

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS
GALATIANS



Building Foundations Galatians

Study Guide

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Progression Toward Maturity

Phase 1: *Relationship with God* (Revelation 4:11; 1 Corinthians 1:9)

- The Call of God Is First to Himself.
- Foundation for Salvation (“Creation to Christ”)

Phase 2: *Position with Christ* (1 Corinthians 1:30a)

- We Become a New Creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- Foundation for Salvation (“Positioned in Christ” and “New Birth Explained”)

Phase 3: *Dependence upon the Spirit* (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)

- The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth (John 16:13-14)
- Church Is the Pillar and Foundation of Truth (1 Timothy 3:15)
- Acts/Building Foundations

Phase 4: *Practical Sanctification–Identification with Christ, Co-crucified with Christ, Conformed to Image of Christ* (Rom. 6:6; Gal. 2:20; Rom. 8:28-29)

- Romans to Revelation/Building Foundations
- Principles of Spiritual Growth
- God’s Masterpiece–The Cross
- Looking unto Jesus Lessons

Conclusion: *Recommended Order of Study*

Detailed Explanation of Each Phase

Phase 1: Foundation for Salvation (“Creation to Christ”)

The Christian life is a relationship; therefore, our desire is to lead our readers into a deep and intimate relationship with God. In order to grow into that level of relationship with God, there are foundational truths that must be clearly taught and understood. These foundational truths include the following:

- The attributes of God – His love, power, grace, omniscience, omnipotence, justice, immutability, hatred of sin, faithfulness.
- The sinfulness of man, his helplessness to save himself, and his need for a Savior.
- Only God can provide a way of salvation.
- The Gospel

Phase 2: Foundation for Sanctification (“Positioned in Christ” and “The New Birth Explained”)

The moment someone is born again, there is an immediate change of position that takes place in his or her life. At that very moment, one becomes a child of God, and is taken out of Adam and placed into Christ. All that Christ is and all that Christ has become ours. Therefore, before service to God is considered, one must be grounded in an understanding of who we are in Christ. Some important foundational truths that should be emphasized in Phase 2 teaching include the following:

- Placed into Christ
- Justified (declared righteous) and accepted in Christ
- Child of God
- Restored to oneness with God
- Eternally secure in Christ
- His Divine power has given to us all things pertaining to life and godliness through His finished work on the cross.
- Our part is to believe.

Phase 3: Dependence upon the Spirit and Introduction of the Church (“Acts/Building Foundations”)

The position change that takes place in every believer's life at salvation is immediate and complete. The daily “living out” of that position, on the other hand, is a growth process. It is the progression of growth that the Holy Spirit is working all believers through in His process of conforming us to the image of Christ.

In order for believers to move on to maturity, we must learn to walk and depend upon the Holy Spirit. Therefore, our purpose in Phase 3 teaching is to reveal the Holy Spirit's ministry and His faithfulness to lead, guide, feed, and protect God's children, as well as to introduce the church. Some of the important foundational truths that should be emphasized include the following:

- The Holy Spirit's ministry to lead, guide, feed, protect, and establish us in truth
- To emphasize the FAITHFULNESS of the Spirit to fulfill all that Jesus promised
- To reveal the early church's dependence upon the Spirit
- The Holy Spirit is as faithful in our lives today, as He was to the early church in the book of Acts.
- Introduction of the church and her role

Phase 4: Practical Sanctification—Identification with Christ; Conformed to the image of Christ (“Romans to Revelation/Building Foundations”), “Principles of Spiritual Growth,” God’s Masterpiece the Cross of Christ,” and “Looking Unto Jesus” lessons)

The Holy Spirit is teaching us to walk less in the flesh and more in the Spirit, with Christ becoming more and more the object of our hearts.

In Phase 4, we will study through the epistles with the purpose of learning to rest in our identification with Christ and His finished work. As we, by faith, begin to appropriate identification truths, our co-crucifixion with Christ, our lives will become more and more conformed to the image of Christ, manifesting the fruit of the Spirit.

Some of the important truths that will be emphasized in Phase 4 includes the following:

- The believer's identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (crucified with Him and raised to newness of life)

- Sanctification is the process of walking less and less in the flesh and more and more in the Spirit.
- Our part in the process is faith in the finished work of Christ and our identification with it.
- What it means to truly walk in the Spirit
- Putting off the old and putting on the new
- Manifesting the life of Christ/fruit of the Spirit

Conclusion: Recommended Order of Study

Because there truly is a progression of growth that the Holy Spirit is taking all believers through, our Bible lessons have been developed and arranged to line up with that work of the Spirit in our lives. Each set of lessons contains the foundational truths that must be in place in a person's heart in order to facilitate their growth onto the next stage of spiritual growth. Therefore, we believe that it is important to teach the lessons in the following order:

- ***God's Eternal Plan***
- ***Building Foundations Order of Study:***

Acts	2 Corinthians
Romans	Philippians
Ephesians	Philemon
1 Corinthians	2 Timothy
1 Timothy	1 and 2 Peter
Titus	1, 2 and 3 John
1 and 2 Thessalonians	Hebrews
Revelation	James
Galatians	Jude
Colossians	
- ***Knowing God*** before the ***Digging Deeper*** studies
- ***Digging Deeper*** studies in any order

GALATIANS

LESSON 1

A. The Founding of the Galatian Churches



- We will now study the letter that Paul wrote to the churches in Galatia.
- We first read of the churches in Galatia when we were studying the book of Acts.
- It was Paul and Barnabas who originally proclaimed the gospel in Galatia during Paul's first missionary journey.
- Looking at the map and starting from Antioch, we see that Paul and Barnabas started out by going to the island of Cyprus (**Acts 13:1-4**).
- From there they traveled to Perga; from Perga, they went inland and crossed the mountains and entered the area of Galatia, continuing on until they returned to Antioch (**Acts 13:14**).

- In Antioch, there were some who believed, but many did not; therefore, Paul and Barnabas were forced to move on (**Acts 13:50-52; 14:1-7**).
- Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe were the four main areas of Galatia where Paul and Barnabas preached the gospel during their first missionary journey.
- Then after teaching in Derbe, they went back the way they had come, once again visiting the places where people had believed. They taught the disciples and appointed elders in the new churches (**Acts 14:21-23**).
- These were probably the churches to whom Paul had sent this letter.

