

**IN FREEDOM CHRIST HAS MADE US FREE; SO
STAND FAST AND DO NOT BE ENTANGLED
AGAIN IN A YOKE OF BONDAGE**

EPISTLE TO THE CHURCHES OF GALATIA

Historical Context

- Paul wrote Galatians after his first trip to Galatia
- Paul mentions two trips to Jerusalem: **Acts 9** and **Acts 11**
- Gentiles saved by the gospel do not need to follow the law to be accepted by God **5:6**
- **Subjection to the law** is spiritual **bondage 5:1**
- Jews and Gentiles are saved alike **Acts 15:11**
- Paul already had the truth before **Acts 15**

Simple Outline

- **1-2** Paul asserts his **apostolic authority** in the **gospel** of **Christ**
- **3-4** Paul explains the **spiritual blessings** in the **promise** of **Christ**
- **5-6** Paul exhorts **godly** **conduct** in the **Spirit** of **Christ**

Paul asserts his apostolic authority in the gospel of Christ Gal. 1-2

His greeting 1:1-5

His rebuke 1:6-10

His revelation 1:11-2:21

Not dependent on other apostles 1:11-17

Limited contact with them 1:18-2:1

He was equal to them 2:1-21

They added nothing to his teaching 2:6

They agreed with his teaching 2:7-10

Paul was right when Peter was wrong 2:11-21

Paul was right when Peter was wrong 2:11-21

Peter believed right when in Antioch 2:7-9

Peter practiced right at the beginning 2:12a

**Peter (and other Jews) withdrew himself and sinned
2:12b-14a**

Paul's rebuke of Peter 2:14b-21

Paul explains the **spiritual blessings** in the **promise of Christ Gal. 3-4**

- **Blessings** through the hearing of **faith not works** of the **law 3:1-4**
- **Blessing** of the **promise** to **Abraham 3:5-9**
- Contrasting the **Curse** of the **Law** with the **Blessing** of **Abraham** in **Christ** through **the Faith 3:10-14**
- **Relationship** of **Promise, Law, and Gospel 3:15-22**
- **Bondage** of the **law 3:23-4:31**

Bondage of the law 3:23-4:31

Tutor (Pedagogue-a slave who supervised the children of the master) **illustration 3:21-4:7**

The **Galatians' bondage** to the **Judaist teachers 4:8-20**

Allegory of Ishmael and Isaac (the Law is a slave in this illustration also) 4:21-31

Paul exhorts godly conduct in the Spirit of Christ

Freedom in Christ is freedom from the Law (do not return to bondage of the law) 5:1-6

Freedom from the Law is not a license to sin 5:7-15

Freedom to serve with love 5:13

Walk in the Spirit 5:16-26

Fruit of the Spirit instead of works of the flesh 5:19-23

Spiritual restoration 6:1-5

Spiritual sowing 6:6-10

Applications in Galatians

- “*in Christ Jesus* neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a *new creation*.” 6:15
- The **gospel** of Christ is the **only** means of salvation 1:6-9
- **Only** the **true gospel** produces **true faith** 3:8-28
- Following anything else **prevents us** from **obeying** the **truth** 3:1
- The Faith in **Christ Jesus** **makes us children** of **God**, **seed of Abraham** 3:26-29

Applications in Galatians

- When baptized into Christ, we put on Christ, become heirs of the promise 3:26-27
- We are free in Christ 4:1-31
- Do not return to bondage 5:1-4
- Walk in the Spirit, reap everlasting life 5:16-6:7
- Do not walk according to the flesh and thus lose your inheritance 5:19-21

