

Galatians - Part I – Why is the Gospel Good News? – Galatians 1:1-12

FBC Nacogdoches – Sunday, February 2, 2020 – A.M. Message

Description

— The Christian life begins with such a feeling of forgiveness and grace, but after a short time, many are right back under the familiar guilt and condemnation they felt before they knew Christ. As a result, some walk away from the Lord. Because they believe they cannot live up to the new standard, many quit the faith. Well, there is good news for you if that is where you are! The whole book of Galatians was written to provide both a course correction and the fullness of peace to all of us who are struggling to live lives perfectly in line with the righteous standard of God. In this message we will introduce this important subject, learn all of what Christ has done for us, and begin to embrace the hope we require.

Introduction

- Turn to the book of **Galatians**.
- The letter to the Galatians is like no other epistle.
 - The usual way Paul began his letters was with a greeting followed by a prayer of thanks for his readers.
 - **Romans 1:8** | *First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you because the news of your faith is being reported in all the world.* (CSB)
 - **1 Corinthians 1:4–5** | *I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in him in every way, in all speech and all knowledge.* (CSB)
 - **Ephesians 1:15–16** | *This is why, since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I never stop giving thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.* (CSB)
 - **Philippians 1:3** | *I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you,* (CSB)
 - **Colossians 1:3** | *We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,* (CSB)
 - **1 Thessalonians 1:2** | *We always thank God for all of you, making mention of you constantly in our prayers.* (CSB)
 - Not so with **Galatians**!
 - In **Galatians**, Paul introduces himself and immediately expresses astonishment at the Galatians' behavior.
 - **Galatians 1:6** | *I am amazed that you are so quickly turning away from him who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—* (CSB)
 - And then Paul goes on to express his frustration, bewilderment, and even anger.
 - We will see more in **Galatians 1** shortly, but listen to these verses...
 - **Galatians 3:1** | *You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified?* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 3:3** | *Are you so foolish? After beginning by the Spirit, are you now finishing by the flesh?* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 5:11–12** | *Now brothers and sisters, if I still preach circumcision, why am I still persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished. I wish those who are disturbing you might also let themselves be mutilated!* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 5:11–12** | *But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!* (ESV)
- Why is Paul so upset? What happened with the Galatian Christians that was so bad?
 - Well, something did happen at Galatia that often happens today.
 - They did something at the church in Galatia that happens to some degree or another in every church today.
 - They did something that caused heartache, guilt, condemnation, frustration among the Christians then and there.
 - And this same thing causes the same heartache, guilt, condemnation, frustration today.
 - In fact, I believe one of the primary reasons people walk away from the church today is that they feel they cannot live up to the standards, and they experience so much guilt/frustration from their failures that it drives them away.
 - They lose the joy of their salvation.

- So, what did they do?
 - They turned to a different gospel (**Galatians 3:6**)
 - They had abandoned the gospel.
 - I don't mean they embraced a foreign religion.
 - I mean they accepted a gospel that was slightly different than the gospel Paul preached and at the same time completely opposed to the true gospel.
 - We do the very same thing...
 - As churches...
 - More on this in the weeks to come.
 - As individuals...
- So, I want us to study this book: **Galatians**.
 - And I want us to learn or be reminded of the true gospel.
 - The series will last nine or ten weeks...
 - All the way up to Easter.
 - This is a hard book to outline...
 - It is repetitive, circular...
 - And really, there is just one subject in **Galatians 1-5**, and then a bunch of brief topics in **Galatians 6**.
 - So, I could preach all of **Galatians 1-5** in one sermon...
 - That would be way too much to absorb in one week.
 - Or I could chop that message up into a bunch of pieces...
 - You would get impatient and board before we got to the point.
 - So today we will get a broad introduction to the big issue and find hope.
 - In the next few weeks we will review the same subject but we will see different facets and different perspectives on this wonderful truth.
 - Today may leave you thinking there must be more to this.
 - In one way... No, it is just as amazingly simple as it sounds.
 - There are no 'catches' that will be revealed.
 - In another way... **Galatians** goes into much greater detail to explain this rich truth.
- Read **Galatians 1:1-12**.
 - **1:1-2**
 - Paul
 - Formerly one who persecuted Christians but had become a believer.
 - Apostle
 - The two qualifications for being an apostle were...
 - (1) having seen Jesus after his resurrection with one's own eyes (thus, being an "eyewitness of the resurrection").¹
 - (2) having been specifically commissioned by Christ as his apostle.²
 - Galatia
 - Galatia covered a large area that extended almost from the coast of the Black Sea to the coast of the Mediterranean, through the mountains and plains of central Turkey.³
 - Group of small cities in present-day Turkey.
 - Antioch of Pisidia, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe
 - These churches were founded on the first missionary journey (**Acts 13:3-14:26**).⁴
 - By the way, this is likely Paul's earliest letter in the Bible to any church (AD 48 or 49).
 - Post first missionary journey...
 - **1:3-4**
 - Here Paul introduces the "Gospel."
 - We are going to use that word often today.
 - What is the gospel?
 - Good news.
 - What is the good news?
 - That God has made a way for us to have a right relationship with him.