B. Paul's Reasons For Writing This Letter

- Paul's reason for writing this letter to the Galatian churches was very important.
- During the time that Paul was preaching the gospel, there was a group of Jews who had claimed to accept Jesus as their Savior.
- However, they were adding to the gospel message and were teaching that the Gentiles, who trusted in Christ for salvation, would not be accepted by God unless they were circumcised and kept the Old Testament laws given by God to Israel (**Acts 15:1**).
- These false teachers hated Paul because he taught that Gentiles could be saved through faith in Christ alone.
- So most everywhere that Paul preached the gospel, a group of Jews would come and tell the new believers that Paul really wasn't an apostle and that his message was not true; they said that Paul's gospel was not from Jesus, but it was taught to him by men (**Acts 13:45; 14:2, 19; 17:5, 13; 18:12; 20:1, 19; 21:27; 23:12; 25:7**).

- Therefore, when Paul knew that the Jews were saying these things, and that the Galatian disciples believed them, he wrote this letter.
- Paul's great concern was that this false doctrine was encouraging people to try and live the Christian life in their own strength which could only end up in discouragement and disappointment; it is impossible to live the Christian life in the power of the flesh.

C. Paul's Greeting

Read Galatians 1:1-2.

- Knowing the Jews were saying that he was not a true apostle, Paul began his letter to the Galatians by stating his credentials; indeed he was a true apostle, chosen by Jesus Christ Himself and not by men (**1 Corinthians 15:1-8**).
- Jesus had actually appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus—he fell to the ground and was blinded. Later Jesus directed Ananias to go and restore Paul's sight for He had chosen Paul to be His servant (**Acts 9:15-16**).
- It was important for the Galatians to know that Paul's apostleship was genuine, for only then would they be confident that his message was truly from God.

Read Galatians 1:3-5.

- As was mentioned before, the Jews were telling the Galatians they needed to keep the law in order to be saved and to please God.
- However, Paul reminds them it was through God's grace alone that He sent Jesus to die for their sins, secure their salvation, and make them acceptable to God.

- An Old Testament physical picture of this spiritual truth could be the Israelites who were in bondage in Egypt. They could do nothing to help themselves. God chose a deliverer and sent him to deliver them. In a similar way, we were unable to help ourselves. Therefore, God sent Jesus to deliver us from sin, Satan, the world, and our flesh.
- The Israelites' efforts and works could not deliver them, nor can our efforts and works deliver us (**Ephesians 2:1-9**).

D. Only One Gospel

Read Galatians 1:6-7.

- Paul said he was shocked that they would turn away from the good News so soon after hearing it and for a different gospel that really was a false gospel.
- Notice Paul's comment in verse 6—by turning away from the true gospel, they were actually turning away (“removed”) from God Himself, for it is His message.
- It might be good to notice that by saying the Galatians were turning away from the gospel, Paul was not saying they were turning away from the gospel message for salvation, but rather he was speaking of sanctification (**Galatians 3:3**).
- Therefore, just as salvation is by grace alone, so sanctification is by grace alone. (“Sanctification” can be defined in this way: “To be set apart for God’s possession and use.”) Sanctification makes reference to the growth process.

E. Paul's Warning To Those Who Preach a False Gospel

Read Galatians 1:8-9.

- Paul makes it very clear that if anyone teaches salvation or sanctification is by any other means than the grace of God, let him be accursed, doomed for destruction, and let him go to hell.
- He then repeats it to emphasize how important the true gospel of grace is to God.

F. A Servant of Christ; Not a Man Pleaser

Read Galatians 1:10.

- Paul now asks his readers to give careful consideration to who it is they are seeking to please—men or God?
- He clearly states if it is man he is seeking to please, then he is no longer a servant of Christ, for a servant's desire is to please his master. Therefore, if Paul was seeking to please men, then he had become the servant of men rather than Christ.
- We read the following in Acts 20:17-21. ***“From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: ‘You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews; how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.’”*** No thought here of pleasing man.

G. The Gospel Taught Directly to Paul

Read Galatians 1:11-12.

- Paul wanted the Galatians to know the gospel they had heard from him was not a message that originated with man.
- He did not receive it from man, nor was it taught to him by man; Jesus Christ Himself revealed it to Paul.
- This was the same message Paul had taught to the Galatians; therefore, to reject the message of grace given to Paul by Jesus Christ was to reject Christ Himself.

GALATIANS

LESSON 2

A. Paul, a True Apostle

- Apparently, the Jewish false teachers who came to Galatia were saying that Paul was not a true apostle; they said he had not seen Jesus and was not chosen by Him to be an apostle.
- Paul confirmed his apostleship in **Galatians 1:1**.
- The false teachers also were claiming that the gospel Paul was preaching did not come from God but was taught to him by man.
- Paul denied this as well (**Galatians 1:11-12**).
- These false teachers were also making statements that the apostles in Jerusalem agreed with their teaching and that Paul's teaching was contrary to what was being taught in the Jerusalem church.

B. Reminder of a Past Life

- After denying these accusations, Paul went on to remind the Galatians of his past life before his conversion.

Read Galatians 1:13-14.

- Paul mentions his life before conversion to make it clear he was such a hater of Christ that he never would have accepted this teaching from any man.
- Also, the fact that Paul was so zealous in Judaism, and now this drastic change gives further proof that it was from God.

Read Galatians 1:15-17.

- There is no doubt Paul fully recognized and rested in the supreme sovereignty of God.
- He mentions that even before he was born, God had set him apart to reproduce the life of Christ in him and to preach the gospel to the Gentiles.
- He clearly states it was by the grace of God that he was called, saved, sanctified, and sent out to preach.
- Paul also makes it clear that immediately after his conversion, he did not go up to Jerusalem to be with the Christians there but rather went into Arabia.
- Paul's point is that he was Christ-taught in the wilderness, not mentored by the apostles in Jerusalem.
- It's interesting to ask the question, "Why didn't God use other Christians to disciple Paul?"
- Very possibly it was because the truths regarding our identification with Christ had not been revealed to anyone at this point; it was Paul to whom God first revealed these truths.
- Later, we will see that God sent Paul to teach these truths to the other apostles.

C. The Message Received Only From Christ

Read Galatians 1:18-20.

