GALATIANS

DR. RAY PRITCHARD
PURPOSE
THE COURSE WILL CONSIST OF TEN LECTURES COVERING THE BOOK OF GALATIANS. THE LECTURES WILL HELP THE STUDENTS LEARN THE FOLLOWING TRUTHS:

- The utter impossibility of salvation by any form of self-effort.
- The foundational nature of justification by faith alone.
- The absolute necessity of God’s grace in the Christian life.
- The crucial difference between legalism and responsible Christian liberty.
- The ever-present danger of doctrinal defection.
- The vital importance of true Christian unity.
- The incredible freedom of walking in the Spirit every day.

COURSE RATIONALE
Word of Life Bible Institute seeks to expose the students to all the major sections of Scripture. This course takes an in-depth look at one of Paul’s epistles. This particular epistle discusses the importance of adding no human effort to the process of salvation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
IN THE TESTS AND ASSIGNMENTS THE STUDENT WILL:

- Read the book of Galatians through twice (in two different versions).
- Read “Galatians” chapter from Surveying the Pauline Epistles.
- Watch all 10 class lectures.
- Take all 10 quizzes (one at the end of each lecture).
INTRODUCTION TO GALATIANS

I. INTRODUCTORY THOUGHTS

« Galatians was one of the ________________ written books of the New Testament

« Galatians was written within _______ years of the ______________ of _____________________________

« Galatians is about “Getting the Gospel ___________________”

« When we are wrong about the gospel, two terrible things happen:

| Sinners are not _______________________
| God is not ___________________________

« Martin Luther and the book of Galatians

« The book of Galatians is the Magna Carta of Christian liberty

II. AUTHOR: PAUL THE APOSTLE

III. AUDIENCE / GALATIANS THEORIES

« __________________________ Galatian Theory: __________________________ Galatians

« __________________________ Galatian Theory: Roman__________________________ of Galatia

IV. DATE: AD 49

The Great __________________________ Council (Acts 15)

« The Debate: Should Gentile converts be ________________ in order to be accepted into the ____________ ?

« The Jerusalem Council was held around ________________

« The book of Galatians must have been written ________________ the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15), because…

« …Paul’s argument in Galatians assumes that the issue which was settled at the Jerusalem council was still ________________

Therefore, the book of Galatians was written __________ years ________________ the Jerusalem council (Acts 15)
V. PURPOSE
To refute the ______________________

« ______________________ converts

« Claimed to be __________________________

« Followed after Paul and attacked his authority

« Taught that ___________________________ was required to be right with God and to be a ___________________________

To explain ______________________ by faith

VI. OUTLINE OF THE BOOK

« ______________________ (1-2): A Defense of Paul’s _________________ .

« ______________________ (3-4): A Defense of _________________ by Faith.

« ______________________ (5-6): A Defense of _________________ .

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EXPOSITION OF GALATIANS

I. NO OTHER GOSPEL (1:1-10)
Theme: Since there is only one saving gospel from God, anyone who preaches any other Gospel will be eternally condemned.

SALUTATION (1:1-5)
« Paul’s Authority. (1:1-2)
    || Not from __________ but from ___________.

BIBLE 185 – PAULINE EPISTLES 3
Paul’s Message (1:3-4)
The sacrifice of Christ was:

DENUNCIATION (1:6-10)
« The Crisis in Galatia (1:6-7)
Not ___________________ gospel but a __________________________ of the gospel!

« The Issue at Stake (1:8-9)
Anathema means:
To be under a_________________ from God
To be _____________________ by God
To be _____________________ to hell

« The Motive for Writing (1:10)

GALATIANS IN PERSPECTIVE
« This letter was written in an ________________________.
« Three words that describe the tone of this letter: __________________, __________________, __________________.
« It exposes the Judaizers who mixed ____________________ and ____________________.
« They taught salvation by faith plus ______________________ instead of faith__________________.
« This letter teaches us how to refute _______________________.
« It also teaches us the importance of truth and the nature of true ____________________.

II. HOW A TERRORIST BECAME AN EVANGELIST (1:11-24)
Theme: Since there is only one saving gospel from God, anyone who preaches any other gospel will be eternally condemned.