- How can we be right with God?
 - *“Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins”*
 - We see two things in this.
 - We can’t do it ourselves.
 - We don’t have to do it ourselves.
 - *“To rescue us”*
 - Your Bible might say *“deliver.”*
 - Strong word that means to rescue someone from pending disaster.
 - What disaster do we face without Christ’s rescue?
 - **Romans 6:23** | *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (CSB)*
- **1:6-7**
 - What does he mean by *“different gospel”*?
 - A different way to be right with God.
 - Paul had taught one way, but now people are acting as if the way had changed.
 - So what is this alternate gospel that people have turned to?
 - Let’s keep reading.
- **1:8-9**
 - Paul emphasizes the importance of fighting for the true gospel.
 - Nothing is more important than the gospel.
- **1:11-12**
 - The gospel is not a man-made scheme.
 - The gospel is not how you in your imagination or reasoning think man should relate to God.
 - **Proverbs 14:12** | *There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death. (CSB)*
 - Paul received the gospel from the Lord. We must be careful to do the same.
 - When the gospel is perverted, that change happens because we abandon revelation for what seems right.
- What was the specific heresy they were being taught?
 - More on the specifics in a later sermon in this series...
 - But the false teachers were saying that you came to the Lord by grace through faith, but you stay with the Lord by keeping certain rules pertaining to the law, specifically circumcision and dietary rules.
 - **Acts 15:1** | *Some men came down from Judea and began to teach the brothers: “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom prescribed by Moses, you cannot be saved.” (CSB)*
 - They were pushing circumcision and food laws, not Isaiah’s or Abraham’s faithful response to God. In short, these Judaizers were teaching that in order for Gentiles to be saved, they first had to become Jews.⁵
- How is it that we believe the same things?
 - Most of us know we come to Christ by grace through faith.
 - But many also believe, at least with an unspoken belief, that we stay right with God by keeping a list of rules.
 - **Galatians 3:3** | *Are you so foolish? After beginning by the Spirit, are you now finishing by the flesh? (CSB)*
 - We feel that God is not pleased with us if we have a bad day or a bad week.
 - Though the Bible says there is no condemnation for those in Christ, we feel like there is much condemnation.
 - **Romans 8:1** | *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus, (CSB)*
 - We feel such frustration
 - Well, let’s get some clarity around the gospel this morning.
 - What Christ has done for us is way more amazing than many people understand.

Really, Why is the Gospel Good News?

I. Because your **goodness** and **best efforts** are **worthless** for salvation.

- We are all completely lost and hopeless apart from Christ.
 - Filthy rags...
- Do you really know and believe that?
 - **Let’s imagine salvation as scoring a touchdown.**
 - **100 yards from goal-line to goal-line...**
 - **How much of the way did you move the ball, and how much did God move the ball?**
 - **If you think you started at midfield, you don’t understand the rottenness of your flesh.**

— Some people think like this...

- I started at midfield and needed God's help.
- My neighbor and my brother-in-law started ten yards behind me.
- Drug dealers start on their own 20.
- Muslims start on their own 10.
- Child molesters start on their own 1.

— Truth...

— The only thing you contributed to your salvation was the sin that made it necessary.

