

Paul, an apostle—not from men or by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised him from the dead—and all the brothers who are with me:

To the churches of Galatia.

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

No Other Gospel

\* I am amazed that you are so quickly turning away from him who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—<sup>2</sup> not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are troubling you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. <sup>3</sup> But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, a curse be on him! <sup>4</sup> As we have said before, I now say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, a curse be on him!

<sup>5</sup> For am I now trying to persuade people, or God? Or am I striving to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

# SET FREE



The Origin of Paul's Gospel

<sup>10</sup> For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel preached by me is not of human origin. <sup>11</sup> For I did not receive it from a human source and I was not taught it, but it came by a revelation of Jesus Christ.

<sup>12</sup> For you have heard about my former way of life in Judaism; I intensely persecuted God's church and tried to destroy it. <sup>13</sup> I advanced in Judaism beyond many contemporaries among my people, because I was extremely zealous for the traditions of my ancestors. <sup>14</sup> But when God, who from my mother's womb set me apart and called me by his grace, was pleased <sup>15</sup> to reveal his Son in me, so that I could preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone. <sup>16</sup> I did not go up to Jerusalem to those who had become apostles before me; instead I went to Arabia and came back to Damascus.

<sup>17</sup> Then after three years I did go up to Jerusalem to get to know Cephas, and I stayed with him fifteen days. <sup>18</sup> But I didn't see any of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother. <sup>19</sup> I declare in the sight of God: I am not lying in what I write to you.

<sup>20</sup> Afterward I went to the regions of Syria and Cilicia. <sup>21</sup> I remained personally unknown to the Jewish churches that are in Christ. <sup>22</sup> They simply kept hearing, "He who formerly persecuted us now preaches the faith he once tried to destroy." <sup>23</sup> And they glorified God because of me.

FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM | PASTOR STEVE STEELE | APRIL 26TH, 2026



## Fighting with a \_\_\_\_\_.

“ Then fourteen years later I went back to Jerusalem again, this time with Barnabas; and Titus came along, too. I went there because God revealed to me that I should go. While I was there I met privately with those considered to be leaders of the church and shared with them the message I had been preaching to the Gentiles. I wanted to make sure that we were in agreement, for fear that all my efforts had been wasted and I was running the race for nothing. And they supported me and did not even demand that my companion Titus be circumcised, though he was a Gentile.”

~ GALATIANS 2:1-3 (NLT)

“ When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, but they were all afraid of him. They did not believe he had truly become a believer! Then Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus and how the Lord had spoken to Saul. He also told them that Saul had preached boldly in the name of Jesus in Damascus.”

~ ACTS 9:26-27 (NLT)

“ I am writing to Titus, my true son in the faith that we share.”

~ TITUS 1:4a (NLT)

## Fighting against \_\_\_\_\_.

“ Even that question came up only because of some so-called believers there – false ones, really – who were secretly brought in. They sneaked in to spy on us and take away the freedom we have in Christ Jesus. They wanted to enslave us and force us to follow their Jewish regulations. But we refused to give in to them for a single moment. We wanted to preserve the truth of the gospel message for you.”

~ GALATIANS 2:4-5 (NLT)

“ While Paul and Barnabas were at Antioch of Syria, some men from Judea arrived and began to teach the believers: ‘Unless you are circumcised as required by the law of Moses, you cannot be saved.’ Paul and Barnabas disagreed with them, arguing vehemently. Finally, the church decided to send Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem, accompanied by some local believers, to talk to the apostles and elders about this question.”

~ ACTS 15:1-2 (NLT)

“ Then God said to Abraham, ‘Your responsibility is to obey the terms of the covenant. You and all your descendants have this continual responsibility. This is the covenant that you and your descendants must keep: Each male among you must be circumcised. You must cut off the flesh of your foreskin as a sign of the covenant between me and you.’ ”

~ GENESIS 17:9-11 (NLT)

## Fighting for \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

“ In fact, James, Peter, and John, who were known as pillars of the church, recognized the gift God had given me, and they accepted Barnabas and me as their co-workers. They encouraged us to keep preaching to the Gentiles, while they continued their work with the Jews. Their only suggestion was that we keep on helping the poor, which I have always been eager to do.”

~ GALATIANS 2:9-10 (NLT)

## Fighting \_\_\_\_\_.

“ But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong. When he first arrived, he ate with the Gentile believers, who were not circumcised. But afterward, when some friends of James came, Peter wouldn't eat with the Gentiles anymore. He was afraid of criticism from these people who insisted on the necessity of circumcision. As a result, other Jewish believers followed Peter's hypocrisy, and even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

~ GALATIANS 2:11-13 (NLT)

\_\_\_\_\_ leads to \_\_\_\_\_.

“ When I saw that they were not following the truth of the gospel message, I said to Peter in front of all the others, 'Since you, a Jew by birth, have discarded the Jewish laws and are living like a Gentile, why are you now trying to make these Gentiles follow the Jewish traditions?'

'You and I are Jews by birth, not 'sinners' like the Gentiles. Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.'

~ GALATIANS 2:14-16 (NLT)

“ But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good.”

~ ROMANS 7:12 (NLT)

## Fighting for \_\_\_\_\_.

“ For when I tried to keep the law, it condemned me. So I died to the law - I stopped trying to meet all its requirements - so that I might live for God. My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.”

~ GALATIANS 2:19-21 (NLT)

The law says \_\_\_\_\_! Grace says \_\_\_\_\_!

“ And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.”

~ ROMANS 11:6 (NIV)

## SO WHAT?

“ And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.”

~ GALATIANS 2:16b (NLT)

The fight goes on...

What is worth \_\_\_\_\_?

Who will you \_\_\_\_\_?

## DISCUSSION Questions:

COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS  
available on the APP |    

- 1- What is your favorite epic war movie and why?
- 2- When you are deciding if you are going to get into a fight with someone about something, how do you decide to fight or let it go? Give an example of a time you just had to fight, or you decided to let it go.
- 3- Barnabas means "Son of encouragement". Who has been an encouragement to you in your spiritual journey?
- 4- Read Galatians 2:4-5. Who are some people who either are or at one time have worked against your spiritual growth? How did you respond to that?

- 5- Re-read Galatians 2:19-21. What does it mean for you to have your "old self crucified with Christ"? What does it mean for you to have "Christ live in me"?
- 6- What are some legalistic things that you struggle with letting go of? (or you tend to judge others about.)
- 7- The fight goes on, share who you will fight with (alongside) and what you will fight for when it comes to your faith?

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