THESIS: Paul’s Gospel Comes Directly From Christ (1:11-12)
Not from Man (1:11-12a)
- Revealed by Jesus Christ (1:1-12b)

**EVIDENCE: DEMONSTRATED IN HIS SPIRITUAL JOURNEY (1:13-16A)**
- Not from Man (1:11-12a)
  “Why does Paul tell us this? Because he wants us to understand that before he became a Christian he was not searching for anything better. Judaism satisfied and consumed him. His life’s goal was to climb as high on the Pharisaic ladder as possible. In a word, Paul was a fanatic!” Timothy Hoke
- How He Came to Christ. (1:15-16a)
  Paul’s testimony is intended to teach us that salvation is all about the __________________ of God!
- After He Came to Christ. (1:16b-24)
  The Trip to ________________ . (1:16b-17)
  The Visit to Jerusalem. (1:18-20)
  The Trip to Syria and Cilicia. (1:21)
  Reaction in the Churches of Judea. (1:22-24)

**REASONS FOR ENCOURAGEMENT**

- Christianity is supremely a religion of __________________ .
- No sinner is a truly __________________ case.
- Enemies of the gospel sometimes become the best __________________ .
- Salvation begins with ______________ , not with ______________ .
- If God can save Paul, he can save ________________ .

**III. DEFINING THE GOSPEL (2:1-10)**

**Theme:** The gospel both divides and unites. It divides us from those who would add anything to the finished work of Jesus Christ as a requirement for acceptance with God. It unites us with Christians of many different backgrounds.

PRIVATE CONSULTATION (2:1-3)

A COVERT INFILTRATION (2:4-5)
- What do we know about these “false brothers”?
  - They were not what they __________________ to be.
  - They used deception to __________________ the church.
  - They wanted to force ______________ believers to be circumcised.
  - They ______________ true Christian freedom.
  - Their evil tactics __________________ their wrong beliefs.
How did Paul respond to these “false brothers”? He did not compromise with them on any point. He upheld the truth of the gospel at all costs.

A PERSONAL CONFIRMATION (2:6-10)

- We stand on the same __________________________ (2:6).
  No reason to stand in awe
  God does not play favorites

- We preach the same __________________________ (2:7-8).
  Paul the apostle to the Gentiles
  Peter the apostle to the Jews

- We share the same __________________________ (2:9).
  Given by the leadership
  Based on a recognition of God’s grace
  For a new and different ministry

- We have the same __________________________ (2:10).

THREE IMPORTANT AFFIRMATIONS IN THIS PASSAGE

1 ONE GOSPEL.  2 TWO MAIN APOSTLES: PETER AND PAUL.  3 THREE PILLARS OF THE JERUSALEM CHURCH: JAMES, PETER, JOHN.

LESSONS ON UNITY IN THE GOSPEL

- The gospel is a hill to ___________________ on.
- Unity matters, and because it matters, we must ___________________________ for the truth of the gospel.
- Where the gospel is preached, we have the basis for true Christian unity even though we may disagree on lesser issues.

IV. BAD MANNERS AT THE DINNER TABLE (2:11-21)

Theme: Personal confrontation may be required when the truth of the gospel is at stake. We must not compromise the truth of justification by faith alone.

THE PROBLEM (2:11-13)

- Peter’s Conduct in Antioch
  Peter’s Freedom: ____________________
  Peter’s Fear: ____________________
Peter’s Fall: ________________________

• Paul’s Response
  Recognized the ________________________
  Saw the ________________________
  Confronted Peter ________________________

THE PROTEST (2:14)

• The Standard Being Violated: ________________________
• The Action Taken: ________________________
• The Charge Made: ________________________

THE PRINCIPLE (2:15-21)

• Justification Defined (2:15-16)
• Justification Defended (2:17-19)
• Justification Applied (2:20-21)
  We live by ________________ .
  We depend on ________________ .

A Christian is a person in whom ________________ now lives!

FIVE ABIDING TRUTHS

• When great issues are at stake, we must put ________________ above personal ________________ .
• Small ________________ may lead to great ________________ .
• Sometimes sin must be ________________ rebuked.
• When we come to Christ by ________________ , we receive ________________ we need to be fully accepted by God.
• A Christian is a person in whom ________________ now lives.

Justification is that act of God whereby he acquits guilty sinners (that is, he declares them innocent), ________________ ________________ . This gift of justification is received ________________ apart from good works of any kind. Justified sinners are thus pardoned, acquitted, set free, accepted by God, and treated as righteous.

V. BEWITCHED BELIEVERS (2:11-21)

Theme: Abraham’s example proves that we must be saved by faith in Christ and not by keeping the law.

