

Which Gospel is Correct: Grace or Legalism?

Lesson 1: An Overview of Galatians
Student Handout -- Sunday, Jan. 28 '07

Introduction:

Transition Question:

What was going on among the churches in the region of Galatia in Asia Minor, such that the Apostle Paul needed to write them a corrective letter?

Initial Background of Paul's Life (Map #1)

Map of Saul's first Missionary Journey (Map #2)

Let's read: Acts 15:1-31

What's the Problem in the Church @ Antioch (Map #3)?

1. men from _____ had come to the church @ Antioch and began to teach a _____ gospel (Map #3):
2. Paul and Barnabas disagree with these men and _____ them to show they are wrong (Acts 15:2)
3. The church decides that Paul and Barnabas should go down to _____ to ask the apostles and elders and the primary church what their opinion is. (Acts 15:2)

4. Some Christians who had been from the sect of the _____ stated "it is necessary to circumcise them and direct them to observe the Law of Moses" (5)
6. After much debate, Peter said "Gentiles became believers thru the gospel he had preached (at Pentecost) and God made no distinction between them. Their _____ were cleansed by faith. (10-11)
7. Paul and Barnabas share examples of God doing great signs and wonders among the _____ (12)
8. _____ -- the brother of Jesus and leader of the church in Jerusalem -- reminds the leaders that the _____ had prophesied that God would take a people for Himself from among the Gentiles (13-18)
9. Gentiles shouldn't be troubled with the Law of _____ (19)
 - a. abstain from things contaminated by _____ (20)
 - b. abstain from _____ (20)
 - c. abstain from _____ what is strangled & from blood (20)
10. The leaders of the church @ Jerusalem decided to write a _____ to the church in Antioch and send 2 godly men (Judas & Silas) to verify the contents of the letter. (23-29)
11. The church at Antioch was _____ with the decision of the leaders from Jerusalem and _____. (30-1)

Question:

Why Did Paul write his letter to the Churches in Galatia?

1. About 6-8 years later, Paul now has to confront the congregation members for their quick:
 - a. _____ of the gospel of grace that Paul initially taught them
 - b. adoption of the same false gospel of _____ proposed by the Judaizers (Galatians 1:6-9)

2. Paul let's the Galatians know that if they choose to keep the Law in order to earn salvation, they _____ the gospel. (Galatians 2:21)
3. Paul also let's the Galatians know that you don't live the Christian life by keeping the Law through _____ power, but by the _____ alone. (Galatians 3:2-3, 5:16-18)
4. The goal of the Judaizers is:
 - a. their _____ praise for seeing others keeping the Law, instead of God receiving praise for the miracle of His grace
 - b. not being persecuted by their fellow Jews for preaching the _____ . (Galatians 6:12-14)

Personal Challenge Questions:

1. Which gospel to you believe in and live out: the gospel of grace or the gospel of works preached by the Judaizers?
 - a. Complete the "Buckle It In" exercise on page 7 of Lesson 1 to help you evaluate what you believe and live.
2. Do others see the gospel of grace in your everyday life?
 - a. complete the "On the Street" exercise on page 7 to help you evaluate the "fruit of grace" in your life.