- Paul continues proving his point that neither his apostleship nor his message was received from the other apostles.
- However, after three years, Paul did go up to visit with Peter and James and was with them for fifteen days.

Read Galatians 1:21-24.

- After spending only fifteen days with Peter, Paul then had gone into Syria.
- Paul mentions that none of the other churches in Judea knew him personally. However, they had heard of him

and praised God for his salvation, his changed life, and they rejoiced that he was preaching the gospel which was indeed from God.

D. Visiting Jerusalem Fourteen Years Later

Read Galatians 2:1-2.

- Paul is again emphasizing that he did not get his message from men.
- From the time of his conversion until seventeen years later, Paul had spent a total of fifteen days with the other apostles.
- Notice that Paul “*went up by revelation.*” God had revealed to him that he was to return to Jerusalem.
- God had given Paul a ministry to the Gentiles that He had not given to the others, as well as a message of grace the others had not yet received.
- For Paul to continue teaching what had been revealed to him but not to the others could have caused division.
- Therefore, God directed Paul to Jerusalem for the purpose of meeting with the apostles and passing on to them the message he had been given by God.

Read Galatians 2:3-5.

- The Judaizers were spreading lies that the apostles in Jerusalem agreed with their legalistic message and not with Paul’s teaching of grace.
- So Paul took this opportunity to tell the Galatians what really took place.
- Paul writes that neither he nor Titus nor any of the other apostles agreed with the Judaizers; Christians are to live life by grace through faith from start to finish.
- The teaching of a pure grace gospel had been preserved.

E. Paul's Message is of God

Read Galatians 2:6.

- Paul is again stating to the Galatians that his apostleship and message is of God and the proof is that the other apostles added nothing to his message but fully accepted it.

Read Galatians 2:7-9.

- Paul writes that not only did the other apostles not add anything to his message, but it was obvious to them that God had given Paul the ministry of reconciliation (**2 Corinthians 5:18**) to the Gentiles in a similar way as He was using James, Peter, and John to reach the Jews.
- Paul went on to say the apostles were convinced that what he was doing and preaching was from God, and therefore, were in full agreement with Paul and Barnabas' ministry among the Gentiles. However, they would continue focusing their ministry on the Jews.

Read Galatians 2:10.

- The only thing the apostles asked Paul to do was to remember the poor, for the church in Jerusalem was greatly persecuted by the unbelieving Jews and was in great need.
- Paul responded by saying he had planned to do this as well.
- Praise the Lord for preserving the grace message in the early church.
- Had the apostles sided with the Judaizers, we might all be trying to keep the law instead of walking in grace and resting in the finished work of the cross.

GALATIANS LESSON 3

A. Peter Visits Paul

- After Paul's visit with the apostles in Jerusalem, Peter made a return visit to Paul and the church at Antioch.

Read Galatians 2:11-13.

- Thinking back to the book of **Acts 9:15**, Paul was the first apostle to whom God revealed His will for Gentiles to be saved by grace as well as the Jews.
- In **Acts 10**, God also revealed this to Peter.
- Therefore, when Paul came to Jerusalem for the purpose of sharing his message with the other apostles, Peter affirmed that the Gentiles were to receive salvation by grace through faith.
- When Peter first came to Antioch, he ate and associated with the Gentile believers; but when some Jews came down to visit from Jerusalem, he stopped associating with them.
- Peter knew that as Christians, no one was required to keep the law to be accepted by God; however, these Jewish visitors were still living under the old Jewish legal system, and therefore, Peter was afraid of displeasing them. So while they were visiting, he went back to law-keeping.
- Peter was one of the main apostles and leaders in the church; many looked up to him as a godly man and as an example of how they should live their lives.
- Therefore, when Peter reverted back to the law, others did, also, including Barnabas.

B. Peter Was Not Walking in the Gospel

Read Galatians 2:14.

- Paul implies that Peter was living in hypocrisy and not walking in accordance to the gospel.
- The gospel is a clear message that man is saved by grace and sanctified by grace.
- Peter was living his life in such a way that he was communicating by his actions that a Christian could be sanctified by keeping the law, for he was conducting his life before the Jewish visitors as one who is living under the old Jewish legal system.
- Therefore, his actions contradicted the gospel.
- Not only did Peter walk contrary to the gospel, but in so doing, he was also causing those who were weaker in faith to do the same.
- Those who are not clear regarding truth and who do not know what it means to walk in the Spirit will often look to others as an example of how to live the Christian life.
- If we are walking in the flesh and under the law, then those who are looking to us as examples will do the same.
- Peter's contradiction of the gospel was seen by everyone and followed by some; therefore, to bring them all back to the truth, Paul rebuked Peter publicly (1 Timothy 5:20).

C. Man Is Not Justified By Works

Read Galatians 2:15-16.

- Paul writes that man is not justified by works of the law but rather through faith in Christ alone.
- His phrase, "*a man is not justified by the works of the law*," implies that it doesn't matter whether we are Jew

or Gentile, no man will ever be justified by keeping the law.

- The law can only show us that we are sinners. It cannot give us a right standing before God, much less the power to live a holy life (**Romans 3:20**).
- Since we were all born sinners with a sin nature (**Romans 5:12**), believers who continue trying to keep the law will ultimately fail.

D. Justification Is Only Through Christ

Read Galatians 2:17.

- Justification (salvation) is only through faith in Christ and not through the law.
- After obtaining justification by faith, it is sin to continue walking in the flesh and under the law.
- As believers continue to live under the law, the law will arouse and expose our sinfulness (**Romans 7:5**).
- It will appear as if Christ came to lead us into sin rather than deliver us from sin (**Romans 7:15**).
- For a believer to continue living under the law is to never realize all that is ours in Christ and to live a carnal life as if we were never saved.

E. In Christ, Sin Is Paid For

Read Galatians 2:18.

- In Christ the penalty for our sin has been paid; therefore, we have died to the law. In Christ the law can no longer condemn us because Christ died for all the sin that the law would otherwise condemn.
- If through unbelief we do not appropriate our identification with Christ and go back to law-keeping, then we again make ourselves to be sinners.

- Failure to see ourselves crucified, dead, and risen with Christ is to continue walking under the power of sin.
- If we walk in the flesh under the law, the law will continue to find us guilty sinners and we will never experience the deliverance that is ours in Christ.