Note: Paul offers six arguments to prove his doctrine of justification by faith:
  • Personal: Their Spiritual Experience. 3:1-5
  • Scriptural: Life of Abraham. 3:6-14
ARGUMENT FROM EXPERIENCE (3:1-5)
- An appeal to their better judgment. (3:1)

ARGUMENT FROM SCRIPTURE (3:6-14)
- Abraham was saved by faith. (3:6)
  Justified in Genesis ______.
  Circumcised in Genesis ______.
- The Gentiles are saved the same way. (3:7-9)
  God's plan of salvation is always the ____________.
  No room for ____________ in the church.
  This is the ____________ for world missions.
- The Law condemns but it cannot save. (3:10-12)
  Law-keeping demands ____________.
  Failure places you under a ____________.
  The righteous live by ____________.
- Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law. (3:13)
  Through His death the blessing given to Abraham is received by faith. (3:14)

SOME IMPORTANT CONCLUSIONS

- Even strong believers may be ____________ by false teachers.
- In every age salvation is always the same: by ____________ through ____________.
- Sin has left every person under a ______ from God and thus in a totally ______ condition apart from divine grace.
- Justification by faith and justification by keeping the law are mutually exclusive ____________.
- In His death the Lord Jesus Christ took our place ____________, paid the price for our sin ____________, removed the enmity that stood between us and God ____________, satisfied God’s justice ____________, and turned away God’s wrath ____________.

All that God has done to save us comes to fruition in the bloody cross of Jesus Christ. And because the cross is so important, salvation therefore must be by believing and not by achieving. It’s not what we do that saves us; it’s what Jesus has already done 2,000 years ago. Let us look to Christ and to him alone for our salvation.
VI. FREE IN CHRIST! (3:15-29)
Theme: The law served a good purpose in its day, but it has been replaced by faith in Christ. Through the gospel we receive blessings that can never be taken away.

THE PERMANENCE OF THE PROMISE (3:15-18)
- The Promise Given to Christ. (3:15-16)
- The Law Cannot Set Aside the Promise. (3:17-18)

430 years = From the ________________ to the ________________.

Note: A law requires ________________.
A promise requires ________________.

THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW (3:19-25)
- It restrains sin temporarily. (3:19-20)
  The law was “added”.
  The law was “until” Christ.
- It cannot bring life. (3:21)
  Example: “Wet Paint. Do Not Touch.”
- It demonstrates human sin. (3:22-23)
- It shows us our need for Christ. (3:24)
- It is no longer needed now that Christ has come. (3:25)

THE PRIVILEGE OF SONSHIP (3:26-29)
- A New _________________. (3:26)
- A New _________________. (3:27)
  Baptized by the Holy Spirit.
  Clothed with Christ.
- A New _________________. (3:28)
  Outward distinctions are no ________________ to saving faith.
  Unity in Christ rises above ________________ distinctions.
  Note: We each maintain our individual identity while entering into a true spiritual unity in the church.
- A New _________________. (3:29)
VII. A TALE OF TWO WOMEN (4:1-31)

Theme: Once we truly understand all that is ours by faith in Christ, we will not turn back to the slavery of trying to please God by keeping the law.

A RADICAL CHANGE (4:1-11)
- The Way We Used to Be. (4:1-3)
- The Difference Christ Makes. (4:4-7)
  Why He Came. (4:4-5)
    When - In the fullness of time.
    What - God sent Christ.
    Why - To redeem us from the law.
- What We Gain. (4:6-7)
  Slaves have a __________________ , sons have a __________________ .
- The Danger of Turning Back. (4:8-11)

A WARNING ABOUT FALSE FRIENDS. (4:17-18)
- A Declaration of Personal Concern. (4:19-20)
  “Are those who follow me becoming more like Jesus?”

A SCRIPTURAL ANALOGY (4:21-31)
- Two Sons: Ishmael and Isaac
- Two Women: Hagar (slave) and Sarah (free)
- Two Conditions: Fertile and Barren
- Two Births: Fleshly Desire and God’s Promise
- Two Covenants: Law and Grace (Moses and Abraham)
- Two Results: Slavery and Freedom
- Two Mountains: Sinai and Zion (implied)
- Two Cities: Earthly Jerusalem and Heavenly Jerusalem

ABRAHAM IS THE FATHER OF TWO ______________ OF HUMANITY.

The question is not, “Who’s your __________?” but “Who’s your __________?”
VIII. STAND FIRM IN CHRIST (5:1-12)

Theme: We must stand firm in our Christian liberty, refusing even the slightest temptation to return to the law as a means of pleasing God.

Note: Chapter 5 begins the __________________________ section of Galatians.

CHOICE # 1: SLAVERY VS. FREEDOM (5:1)
- Since Christ has set us free, the only way to go back to slavery is to do it __________________________.

