

called to be
FREE
A STUDY OF GALATIANS

**“You my brothers and sisters
are called to be free”**

Galatians 5:13

Sundays at 10:00am

CAUTION:
THIS STUDY
MAY BE
HAZARDOUS
TO YOUR
IDEA OF
CHRISTIAN
LIVING







“This Ryan better be worth it, he better do something important with his life, he better become a doctor and cure some disease or invent a longer-lasting light bulb or something.”

As early as preschool and kindergarten we are tested and evaluated before being slotted into “advanced, normal, or slow academic track.” From then on we receive grades denoting our performance in math, science, reading and even social skills and citizenship. Test papers come back with errors in red, not correct answers highlighted. All this helps prepare us for the real world with its relentless ranking.

-Philipp Yancy

¹ Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ² and all the brothers who are with me, To the churches of Galatia: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. ¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ. Galatians 1:1-10



AMERICA DECLARES WAR ON JAPAN

“Whereas the Imperial Government of Japan has committed unprovoked acts of war against the Government and the people of the United States of America: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, that the state of war between the United States and the Imperial Government of Japan which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared; and the President is hereby authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial Government of Japan; and, to bring the conflict to a successful termination, all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.”

Paul's Authority



Paul's Authority ~ His Position

¹ Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ² and all the brothers who are with me,

Paul's Authority – His Position

¹ **Paul, an apostle**—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ² and all the brothers who are with me,

¹⁴ And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and have authority to cast out demons. Mark 3:14-15

Paul's Authority – His Position

¹ **Paul, an apostle**—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ² and all the brothers who are with me,

¹⁶ He appointed the twelve: **Simon** (to whom he gave the name Peter); ¹⁷ **James** the son of Zebedee and **John** the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); ¹⁸ **Andrew**, and **Philip**, and **Bartholomew**, and **Matthew**, and **Thomas**, and **James** the son of Alphaeus, and **Thaddaeus**, and **Simon** the Zealot, ¹⁹ and **Judas Iscariot**, who betrayed him. Mark 3:16-19

Paul's Authority – His Position

¹ **Paul, an apostle**—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ² and all the brothers who are with me,

²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on **Matthias**, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles. Acts 1:26

Paul's Authority ~ His Position

¹ Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—² and all the brothers who are with me,

Paul's Authority – His Position

¹ Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— ² and all the brothers who are with me,

³ Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴ And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” ⁵ And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

Acts 9:3-6

Paul's Authority – His Position

¹ *Paul, an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—² and all the brothers who are with me,*

¹⁵ *But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.” Acts 9:15*

Paul's Authority ~ His Passion



Paul's Authority ~ His Passion

*¹³ You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, ¹⁴ and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus.
Galatians 4:13-14*



Acts 13 & 14

Pauls 1st Missionary Journey

Paul's Authority ~ His Preaching



Paul's Authority ~ His Preaching

³ *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,*

Paul's Authority ~ His Preaching

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

Paul's Authority – His Preaching

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

“on behalf of” – “in place of”

Paul's Authority ~ His Preaching

³ *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from every law of sin and death according to the will*

“Other religions are about what we can do to save ourselves while Christianity is about what Christ has done to save us.”

Paul's Authority ~ His Preaching

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

Paul's Authority ~ His Preaching

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ **to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Paul's Anxieties (Concerns)



Paul's Anxieties (Concerns)

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:3

Paul's Anxieties (Concerns)

³ We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people— Colossians 1:3-4

Paul's Anxieties (Concerns)

⁴ I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— 1 Corinthians 1:4-5

Paul's Anxieties (Concerns)

⁶ *I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.*

Paul's Anxieties (Concerns)

*⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another one, **but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.***

Paul's Anxieties (Concerns)

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.

Galatians 2:16

Paul's Adversaries



Paul's Adversaries

⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

Paul's Adversaries

⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

- Centered on the person of the “*Lord Jesus Christ*”
- Centered on the work of Jesus Christ, “*who gave himself for our sins*”,
- Centered on the will of the Father, “*according to the will of our God and Father*”

Paul's Adversaries

*⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, **let him be accursed.***

Paul's Adversaries

¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Paul's Adversaries

¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Galatians 6:12

Paul's Adversaries

*¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? **If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.***

Taking It Home:

1. What is your best definition of the gospel?

- **A person can be saved by works?**
- **A person can be saved by a mixture of faith in Christ and works?**
- **A person can be saved by faith in Christ alone?**

Taking It Home:

2. Who are you trying to please when you share the gospel? God or people?
3. How are you living in the freedom of the gospel?