F. Dead To the Law

Read Galatians 2:19.

- We are dead to the law (**Romans 7:4**).
- The law demands righteousness. It demands that all sin be punished and condemned (**Romans 8:1**).
- Christ as our substitute so fully fulfilled the demands of the law that now, rather than condemning us, the law must pardon us (**Romans 8:4**). In Christ the law no longer has jurisdiction over our lives.
- Therefore, it is now possible to live for God by the power of the Spirit.

Read Galatians 2:20.

- It is interesting to break this verse down.
- “*I have been crucified with Christ.*” The “I” mentioned here is the “old me” who was crucified with Christ (**Romans 6:6**).
- “[...] *it is no longer I who live.*” The “I” mentioned here is again the “old man.”
- “[...] *but Christ lives in me.*” This “me” is the “new me” (**1 Corinthians 5:18**).
- This is God’s ultimate purpose in all Christians’ lives—to reproduce the life of Christ in us (**Colossians 1:27**).
- Please note that now it is no longer I, but Christ!
- The moment we came to the saving knowledge of Christ, **1 Corinthians 1:30** tells us that we were placed into Christ. When Christ went to the cross, we went to the cross; in Him, we were crucified with Christ, and

now the Holy Spirit is molding us into the image of Christ who is our life (**1 Corinthians 3:18**).

- Finally, Paul tells us that we “*live by faith of the Son of God.*”
- As long as our bodies are alive, we live by faith in our position in Christ and all that His work has accomplished.

Read Galatians 2:21.

- This verse puts into perspective the foolish thinking that we are not only declared righteous, but also made righteous by the law.
- Paul’s point is to believe our righteousness is based on our own good works is to despise the grace of God.
- If it is possible to be declared righteous and live a righteous life by our works, then there was no reason for Christ to die—His death would not have accomplished anything.

GALATIANS LESSON 4

A. Paul Contrasts the Galatians' Faith

- Paul spent the first two chapters proving that the message he preached was really from God.
- In Chapter 3, he now reveals to the Galatians how their faith had changed since they had first come to Christ.

Read Galatians 3:1.

- In the flesh, we lose the ability to discern spiritual truth (**1 Corinthians 2:14**).
- Paul's point is that the Galatians clearly saw, understood, and were saved by the gospel of grace, but now they had been bewitched (tricked).

B. Four Questions

- Paul asks four questions to bring the Galatians back to the truth.

Read Galatians 3:2-3.

- Paul first asks, “***Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by the hearing of faith?***” The implied answer is they received the Spirit by simply believing Jesus died on the cross for their sins. It was by faith, not by works of the law.
- Therefore, Paul makes it clear that since salvation came by faith, to now believe our sanctification will be by law-keeping is foolishness.
- Paul is pointing out that we could no more live the Christian life in our own strength than we could have saved ourselves.

- Now having been saved by grace through faith, is it our flesh (the wretched evil that lives within each of us) that will make us holy and acceptable to God?
- Paul wants the Galatians to understand that we began our Christian lives by faith, and now we are to live our Christian lives by faith (**Colossians 2:6**).
- We are to stand (**1 Corinthians 16:13**) and walk (**2 Corinthians 5:17**) and live (**Galatians 2:20**) by faith. Good works will be the fruit of faith, not the means of it (**Romans 1:5**).
- As we know, understand, and believe in our co-crucifixion with Christ, we become conditionally free from the reign of the flesh and begin to walk in the Spirit.
- As we walk in the Spirit, good works will be the outflow of the Spirit's filling our lives with the life of Christ (i.e. conforming us more to the image of Christ).

Read Galatians 3:4.

- The Galatian believers may have been suffering persecution by unbelieving Jews; was it all for nothing?
- They were persecuted for their faith in Christ (**2 Timothy 3:12**).

Read Galatians 3:5.

- Before the Word of God was written, God often proved the truth of the gospel message through miracles.
- Paul asks the Galatians to consider the miracles that the Spirit had done and was doing among them: ***“Does He do it by works of the law or by the hearing of faith?”***

C. Proof

- Paul now gives proof that both justification and sanctification are by faith alone.

Read Galatians 3:6-9.

- The Judaizers were pointing to the law that God gave through Moses saying it must be kept in order to be accepted by God.
- Therefore, Paul looks back to Abraham who lived before Moses and reminds the Galatians of God's acceptance that he received through faith and not through works of the law (**Genesis 15:1-6**).
- The Judaizers taught that those who were circumcised (**Acts 15:1**) and kept the law were the true children of Abraham.
- Therefore, Paul points out that Abraham was saved through faith, and all who walk by faith are the true children of Abraham, not those who are seeking acceptance through circumcision and works.
- Paul now reveals why neither Abraham nor anyone else can be justified through the law.

Read Galatians 3:10.

- Paul clearly states that no one can be justified by the law because no one can keep the law perfectly.
- Therefore, to put ourselves under the law is to put ourselves under its curse.
- Because we can't keep it perfectly, the law must constantly condemn us.

Read Galatians 3:11-14.

- Paul writes that God has clearly shown that man is justified through faith and not by works.
- It's interesting to consider that all men are cursed by the law, for none can keep it perfectly.
- Also, God has shown that man is justified by faith and not by works. Paul goes on to say that Christ has set

us free from the curse of the law. He took all of our punishment.

- Now, it is through faith in what Christ has done on our behalf that saves and sanctifies us—not through law-keeping which only condemns.
- Notice the contrast here between law and grace.
- Law is man working for God but ending in condemnation.
- Grace is God working for man by providing our salvation and sanctification through Christ's work on our behalf.

GALATIANS

LESSON 5

A. A Reminder

- Just a reminder that false teachers had come in and were deceiving the Galatians. No longer were they believing in a pure grace message but were mixing the keeping of the law with the grace of God.
- In the last lesson, Paul pointed out that Abraham was justified and accepted by God through faith before he was ever commanded to take up circumcision or before the law was even given to Israel.
- Now Paul gives more proof as to why the law has nothing to do with God's acceptance of us.

Read Galatians 3:15-16.