CHOICE # 2: LAW OR GRACE (5:2-6)
If you give in to the Judaizers . . .
- Christ is of no ____________ to you. (5:2)
- You are obligated to obey the ____________. (5:3)
- You have ____________ the gospel of grace. (5:4)
- You give up your Christian _________________. (5:5-6)

CHOICE # 3: CIRCUMCISION VS. THE CROSS (5:7-12)
Living by the law instead of the gospel . . .
- Stops our spiritual _________________. (5:7)
- Pulls us away from _________________. (5:8)
- Leads to other _________________. (5:9)
- Produces spiritual _________________. (5:10)
- Removes the ________________ of the cross. (5:11-12)

By taking away our persecution.
By removing the offense of the cross.

Note: Verse 12 is the strongest statement in the epistle. “Paul’s purpose is to press the error of the Judaizers to its illogical and unaccept-able conclusion. The Judaizers had emphasized circumcision more than the Old Testament Law had. The mentality of the Judaizers was that the cutting off of a little flesh was commendable and pleasing in God’s sight. … If this were really true, Paul queries, then why not press the matter even further? If cutting off a little flesh is good, cutting off much flesh is even better. Why not be so pious as to castrate oneself? … From the Old Testament Scriptures and contemporary culture, the Galatians would recognize castration as too extreme, and yet it was the logical extension of their doctrine. As this illustration graphically reveals, the horrifying thought of castration was intended to show the Galatians that the Judaizers had gone too far.”

THREE IMPORTANT CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE GOSPEL

1. WHEN IT COMES TO THE _____________, THERE CAN BE NO _________________.
2. EVEN A SMALL ________________ IN THIS AREA MAY PRODUCE _______________ RESULTS.
3. GENUINE ________________ THAT WORKS BY LOVE MEANS FAR MORE THAN EXTERNAL _______________ TO A SET OF RULES.
IX. FULL SPEED AHEAD ONE STEP AT A TIME (5:13-26)

Theme: We can either follow the flesh, hurting ourselves and those around us, or we can live by the Spirit and enjoy the rich fruit of a transformed life.

“Freedom requires ____________ or it disintegrates into ____________. ”

DANGER OF FREEDOM (5:13-15)

- Believers are called to ____________. (5:13)
- Love fulfills the ____________. (5:14)
- Liberty without love leads to mutual ____________. (5:15)

ONGOING STRUGGLE (5:16-18)

- Struggle is a ____________ part of the Christian life. (5:16-17)
- The conflict between our flesh and the Spirit is ____________ and ____________. (5:16-17)
- God’s desire is that we ____________ in the Spirit. (5:18)

Walking is taking one step in front of another in the same direction over a long period of time.

WORKS OF THE FLESH (5:19-21)

- Sexual Sins (4)
- Religious Sins (2)
- Social Sins (9)
- Intemperate Sins (2)

Note ____________

These sins ____________ come from the flesh. (5:19a)
This list is not ____________. (5:21a)
These sins mark an ____________ life. (5:21b)

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT (5:22-26)

- The Nine-Fold Fruit. (5:22-23)
  Group # 1: Relating to God – Upward.
  Group # 2: Relating to Others – Outward.
  Group # 3: Relating to Ourselves – Inward.

- The Three-Fold Challenge. (5:24-26)
  Keep the flesh ____________. (5:24)
  Keep in ____________ with the Spirit. (5:25)
  Keep your heart right toward ____________. (5:26)
TRUE FREEDOM AND FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

« Christian freedom is not the right to do what we ____________ , but the power to do what we ____________ .
« Freedom not guided by love soon descends into destructive ____________ .
« Fruit comes from life and life comes from the ____________ .
« The term “fruit” suggests a ____________ of qualities that are to be found in the life of ____________ Christian.

X. FULFILLING THE LAW OF CHRIST (6:1-18)
Theme: When our lives are controlled by the Holy Spirit, we will restore the fallen, share generously with others, and our only boast will be in the cross of Christ.

HELPING THE WEAK (6:1-5)
  • Those who fall into sin. (6:1)
    They are ____________ by sin.
    They require the help of “___________” people.
    They must be restored ____________ .
    They must be approached ____________ .
  • Those who are burdened. (6:2-5)

SHARING WITH OTHERS (6:6-10)

BOASTING IN THE CROSS (6:11-18)
In this final section Paul repeats his attack on the Judaizers and reaffirms his own godly motives for preaching the gospel of grace.

  • His Signature (6:11)
  • His Enemies (6:12-13)
    They are ____________ .
    They are ____________ .
    They are ____________ .
    They are ____________ .
  • His Boast (6:14-15)
  • His Blessing (6:16)