

The Churches Of Galatia

Galatians 1:1-5

Intro:

- A. This is a Letter to Churches.
 - 1. These churches were in Galatia
 - 2. In modern geography it is where Turkey is now located. It included, Lystra, Derbe, Antioch, Troas, Colosse, Ephesus, & Laodicea.
 - 3. Its author is Paul, the apostle, 50-51 A.D.
- B. The Purpose of the Letter.
 - 1. To correct fast, spreading errors.
 - 2. These errors included perversion of the gospel, going back to the Law, and that works are a part of our righteousness.
 - 3. There are many related issues that Paul addresses that help us understand who we are and what God wants us to do.

I. Paul Asserts His Apostleship. vs. 1

- A. **"Paul, an apostle..."**
 - 1. "apostle" = αποστολος = "sent forth", "one sent"
 - 2. Apostles were authoritative sources of information for the early churches. Some did not believe this because of three reasons:
 - a. He did not have John's baptism.
 - b. He had not companied with Jesus.
 - c. He did not have physical contact with Jesus.
- B. **"not of men, neither by man,..."**
 - 1. He did not receive it, "from (απο)" man.
 - 2. He did not receive it, "through (δια)" man.
 - 3. No human commissioned Paul!
- C. **"...but by Jesus Christ, and God the father..."**
 - 1. He was sent by Jesus Christ.
 - 2. This might give some reason for concern.
 - 3. He adds, "I was sent by God the father".
- D. **"...who raised him from the dead)"**
 - 1. "Raised" = εγειρω = "to wake up", "to cause to rise up". God literally raised Jesus from the grave.
 - 2. "dead" = νεκρος = "a dead person", "dead".

II. Paul Had Companions. vs 2

- A. **"And all the brethren which are with me,"**
 - 1. "...and the group of friends now with me..."
 - 2. These were probably, Silas, Timothy and Luke. Not much of God's work is done by loners.
- B. **"...unto the churches of Galatia:"**
 - 1. "churches" = εκκλησιαις = "assemblies".
 - 2. Again, we see the impossibility of a so-called invisible church.

III. The Establishing Of The Churches.

- A. The founding of Antioch. **Acts 11:19-26**
 - 1. The "scattered ones" preached. vs. 19
 - 2. Jesus was preached. vs. 20
 - 3. The Lord was with them. vs. 21a
 - 4. A great number believed. vs. 21b
 - 5. The people were taught. vs. 26a
 - 6. They were called Christians. vs. 26b
 - 7. The simplicity of the commission is seen here.
 - 8. These were Gentiles.
- B. The Sending Forth. **Acts 13:1-4**
 - 1. The Holy Spirit spoke to prophets and teachers.
 - 2. They were to separate Paul and Barnabas.
 - 3. They were sent forth by the church and by the Holy Spirit.
 - 4. They preached the word of God. vs. 5

IV. Their Salutation. vs. 3,4,5

- A. **Vs. 3 "Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ."**
 - 1. "Grace" = χαρις = "an inclining disposition". (That which allows God to do what He does for man)
 - 2. "Peace" = ειρηνη = "a state of health or well being", "absence of strife".
 - 3. These would flow from deity.
- B. **Vs. 4a "Who gave himself for our sins..."**
 - 1. "Gave" = διδωμι = "to bestow", "to deliver one's self for a specific purpose".
 - 2. "Sins" = άμαρτια = failure,
- C. **Vs. 4b "...that he might deliver us from this present evil world...according to the will of God and our Father."**

1. "Deliver" = εξαίρω = "to take out of for one's self", "to rescue", "to deliver".
2. "Present" = ενιστημι = "to stand in", "to have present", "to be present".
3. "For Christ, to rescue us from this present wicked age, gave himself for our sins, in accordance with the will of our God and Father" TCNT

D. **Vs. 5 "To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen"**

1. "Glory" = δοξα = "that which attracts attention or attracts attention"
2. Paul ascribes to God a desire that all men would look to God and give Him His proper due and worship.
3. "Amen" = αμην = "truly"