- During the time that Paul wrote this letter to the Galatians, the law said that if two people made a formal agreement or promise about a certain issue, once the covenant was made it could not be changed.
- Likewise, Paul writes, if the covenants between men are this binding, how much more would be the promises of God?
- For God did indeed promise to Abraham that through his seed (Christ) all nations would be blessed; through Christ alone salvation would be available to all.

B. God's Promise

Read Galatians 3:17-18.

- God promised to Abraham that through his seed, all nations would be blessed; and then 430 years later, God gave the law through Moses.

- Paul is stating that just because God gave the law does not mean that God's promise was canceled or done away with.
- The law is a contractual agreement between two parties. In order for the agreement to take place, both parties have to keep their part.
- Therefore, in order for man to be justified by the law, he must not break it. But all men have broken the law, and therefore they cannot be justified through keeping the law, for man has failed to keep his part under the law.
- But salvation by faith in God's promise is different. It is based solely on the faithfulness of the One Who made the promise—God.
- Therefore, because God can never fail, His promises will always remain, and our receiving of the benefits is not based on our faithfulness but on God's.
- Here in Chapter 3, Paul is teaching that it is not the keeping of the law that enables believers to receive the Holy Spirit, experience the miracles of God, or be accepted as righteous before God.
- He also has shown that the law can only condemn those who try and keep it. He makes it clear that God's promise of justification by faith to Abraham still stands. It was not canceled out by the giving of the law.
- Paul now answers the logical question, “*What purpose then does the law serve?*”

Read Galatians 3:19.

- If someone promises something we really don't want or need, how important is that promise to us? Not very important.
- That's how God's promise of salvation by faith has been to the world.

- Man is a sinner and is so spiritually blind that he does not know he is a sinner and has need of a savior.
- This is why God gave the law; without the law, man is unaware of his sinfulness.
- God gave a law that man has been unable to keep, thereby causing him to realize his need of a savior.
- Paul reveals that the law was given only until Christ came. Christ fulfilled the law on our behalf, thereby freeing us from its curse because of our inability to keep it.

C. We Don't Need a Mediator

Read Galatians 3:20.

- Paul is showing the difference between the law and God's promise.
- With the law, there was a mediator between God and man (Moses), and both sides had to keep their part of the agreement.
- But with God's promise of salvation by faith, there is only one side that needs to be upheld—God's promise. There is no need for a mediator.

Read Galatians 3:21.

- The law is not contrary to the promises of God because God did not give the law to make men righteous.
- The law was given to show men they are unrighteous and need God's promises.
- Therefore, the law compliments and reveals the need for God's grace; it does not contradict.

Read Galatians 3:22.

- The law was not given as a means to life and righteousness but as a means to death—to show us our present state of separation from God for the purpose of turning us to Christ through whom we may receive eternal life and holiness.

GALATIANS LESSON 6

A. No Longer Under the Law

Read Galatians 3:23-25.

- Paul continues showing God's use of the law in the lives of the Israelites.
- The phrase "*before faith came*" refers to Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.
- Before Jesus came, died for our sins, and was resurrected, the Jews were under the law.
- God's purpose for the law was to reveal man's sinfulness so that he would be brought to Christ by grace through faith.
- Now, Paul states, since Christ has already come and paid for man's sins, there is no longer a need for that which was to point him to Christ.
- The phrase "*the law was our tutor*" refers to God using the law to teach man that he was a sinner.
- God gave the law in order to prepare man to hear and believe the gospel.

Read Galatians 3:26.

- Remember, the Judaizers were trying to put the Gentiles under the law.
- Paul tells the Galatians in verses 23-25 that originally God gave the law to the Jews in order to show them their need for Christ; but now since Christ has come, there is no longer any need for the law.
- In verse 26, Paul states that the Galatian Christians, being Gentiles, have also become the adult children of God through faith in Christ, who also are no under the law.

Read Galatians 3:27-28.

- The moment we believe that Christ's death on the cross paid for our sins, the Holy Spirit places us into Christ and we become joint heirs with Jesus (**Romans 8:17**). Everything that He is and everything that He has is ours.
- Therefore, His relationship to the law has become our relationship to the law.
- Christ has fulfilled the law and is at the right hand of God; He is not under the law.
- Paul goes on to say that the same is true for all believers. We are all in Christ and free from the law regardless of our nationality, social status, or gender.

Read Galatians 3:29.

- God promised Abraham that through his seed (a reference to Jesus Christ), salvation would come to the world. Abraham believed God's promise and was justified, declared righteous (**Genesis 15:6**).
- All those who, like Abraham, place their faith and trust in Abraham's seed will also be declared righteous, just as Abraham.
- Keep in mind that all the earthly blessings God promised to Abraham were only for Israel; those are not our inheritance. However, spiritual blessings are ours in Christ.
- It's interesting to consider that God told Abraham the Deliverer would be his seed. As we saw in verse 27, at salvation we are placed into Christ and thereby become Abraham's seed, just as Christ was Abraham's seed.

B. Children of God

Read Galatians 4:1-2.

- In Paul's day in rich families, the father would choose one of his slaves to teach his children.
- At a designated time, that child would no longer be under the "slave-teacher," but would become an adult-child in his father's home and begin to carry adult-like responsibilities.
- While the child was under the authority of his "slave-teacher," he really was not much different from the other slaves, for he, too, was told what he could and could not do.

Read Galatians 4:3-5.

- When God determined that it was time, He sent His Son to be born as a Jew under the law to deliver all who were under the curse of the law in order that we all might be made the sons of God.
- Paul wanted the Galatians to realize they had received something much greater than living under the law; as believers, they had been made the adult children of God.

Read Galatians 4:6-7.

- Paul goes on to say because we have now been made the children of God, He has sent His Holy Spirit to indwell us. It is the Holy Spirit who testifies to our hearts and gives us the confidence to call God our Father (**Romans 8:16**).
- Because we are no longer servants and are now God's children, we are therefore heirs of God through Jesus Christ (**Romans 8:17**).
- In Christ, man has been raised above the law; it is foolish to place ourselves back under it.

GALATIANS

LESSON 7

A. No Longer Slaves

Read Galatians 4:7-11.

- Paul reminds the Galatians they are no longer slaves, for they have been made the children of God.
- Paul then asks, “*When you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. But now that you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage?*”
- The Galatians had turned from their freedom in Christ and what He had accomplished on their behalf and had placed themselves back under the law by observing special days of worship, just like the Jews in the Old Testament, hoping that it would make them acceptable to God.
- Paul said their actions caused him to wonder if he had labored in vain, as they were drifting from the truth he had taught them.

