

“The Gospel of Jesus Christ”  
Galatians 1:1-5

- Introduction to the book of Galatians:
  - The Battlefield: The Apostle Paul was fighting on three fronts:
    - 1) Paul was *fighting* against the teaching that a Gentile/Jewish believer needed to be circumcised to be saved.
    - 2) Paul was *fighting* against the teaching that a Gentile/Jew had to keep the Law to be saved.
    - 3) Paul was *defending* his Apostolic authority and his Apostolic teaching. “...I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.” (Jude 1:3)
  - Two Extremes:
    - 1) Those who were so committed to, or enamored with the Mosaic Law that they made it salvific in nature, becoming Legalists (*believing that a certain work needs to be done to be saved or that certain non-biblical practices are necessary for sanctification*). “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.” (Matthew 15:8-9)
    - 2) Those who reject any sort of standard for the Christian life, becoming Antinomian (*God does not expect obedience to the moral law as a follower of Christ*). “For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is one word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Galatians 5:13-14)
  - The Churches of Galatia: These are the churches in Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe. These churches were established/planted on Paul’s first missionary journey with Barnabus (Acts 13 & 14). This letter would have been written around AD 49 from Ephesus. Paul worked in Northern Galatia on his second missionary journey (Acts 16:1-6) and all of Galatia on his third missionary journey (Acts 18:23).
- Paul’s Apostleship:
  - Paul immediately begins his battle for truth by addressing that the source of his Apostolic authority is God, not man. Paul was called to Apostleship by Jesus Christ (Acts 9:4,15-16) just like the rest of the Apostles. He was a first hand eye witness of the resurrected Christ (1 Corinthians 15:8-9) just like the rest of the Apostles. God validated Paul’s Apostleship among the people with signs, wonders, and mighty works (2 Corinthians 12:12) just like the rest of the Apostles. Paul was directly taught by Christ (Galatians 1:12) just like the rest of the Apostles.
    - *The false teachers were self-appointed in their authority and could not appeal to the Word of God for their teaching.*
  - The church received its doctrine from the Apostles and the Apostles received their doctrine from Christ: “(The church is) built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone....” (Ephesians 2:20). “I (Paul) hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of truth” (1 Timothy 3:14-15). “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you (the Apostles) all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you” (John 14:26). “....knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:20-21; cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- The True Gospel:
  - God the Father raised Jesus from the dead: “And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God....you are still in your sins....those also who have [died] in Christ have [eternally] perished.” (1 Corinthians 15:13-18)

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**Worship:** Bless The Lord O My Soul (Psalm 103) — Sovereign Grace Music  
O, Lord My Rock And My Redeemer — Sovereign Grace Music

Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right — Sovereign Grace Music

**Closing Song:** God Is For Us — CityAlight

**Service Times:** Sundays: Pneumatology Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;  
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- We are saved by grace and made at peace with God and our brothers and sisters in Christ: *“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8-9). “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1).*
- Christ gave Himself for our sins: *“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace....There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.” (Ephesians 1:7; Romans 8:1-2)*
- Christ has delivered us from this evil age: *“As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct....knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers....” (1 Peter 1:14-18)*
- Salvation is God’s plan: *“...for truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Your hand and Your plan had predestined to take place.” (Acts 4:27-28)*
- We are saved to live for the glory of God: *“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). “...and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised” (2 Corinthians 5:15).*

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**Announcements:**

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of September we are collecting monetary donations for Shannon and Vikki Bobb, a missionary couple that is currently living and serving in Cambodia. For more information about them and the work they are currently doing, please see the sign in the foyer. There is a container on the back table, beside the offering box, to collect your monetary donations. You can also donate via Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Bobbs when you do so!

★**MEMBERS MEETING:** We will be having a short Members Meeting NEXT Sunday, September 18th, immediately following the worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on Eldership for Jake McElfresh. If you are a church member, please plan on staying for this meeting.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!