

# Galatians Series

## DEVOTION #1

There is a lot to be said about the Galatians such as they were very generous and also impulsive. Caesar said regarding them: “The infirmity of the Gauls (Galatians) is that they are fickle in their resolves, fond of change and not to be trusted.” These quarrelsome people could hardly be constrained from “biting and devouring one another.”

Paul brought the Gospel to these needy folk, as is the call to the church. Acts 14: 10 -13, 19 expresses some of the experiences that Paul had while ministering to them. In the morning Paul was considered a deity and they worshipped him and by evening they stoned him.

As earlier stated these folk were a branch of the Gauls originally from the north of the Baltic Sea and had split off in a westward migration to France and settled in the province of Galatia about 300 B.C.

Paul’s ministry was very successful in Galatia among these dear souls that had very little of any religious background, thus hopeless and helpless. As the church grew the Judaizers from Jerusalem came on the scene to sow legalism. They attacked Paul’s apostleship and his message. The judaizers demand was that these dear folk needed to be baptized in order to be considered believers. They had come from their bondage to freedom in Christ to be confronted by religious bondage as presented by these Judaizers.

The key verse in Galatians is “Liberty”, which term is used eleven times in the book of Galatians. Someone has said that Judaism is the cradle of Christianity and made efforts to see it to the grave.

Vernon McGee has a good statement in this matter,” It is a stern, severe and solemn message - - it is the strongest declaration and defense of the doctrine of justification by faith - - grace is a way of life and a way hope.

Paul was forced to share his title as being an apostle of Jesus Christ, which title he constantly had to defend (Gal. 1:1, 2). This would be good time to share what constitutes an apostle but will clarify for those of you who correspond with us. The one

thing I will say is that there are no apostles remaining irrespective of what certain groups of religious folk may claim. Paul was young enough to be claim apostleship in that he knew directly of John's baptism and the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul's apostleship was not of men, neither by man - - (Gal. 1:1). His ordination came by Christ Jesus and God the Father who raised Jesus from the dead, and was seen by Paul.

Paul's first attack on Judaizers is in Gal. 1:6 where he reveals the instability of these folk, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed." They were departing from the gospel that had set them free to what is a false gospel – a perversion of the gospel. How clear Paul expresses the gospel, "the just shall live by faith." Any doctrine apart from justification by faith with nothing added is a perversion of the gospel of grace (Gal 1:7).

Paul concludes all who came in that day with additions and presenting corrupting factors to the gospel were, and still are damned of God. There is no stronger language that can be used and is confirmed in Gal. 1:8. The flaming sword of God will continue to guard this truth even if those who have defended this message have died by the sword in the past and are ear marked for the same today. All heaven and earth must vibrate with the message of justification by faith, and be horrified in the presentation of apostasy...

Come in to the faith through believing and go into eternity knowing you are saved.

All questions and comments will be valued: Email: [jandrvdv@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:jandrvdv@nbnet.nb.ca)

May I ask you to be much in prayer for us as the next three weeks I will be in ministry in South Africa. I will seek to bring a report in the next visit with you. Jerry