Read Galatians 4:12.

- In this letter to the Galatian believers, Paul was writing to Gentiles who were never under the old Jewish legal system but who were now placing themselves under it.
- On the other hand, Paul was a Jew who had been under the bondage of the law but now was free in Christ.
- Therefore, Paul writes, “*I urge you to become like me* (free from the law), *for I became like you* (Gentiles who were never under it).”

B. Walking In the Flesh

Read Galatians 4:13-16.

- Paul reminds these Galatian believers of how they had originally received him when he first came with the gospel.
- Paul reminds them that even though he had been sickly and somewhat of a physical burden to them, they did not reject him, but received him as an angel, and considered themselves to be truly blessed by his presence and teaching.
- Paul said they received him and loved him so much that if it were possible, they would have “*plucked out [their] own eyes and given them to me.*”
- However, now their attitude toward him had changed.
- This is a great example of what the flesh will do in our churches.
- In the beginning the Galatians were excited about the gospel and the grace of God that had saved them.
- Now they were walking in the flesh, unable to discern truth, and had turned away from the grace of God to the law and no longer considered Paul to be their great friend (**Ephesians 4:17-18**).
- The flesh will have the same affect in our lives if we walk in the vanity of our minds. It will also turn us from grace and put us back under the law, for it is seeking self-exaltation, with no thought or desire to exalt Christ.

C. False Teachers Only Exalt Themselves

Read Galatians 4:17-18.

- Paul writes that the false teachers were working hard to have an effect in the lives of the Galatians, but it is not a good result.

- Their effect on the Galatians was not for their spiritual wellbeing and their true purpose was to exalt themselves.
- Paul said it was good to be greatly affected but only if it was by truth.
- As teachers of the Word, if we are walking in the flesh our teaching will not be according to truth and our purpose will be to exalt ourselves; however, if the Spirit is leading, Christ will be exalted and we will be led into truth (**John 16:13-14**).

Read Galatians 4:19-20.

- Here Paul expresses the great love and concern he had for the Galatian believers.
- Just as it is physically painful for a woman to bring a child into the world, Paul said it was spiritually painful for him to watch the Galatians struggle and be led astray by false teaching.
- He strongly desired to be with them personally and to see them come back to truth and be molded into the image of Christ.
- In the Spirit, we will have great concern for the spiritual condition of our brothers and sisters in Christ, but in the flesh our concern will be for ourselves.
- In the Spirit, we will long to see the Holy Spirit reproducing the life of Christ in others; but in the flesh, deep down in our hearts, we really hope they fail so that we look better.

D. We Are Acceptable Through Christ

Read Galatians 4:21-28.

- Paul is asking, “*You who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law?*”

- Originally, God promised Abraham that through his line the Deliverer would come and be a blessing to all nations.
- Abraham tried to bring about God's promise through his own effort when he had a child with Hagar. Abraham tried to do God's work in man's way.
- However, God did not accept Abraham's help to bring about the promise and rejected Ishmael as the son through which the Deliverer would come. (Note **Genesis 22:2**—God refers to Isaac as Abraham's only son. He did not recognize Ishmael, the son of the flesh.)
- God then miraculously brought about His promise in His own power by causing old Sarah to give birth to Isaac.
- Just as God did not accept Abraham's self-effort to fulfill God's promise, it is not our self-effort to keep the law that is pleasing to God, but it is what He has done through His Son on our behalf that makes us acceptable.

Read Galatians 4:29.

- “*He who was born according to the flesh*” refers to Ishmael and “[*he*] who was born according to the *Spirit*” refers to Isaac.
- Just as Ishmael was jealous and persecuted Isaac, so now, during the time of Paul, the Jews who were under the law were persecuting the early Church.
- We have seen clearly through the book of Acts that during the time of the early Church it was those who claimed to keep the law who persecuted Paul and the Christians (**2 Timothy 3:12**).
- So, it is today. Those who are endeavoring to live out the Christian life in their own strength are rejecting and fighting against the message of grace.

Read Galatians 4:30-31.

- God told Abraham to cast out Hagar and her son, for His promises regarding the Deliverer would not come through her son but would come through the one that He had promised.
- God desires that we also cast out our endeavoring to earn God's acceptance through the keeping of the law.
- Our inheritance comes through the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- As children of God, we are free to receive the benefits of God's promise that He miraculously brought about by His grace through the Lord Jesus Christ.
- God does not expect us to receive our inheritance through man's futile efforts to keep that which should be cast away.

GALATIANS

LESSON 8

A. Stand Firm

Read Galatians 5:1.

- In Chapter 4, Paul explained that as children of God, we have been freely born into His family by His grace and have been set free from the law and our works.
- Therefore, Paul writes, since we have been liberated from the bondage of the law, why go back to it; instead stand firm by faith in the freedom which we have already received.
- In the Old Testament after the Israelites were delivered from Egypt, they did not have food or water and they wanted to return to slavery in Egypt.
- For a believer who has been set free in Christ and accepted by God, it would be extremely foolish to return to living under the law and attempting to please God by human effort.

Read Galatians 5:2-4.

- To trust in our ability to keep the law in order to obtain eternal life and gain God's acceptance is to believe that Christ's death on the cross is of no benefit to us.
- Paul clearly states that those who are depending upon circumcision or any other work of the law to be made acceptable to God need to realize they are placing themselves under the whole law.
- In order to be acceptable to God, one must keep the entire Jewish legal system.
- By only keeping part of the law is to break the law. If we have broken any part of the law, then the law condemns us.

- Therefore, it is impossible for man to be justified through keeping the law (**Romans 3:20; Galatians 2:16**).
- Paul then writes that anyone who is seeking to be justified by the law has fallen from God's grace. God's grace will have no effect on our lives.

Read Galatians 5:5-6.

- As we walk by faith, trusting, resting, and depending on the Lord, the Spirit will conform us more to the image of Christ and will thereby enable us to live holy and righteous lives that are in accordance with our new position in Him.
- In Christ, circumcision and keeping the law is of no importance. Only faith in all that Christ's finished work entails, both as our substitute and as our life, is important.
- Doing good things does not make us holy and righteous.
- However, as we walk in the Spirit by faith in Christ's finished work, we will be molded into the image of Christ and live holy and righteous lives. Good works will be a by-product of the Christ-life.

