

Galatians: Study in Grace

Introduction

Outline:

- Intro 1:1-5
- Message and Messenger 1:6-2:21 (Biography)
 - The Message 1:6-12
 - The Messenger 1:13-2:21
 - Paul's former life 1:13,14
 - Paul set apart 1:15-17
 - Paul's training 1:18-24
 - Paul's learning 2:1-10
 - Paul's stand 2:11-14
 - Paul's cry 2:15-21
- Choices by Faith 3:1-5:1 (Theology)
- New Life and Walk 5:2-6:10 (Practice)
- Closing 6:11-18

The Message so far:

- Paul's blessing to them
- Paul's astonishment at their deserting Christ
- Paul's reminder as to:
 - The Gospel's source
 - His own training
 - The Revelation of the Gospel
 - The curse to any who proclaim something else
 - His early days in Christ
 - The one who persecuted now proclaims!
 - Paul's contact with the Apostles is next...

The Return to Jerusalem

- Is this Acts 11:22-30; 12:25 or 15:4ff?
 - Discussion is big on this... 14 years have passed...
 - Barnabas and Titus are with him
 - The focus is not on time-lines, but responses/focus
 - Paul submitted to them, to be approved
 - Ministering to the Gentiles was a big risk... (Acts 11)
 - His worry: “that he had run in vain” *kenos*, empty
 - Do we allow our Family to correct and guide us?
 - Submit to their authority? NOTE: in private
 - Focus? Circumcision – Titus not compelled
 - But false brethren... *pseudadelphos*

“Sneaks” against liberty (4)

- They had come in by stealth - *pareisaktos* (1x)
 - What was this all about? mirrors on their sandals?
 - Giving people a check to “our standards”?
 - NOTE: their goal was bondage! *katadouloo*, enslave
 - Only used here and in 2Co 11:20
- The point: Is Jesus a new way, or adding to the old?
 - Judaizers wanted to add Jesus to the Law/traditions
 - They used Titus as a test case.. And he was free!
 - See Acts 16:3 – Timothy not so lucky! Concession?
 - “comfort zones” are so hard to deal with...
 - What are we willing to do to win the lost?

Paul's response in this case?

- Not even a hours yield! (*eiko*, 1x, give place)
 - This is certainly not Acts 15 here! That took time...
 - Focus: the truth of the Gospel stays with us
 - Paul wanted nothing in place of Jesus
 - No outward act can replace inward relationship...
 - Those of high reputation, listed in verse 9 – Big 3!
 - No matter to Paul... no partiality with GOD!
 - Those of authority/reputation were won to truth
 - Paul/Peter each was entrusted... *pisteuo*, trust
 - 8 – Peter “effectual work” *energeo*; same with Paul
 - Recognized grace – in Paul

From the “pillars” (9,10)

- Paul had respect for their calling and work
 - Right hand of fellowship – 5 men stood as ONE!
 - They make this decision for the Gospel’s sake
 - “that we might go” – what they were commanded!
 - They each decide to do what they know best...
- 1 condition? Remember the poor!
 - No mention here of the Jerusalem council decisions
 - No mention of the 4 things requested from them?
 - Appealing to this would have silenced the error...
 - So, just remember the poor (Acts 11:29,30)
 - We have a connection to those suffering...
 - Paul was already in accord with them on this...