— **Romans 3:9** | *What then? Are we any better off? Not at all! For we have already charged that both Jews and Gentiles are all under sin, (CSB)*

— The law-abiding Jews were no closer to salvation than the pagan gentiles.

— **Romans 3:10-12** | *As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away; all alike have become worthless. There is no one who does what is good, not even one. (CSB)*

— So, your goodness (which is not really anything) and your best efforts do not contribute to your salvation!

— **Romans 3:27-28** | *Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law. (NLT)*

— Now, it would hard to be in a gospel church very long and pay attention and not know that.

— This second reason the gospel is such good news, though, is harder to remember...

II. Because salvation is not about God giving you a second chance.

— Does God give us a second chance? Is it true that he is the "God of the second chance?"

— Yes and no, but mostly no.

— If you mean by second chance that God reaches out to people in sin, failure, rebellion, and depravity and offers them the hope of full forgiveness and a right relationship with God, then YES.

— But if you mean by second chance that God picks us up out of the mud and mire of sin, cleans us up, and gives us a second chance to get life right, then NO!

— That misses the whole point of the gospel.

— The truth is, I don't need a second chance.

— If God gave me a second chance to clean my life up and live according to his standard, I would mess that second chance up just as fast as I messed up the first chance.

— I need God to give me something fundamentally different than a second chance.

— And he has!

— But this is where the Galatian Christians struggled (and where we struggle).

— So, let me explain this truth that we will explore in the coming weeks.

— At the beginning of your Christian life, how did you get "right with God?"

— Not by your goodness but by the work of Christ and your faith in that work.

— Now, how do you stay "right with God?"

— Nothing has changed!

— You do not stay "right with God" by your goodness.

— You stay "right with God" by the work of Christ and your faith in that work!

— The gospel is not just how you begin the Christian life; it is how you live it every day.

— Your relationship with God hasn't ever and will not ever depend on your keeping the rules.

— **Galatians 3:11** | *Now it is clear that no one is justified before God by the law, because the righteous will live by faith. (CSB)*

— Not, "The righteous shall live by trying real hard to be good."

— Faith means that we do today (and every day) what we did the first day.

— We put our faith in Jesus!

— But sometimes we find ourselves saying...

— "Things are really strained between me and God. He is so displeased with me because of the week I have lived. I am so guilty. I am condemned."

— NO! You are not guilty. You are not under condemnation.

— Jesus' last words on the cross were not, "I've made a way for you to have a second chance, now you finish it up."

— Jesus' last word on the cross were, "*It is finished.*"

— This is not a license for sin, but it is the truth of the gospel.

— Obedience is important, very important, but not so as to stay "right with God" if you are his child.

— I just spent six weeks preaching on how to overcome persistent sins.

— That is important.

- But the gospel says, the Lord loves and accepts us throughout the process of change (sanctification).
- The Galatians and Paul saw the terms of salvation very differently.
 - Here is how the Galatians saw their salvation...
 - They were insolvent, broke, hopelessly in debt to God because of sin.
 - They asked God to pay their sin debts by the credit of Jesus' life and death.
 - At that point they were even.
 - They worked really hard not to get back in debt with God.
 - They felt frustrated much of the time because they kept messing up.
 - They lived with frustration and condemnation.
 - But here is how Paul explains salvation to them...
 - You were insolvent, broke, hopelessly in debt to God because of sin.
 - You asked God to pay your sin debt by the credit of Jesus' life and death.
 - **Jesus paid the debt and then called the bank and had the debt account switched over to his name.**
 - It is now impossible for you to incur debt with God!
- Let me put it another way...
 - When did you put your faith in Christ for the forgiveness of your sin?
 - Can you remember when it was?
 - When was it?
 - You likely just gave the wrong answer.
 - **Noel, when did you put your faith in Christ for the forgiveness of your sin?**
 - **Just a minute ago.**
 - **And a minute before that. And a minute before that...**
 - **I have been putting my faith in Christ for the forgiveness of my sin for 35 years.**
 - **Galatians 3:11** | *Now it is clear that no one is justified before God by the law, because the righteous will live by faith. (CSB)*
 - The righteous (those who have a right relationship with God) will live every day with God not by keeping the rules, but by constant and continual faith in the work of Christ.
- God hasn't given me a second chance to get this right.
 - God has given me grace, mercy, and clothed me in the righteousness of Christ every day of my life.
 - As Christians we must embrace not only the beginning part of the gospel, but the everyday part.
 - **Galatians 3:3** | *Are you so foolish? After beginning by the Spirit, are you now finishing by the flesh? (CSB)*

