



N.T. Survey

Galatians

Theme: Justification by Faith

Outline:	I. Justification by Faith Defended	1-2
	II. Justification by Faith Explained	3-4
	III. Justification by Faith Applied	5-6

Content Summary: Paul writes to a church that knew the truth through his ministry, but was now confused by messages from false teachers and those who sought to make following the Jewish law a requirement of salvation. He reminds them that the news that saves—that sinners are justified by faith in Christ—is a message from God, not man. His letter to churches in the province of Galatia emphasizes how critical this truth of God's grace is and ultimately what it results in: changed lives as believers walk according to the Spirit.

Key Chapters:

- 2 Paul dealing with Peter and other apostles
- 4 Sonship of believers in Christ
- 5 Christian liberty: free to serve, walks by the Spirit

Key Passages:

- 1:6-9 I am amazed you are so quickly deserting Him... for a different gospel . . .
- 1:11-12 The Gospel I preached isn't something man made up...I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ."
- 2:15-21 A man is not justified by the Law...But by faith in Christ Jesus
- 2:19-21 Christ lives in me
- 3:6 Abraham...reckoned righteous by faith . . .
- 3:8 Scripture foresaw that Gentiles would be justified by faith
- 5:16-26 Walk by the Spirit/fruit of the Spirit

Structure of the Book

- I. The Prologue (1:1-10)
 - The Salutation (1:1-5)
 - The Amazement: The Galatians' Were in the Process of Deserting Paul for Another Gospel (1:6-10)
- II. The Body: Paul's Defense of and Explanation of His Gospel (1:11-6:10)
 - The Vindication of Paul's Ministry and Gospel (1:11-2:21)
 - The Origination of Paul's Gospel (1:11-24)
 - The Source of Paul's Gospel (1:11-12)
 - The Substantiations of Paul's Gospel (1:13-24)
 - From Paul's Pre-conversion Life (1:13-14)
 - From Paul's Conversion (1:15-17)
 - From Paul's Jerusalem Visit (1:18-20)
 - From Paul's Ministry in Syria and Cilicia (1:21-24)
 - The Approval of Paul's Gospel by the Jerusalem Apostles (2:1-10)
 - The Manifestation of Paul's Authority in His Rebuke of Peter (2:11-21)
 - Paul's Confrontation of Peter (2:11-13)
 - Paul's Correction of Peter (2:14-21)
 - The Explanation of Paul's Gospel (3:1-4:31)
 - The Experience of the Galatians (3:1-5)
 - The Example of Abraham (3:6-9)
 - The Curse of the Law (3:10-14)
 - The Relationship of the Law to the Abrahamic Covenant (3:15-4:7)
 - The Plea of Paul to the Galatians to not Return to Bondage (4:8-31)
 - The Application of Paul's Gospel (5:1-6:10)
 - Paul's Appeal to Stand Firm in Freedom (5:1)
 - Freedom through Resistance to Circumcision (5:2-12)
 - Freedom through Walking by the Holy Spirit (5:13-26)
 - Freedom through Bearing with and Sharing with Others (6:1-10)
- III. The Epilogue (6:11-18)
 - The Character of Paul's Lettering (6:11)
 - The Contrast between Paul and the 'Circumcisers' (6:12-17)

Introduction to Galatians:

Title: "To the Galatians"

Author: Paul

Recipients: Probably Southern Galatian Christians

Date: 56 AD or 49 AD

(Galatia was a large, Roman province in Asia Minor)

(likely it preceded the Jerusalem Council, thus in 49 AD)

Major Themes in Galatians

1. Circumcision (2:3, 7, 8, 9, 12; 5:2, 3, 6, 11; 6:12, 13, 15)/**Uncircumcision** (2:7; 5:6; 6:15)

2. The Gospel (noun 1:6, 7, 11; 2:2, 5, 7, 14; verb 1:8, 9, 11, 16, 23; 4:13)

3. The Cross (5:11; 6:12, 14)/Crucify (2:20; 3:1; 5:24; 6:14)

4. Law [31x] 2:16, 19, 21; 3:2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24; 4:4, 5, 21; 5:3, 4, 14, 18, 23; 6:2, 13)/Work (2:16; 3:2, 5, 10; 5:19; 6:4; 6:10) and Faith [26x] 1:23; 2:16, 20; 3:2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26; 5:5, 6, 22; 6:10; verb: 2:7, 16; 3:6, 22)/Hearing (noun 3:2, 5; verb. 1:13, 23; 4:21)

5. Flesh [18x] – 1:16; 2:16, 20; 3:3; 4:13, 14, 23, 29; 5:13, 16, 17, 19, 24; 6:8, 12, 13) **and Spirit** [15x] – 3:2, 3, 5, 14; 4:6, 29; 5:5, 16, 17, 18, 22, 25; 6:1, 8, 18)

6. Justify (Justification by Faith) (2:16, 17; 3:8, 11, 24; 5:4); **Righteousness** (2:21; 3:6, 21; 5:5)

7. Grace [7x] (1:3, 6, 15; 2:9, 21; 5:4; 6:18)

8. The Attacks Against Paul

- Paul was not an original apostle
- Paul's Gospel was not the complete Gospel
- Paul's Gospel led to loose living

9. The Gospel Changes Our Relationships with God (3:11, 13, 26, 29; 4:4-7, 21-31; 5:1-5, 16-21)

10. The Gospel Changes Our Relationships with Our Teachers (4:13-16, 17; 6:6, 11, 17)

11. The Gospel Changes Our Relationships with Each Other (5:14-15, 22-26; 6:1-5, 6, 9-10)

Purpose of Galatians

Paul declared and defended the Gospel of justification by faith alone and the implications of the Gospel for the Galatian believers.

Notes on the context and background of this letter:

Other notes: