Titus  
Abraham  
False teachers

#### Galatians

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1:1-5</b>
<b>The Irreplaceable Gospel</b>	1:6-9 – 2:10
Paul 's rebuke: you are turning to a false gospel	1:6-9
Paul – The gospel I preach comes only from God	1:10-2:10
<b>The Heart of the Gospel: Our Identity in Christ</b>	2:11-21
A confrontation with Peter about the gospel	2:11-14
The gospel that defines us	2:15-21
<b>Becoming an Heir of Abraham</b>	3:1-29
Entrance Requirements	
Evidence from experience	3:1-5
Evidence from Abraham	3:6-9
Evidence from scripture	3:10-14
Why the Law?	
The law does not validate the promises	3:15-18
The purpose of the law	3:19-24
Now that faith has come	3:25-29

<b>The Freedom of Sonship</b>	<b>4:1-6:10</b>
From slaves to sons	4:1-11
Brought by Christ into sonship	4:1-7
The temptation to return	4:8-11
Two kinds of sons	4:12-5:1
Two kinds of teachers	4:12-20
Two kinds of lives	4:21-5:1
Danger! Turn Back	5:2-12
Where this teaching will lead	5:2-6
Where these teachers are headed	5:7-12
How to live in true freedom	5:13-24
Sowing to the Spirit	5:25-6:10
The way of the Spirit in a specific context	5:25-6:6
Why we should live by the Spirit	6:7-10
<b>Conclusion – Defined by the Cross</b>	<b>6:11-18</b>

### Key Scriptures

\* Gal. 1:8-9 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God’s curse! 9. As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God’s curse!

Gal. 1:11-12 I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. 12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

Gal. 2:16 know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

Gal.2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Gal.3:7-8 Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. 8 Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.”

\* Gal.3:11-12 Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.” 12 The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, “The person who does these things will live by them.”

Gal.3:14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

\* Gal. 3:23-25 Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. 24 So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. 25 Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

Gal. 3:29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Gal. 4:4-6 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. 6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "*Abba, Father.*"

Gal. 5:1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Gal. 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Gal. 5:13-14 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. 14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Gal. 5:16 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Gal. 5:22-26 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

Gal. 6:3-4 If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves. 4 Each one should test their own actions.

Gal. 6:7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

Gal. 6:10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Gal. 6:15 Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation.

## Discussion Questions

1. What is Paul's primary concern for the churches in Galatia?
2. How did Paul prove his authority? Gal. 1:11-24 (also see I Cor. 23-24)
3. Why did Paul confront Peter? Gal. 2:1-21
4. What does freedom mean to you?
5. What was the purpose of the law? (Gal. 3:15-25)
6. What are the only things that really count? Gal. 5:6, Gal. 6:15
7. What would have happened to the churches in Galatia if Paul had not written this letter.

True Gospel		False Gospel	
1:11,12	The source of the Gospel is God	2:21	Treats Christ's death as meaningless
2:20	Life is obtained through death; we must trust in the Son of God who loved us and died for us so that we might die to sin and live for Him	3:12	People must obey the law to be saved
3:14	All believers have the Holy Spirit through faith	4:10	You can find favour with God by keeping certain rituals and rules
3:21,22	Declares we cannot be saved by keeping the laws; the only way to salvation is through faith in Jesus Christ - which is available to everyone	5:4	Counts on that a person must keep the laws if you are going to be right with God
3:26-28	All believers are one in Christ, so there should be no discrimination of any kind		
5:24,25	The Holy Spirit's power fills and guides us - proclaiming our freedom from the grip of sin		

### The Law cannot:

- Justify the sinner Gal. 2:16
- Give righteousness Gal. 2:21
- Give the Holy Spirit Gal. 3:2
- Give an inheritance Gal. 3:18
- Give life Gal. 3:21
- Give freedom Gal. 4:8-10

### Resources Used

Adventuring Through the Bible by Ray Stedman  
 Galatians - 12-Week Study - by Geoff Ziegler - Knowing The Bible Series  
 Life Application Bible (NIV) - Zondervan and Tyndale House.  
[www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com)