Read Galatians 5:7-8.

- Paul writes that the Galatians had started well—they originally had been saved by faith in Christ's death for them, knowing they could not save themselves.
- But Paul asked who turned them from the truth? Who turned them from resting in what Christ did on their behalf to trusting in their own ability to keep the law?
- Law-keeping in order to please God is not from God.
- God, Who called and saved us, has not given us this teaching, for this teaching is contrary to the truth of God's grace (**1 Thessalonians 5:24**).

- Once we begin walking in the flesh, we turn from God's grace and become focused on ourselves and our ability to keep the law.

B. False Teaching Spreads

Read Galatians 5:9.

- **John 3:6** tells us, "*That which is born of the flesh is flesh.*"
- Once the Galatians placed themselves under the law, they were in danger of having that false teaching spread throughout all the churches in Galatia. The only thing the flesh will ever produce is more of the same.

Read Galatians 5:10.

- Paul's confidence was in God and not in himself. He believed that because God is faithful, He would bring the Galatians back to the truth and would take care of those who were leading them astray.
- We cannot force anyone to do or believe anything; but as we walk in the Spirit, we will be able to keep pointing people to the truth, all the while trusting God to reveal it to them.

Read Galatians 5:11.

- It would appear the false teachers lied about Paul and said that he, too, had begun to preach the law.
- Paul said that if it was so, why did they still persecute him? It was because of the cross that they were persecuting them.
- If he had ceased preaching the cross, there would no longer be a conflict.
- Today, the cross is still the cause of conflict in the Church. The cross is not only where Christ died for

man, but also where man died with Christ (**Romans 6:6; Galatians 2:20**). This teaching causes great conflict in the church because it teaches the sovereignty of God rather than the sovereignty of man.

Read Galatians 5:12.

- The context has been circumcision and living under the law.
- It appears Paul was being sarcastic by saying, “If those guys think that circumcision is so important, then why don’t they mutilate themselves like the priests of other religions do in order to please their gods?”

GALATIANS

LESSON 9

A. Called To Liberty

Read Galatians 5:13-14.

- The Christian life boils down to one of two things: either we walk in the flesh or in the Spirit.
- Paul has spent almost five chapters making it clear to the Galatians that they are not under the law and they should not live as if they are.
- Now Paul writes that they have been called unto liberty/freedom; however, they are not to use their liberty as license to live in the flesh.
- There are two basic misconceptions regarding God's grace that many people have.
- The first is to think that grace teaching says it's ok to live any way we want; Paul is addressing this misconception in this verse.
- The second mistake people make is to think that grace teaching makes for lazy Christians. Paul, the original grace teacher, makes this statement in **1 Corinthians 15:10**: *"I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."*
- It's interesting to ponder Paul's statement here that "through love, Christians are to serve one another."
- Putting all of this into perspective, Paul is saying the grace of God will give us the power and desire to love and serve one another rather than live for selfish unproductive lives.

B. The Works of the Flesh

Read Galatians 5:15.

- Any believer who is living under the law is walking in the flesh, and the deeds of the flesh are envy, strife, jealousy, anger, and divisions.
- Therefore, Paul is saying if we continue trying to keep the law in the power of the flesh, all we can expect are these deeds of the flesh.
- The end result will not be unity but discouragement, bitterness, and division.

Read Galatians 5:16.

- Paul clearly states those who walk in the Spirit will not carry out the desires of the flesh.
- This is a verse upon which the practical Christian life is based.

Read Galatians 5:17.

- Paul reveals the battle which is constantly taking place within each born again believer: “*The flesh lusts against the Spirit*” (**Romans 7:23**).
- The question is, “What are they fighting over?”
- They are fighting over the soul (mind, will, emotions). If the flesh is influencing my mind, will, and emotions, then it will control my body, my behavior (where I go, what I look at, what I listen to, what I say, etc.). However, the opposite is true when the Spirit is influencing my soul.
- Keep in mind that just as it is impossible to fulfill the lust of the flesh while walking in the Spirit, so it is impossible to manifest the fruit of the Spirit while walking in the flesh.
- So the battle is on, but the good news is that the battle is not ours, it’s God’s. Our part is to believe that the flesh has been positionally crucified; as we by faith rest in the truth of **Romans 6:6**, the Holy Spirit will hold

the flesh in the place of death and the Spirit will gain influence and control over our lives.

Read Galatians 5:18.

- When we, by faith, rest in our co-crucifixion with Christ and the Holy Spirit gains influence over our soul (mind, will, and emotions), we will find ourselves walking free from any desire to live under the law.
- When we walk in the flesh, we will continue to live under the law and the end result will be self-condemnation. No man can keep the whole law.

Read Galatians 5:19-21.

- Animals don't think about how to act; they just act according to their nature.
- It is the same with our flesh, and here Paul lists the works of our flesh.
- The flesh's main purpose and motivation is to protect itself, glorify itself, exalt itself, please itself, etc.
- If we closely look at each of these manifestations of the flesh, we can trace every one of them back to its motivation of self-preservation."
- In the flesh, even the things we do that look holy and spiritual are really motivated by some form of self-preservation or self-glorification and are thereby unacceptable to God.

Read Galatians 5:22-23.

- So the flesh acts according to its nature, and likewise, the Spirit according to its nature (**Romans 8:5**).
- It's interesting that many think Paul is listing the things we should try to do and what we need to work and pray diligently for.

- However, Paul is merely stating a fact; whichever one (flesh or Spirit) is the source of our life, our actions will be accordingly.
- When we walk in the flesh, it controls our soul (mind, will, emotions) and body (behavior) and will carry out the deeds of the flesh.
- But as we walk by faith in the Spirit, He will control our soul and body and cause the fruit of the Spirit to be manifested in our lives.

Read Galatians 5:24-26.

- “*Those who are Christ’s*” refers not only to salvation, but to spiritual Christians who are walking by faith in their co-crucifixion with Christ, and the Spirit is drawing their souls (mind, will, and emotions) to Christ. They are captivated with Christ, occupied with Christ, abiding in Christ, and looking unto Jesus.
- As we, by faith, live in this truth and all that it entails, we become conditionally free from the reign of our “*flesh with its passions and desires*” and begin to walk in the Spirit, no longer becoming “*conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.*”
- Those who are captivated with Christ are living in the truth that they are dead to the affections and lusts of the flesh.

GALATIANS

LESSON 10

A. How Christians Should Be Living

- In the last chapter of Galatians, we notice Paul is giving some instructions for Christian living.
- It is important to keep in mind all that we have studied in the first five chapters.
- Basically, the Christian life boils down to either walking in the flesh or in the Spirit.
- In the flesh, our lives will manifest the deeds of the flesh; however, in the Spirit, the fruit of the spirit will be manifested and it will be possible to live out what we are about to study in Chapter 6.
- In studying the book of Galatians, many people get confused and miss the truth of Galatians Chapter 5, skipping to the instruction of Chapter 6. They attempt to live it out the Christian conduct of Chapter 6 in the power of their own flesh, which will result in discouragement, disappointment, and guilt.
- It is impossible to live the Christian life Paul lays out in Chapter 6 in the power of the flesh.

Read Galatians 6:1.

- Paul previously wrote that if we were to walk in the Spirit, we would in no way fulfill the lust of the flesh.
- However, this is a life-long process; along the way in the process, we will find ourselves in the flesh and sin will result. So, Paul tells us how it is to be dealt with.
- When we or another brother is walking in sin, Paul writes that those who are walking in the Spirit should restore such a one to walking in the Spirit.
- In other words, those who the Holy Spirit is leading should go to those in the church who the flesh is leading and point them to the truth regarding the source

of their sin, the flesh, and their need to appropriate Romans 6 and their co-crucifixion with Christ.

- As they appropriate this truth by faith, they will become free from the reign of their flesh and go on walking in the Spirit.

Read Galatians 6:2.

- This is only possible as we walk in the Spirit. For in the flesh, we only care for ourselves, which will result in judging and criticizing the brethren rather than bearing their burdens.
- But in the Spirit, the true love of God will be experienced by us and manifested through us, which will enable us to care for those who are struggling and desire to see them restored.

Read Galatians 6:3.

- This is life in the flesh. We compare ourselves against ourselves and begin to think rather highly of ourselves; all the while we are deceiving ourselves.
- In **Romans 7:18**, Paul tells us “*For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells.*”
- As we begin to clearly understand there is no good in man apart from God, God’s grace will give us a right perspective on others: “*From now on, we regard no one according to the flesh*” (2 Corinthians 5:16).
- Paul is saying that every person who walks in the flesh will become inflated with self-importance and therefore is walking in deception.

Read Galatians 6:4.

- As we walk in the Spirit by faith, the life of Christ will be lived out through us, thereby showing forth the work that the Spirit is doing in our lives.

- As we see the life of Christ is being lived out in and through us, we have reason to rejoice—not because we have accomplished anything but because He has done it all.
- Our rejoicing then will be in the work He is doing in us rather than as a result of our flesh comparing our good deeds with the lives of others.

Read Galatians 6:5.

- Walking in the flesh is miserable and will make for a discouraged and disappointing life as well as a hard and stressful life which will eventually become burdensome.
- But God has provided everything we need in order to live a godly and righteous life (**2 Peter 1:3; 1 Thessalonians 5:24**).

Read Galatians 6:6-8.

- Once again, Paul mentions walking in the Spirit or walking in the flesh.
- A man in the Spirit will be encouraged by the truth he is receiving from others; and out of thankfulness to God, there will be a desire to give back to those whom God is using to teach him.
- But a man in the flesh is only thinking about himself and his earthly temporal life. He won't care about the truth others are teaching him and will have no desire to help them in any way.
- Paul goes on to warn the Galatians not to be deceived, for God won't be tricked; all believers who walk in the flesh will reap a fleshly harvest that will have no eternal value.
- Those who walk in the Spirit will receive a spiritual harvest that will last for eternity.

B. Do Good To All Men

Read Galatians 6:9-10.

- In the flesh, our motive for doing good will be selfish.
- However, in the Spirit, our motive will be the love of Christ flowing through us. This is part of the fruit of the Spirit and will thereby be manifested naturally as we walk in the Spirit.
- We may not always immediately see the outcome from our love-motivated well-doing, but Paul said rest assured—as we continue to walk in the Spirit and do good, the day will come when we will see God using our well doing to build up His Church.
- Therefore, in the Spirit, we will look for opportunities to do good to all men, especially to those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ, and God will use it for our good, His glory, and the benefit of others.

Read Galatians 6:11-13.

- As Paul gives his closing remarks, he again refers to the false teachers he had mentioned earlier in the letter.
- He said the reason these false teachers were emphasizing circumcision was because they wanted to please the Jews who were persecuting the Church.
- He also mentioned that the false teachers didn't keep the law themselves, but they wanted the Galatians to become circumcised so they could be credited for convincing the Gentiles to become circumcised.

Read Galatians 6:14-15.

- The false teachers and other Jews endeavored to keep the law in order to gain praise and approval from God and man.

- Paul writes that he himself did not boast in anything except the cross of Christ—the work that Jesus did on our behalf on the cross.
- He went on to say it was through our co-crucifixion with Christ that we are crucified to the world and the world is crucified unto us.
- This means we have no desire for the world and the world has no power over us.
- The work of Christ on the cross accomplished everything we need for life and godliness (**2 Peter 1:3**).
- In dying as our substitute, Christ delivered us from the penalty of sin; we were also identified with Him in His death, burial, and resurrection and have been made free from the power of sin and the reign of the flesh.
- Paul concludes by saying that in Christ, we are a new creation (**2 Corinthians 5:17**), and neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value regarding either our eternal destination or living the Christian life.

Read Galatians 6:16.

- Only those who are trusting and resting upon Christ's work for their salvation and sanctification can experience the peace and mercy of God.
- To rest in anything else is to be under the law and no man can find peace or mercy under the law. The law produces frustration, guilt, and self-condemnation.

Read Galatians 6:17-18.

- The false teachers and Jews glorified in the mark of circumcision because they thought that it helped to make them acceptable to God. But Paul states that in his body he bore the marks of the Lord Jesus—the marks from being stoned and beaten for his faith in Christ.



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