Conclusion

- Jesus has fulfilled my righteousness...
 - **Matthew 3:14** | *But John tried to stop him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?" (CSB)*
 - **Matthew 3:15** | *Jesus answered him, "Allow it for now, because this is the way for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John allowed him to be baptized. (CSB)*
 - **Matthew 3:16** | *When Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water. The heavens suddenly opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. (CSB)*
 - **Matthew 3:17** | *And a voice from heaven said: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased." (CSB)*
- Can we celebrate who we are in Christ and let the love of Christ not the world's guilt and condemnation compel us to chase after him.
 - **2 Corinthians 5:14** | *For the love of Christ compels us, since we have reached this conclusion: If one died for all, then all died. (CSB)*

Discussion Guide

Connect

- What New Testament book study has been most meaningful/helpful to you through the years? What is your go-to book when you are looking to draw closer to the Lord?

Discover

- Which statement or experience stood out to you from the worship service?
- Read Galatians 1:3-5.
 - What is the simplest way you can state the gospel in your own words?
- Read Galatians 1:6-9.

- Why do you think Paul is so committed to maintaining the proper understanding of the gospel?
- Why can we not update or modernize our understanding of the gospel from time to time?
- What other “gospels” in our culture threaten our understanding of the true gospel?
- Read Acts 15:1.
 - What was wrong with what these teachers from Judea were suggesting?
- Read Matthew 3:13-17.
 - Why was John the Baptist reluctant to baptize Jesus?
 - What did Jesus when he said his baptism for to “fulfill all righteousness?”
 - On what basis will the father say to us, “With you, I am well-pleased?”

Respond

- In what way can it be misleading to say God gives us a second chance?
- How can we embrace what the Galatians struggled to embrace, that the gospel is not just for the beginning of the Christian life, but it is for our everyday?

Bonus for Thinkers

- Why did the Galatians so quickly ignore the gospel message taught by Paul and embrace the “salvation by works” message taught by the Judaizers? Why do we struggle with the same tendency?

Thoughts

- What was Paul’s mood as he wrote this letter? Is there a crisis in the church? Is there a problem with their faith?
 - **Galatians 1:6-9** | *I am amazed that you are so quickly turning away from him who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are troubling you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, a curse be on him! As we have said before, I now say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, a curse be on him!* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 2:11** | *But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face because he stood condemned.* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 3:1** | *You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified?* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 3:3** | *Are you so foolish? After beginning by the Spirit, are you now finishing by the flesh?* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 5:11-12** | *Now brothers and sisters, if I still preach circumcision, why am I still persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been abolished. I wish those who are disturbing you might also let themselves be mutilated!* (CSB)
 - **Galatians 5:11-12** | *But if I, brothers, still preach circumcision, why am I still being persecuted? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. I wish those who unsettle you would emasculate themselves!* (ESV)
- So, what was this crisis? Why does it matter to us?
 - Initially, the gospel was the good news it promised to be.
 - But since the beginning, their Christian walk was derailed.
 - This is common today.
- How do we remedy this?
 - That is what **Galatians 1-5** is about.
 - There is much difficulty teaching this.
 - Approach #1
 - Give you the whole answer at once and cover give chapters in the next 30 minutes.
 - Approach #2
 - Teach you one tenth of the answer and leave you confused and disinterested.
 - Like showing you a photo of a new concept car in ten slices, one at a time...

Notes

- The gospel is not about getting a second chance!
- Jonathan Edwards: We contribute nothing to our salvation except the sin that makes it necessary.
- Martin Luther considered Paul’s letter to the Galatians to be the most important book in the Bible.

— It's as simple as this: **Imagine taking a final exam that counts for your whole grade you don't study at all for it because you are out the whole night partying, and so you fail. Sitting beside you is the perfect student who aces the exam. But when it comes time to turn the grades in, he takes your failing exam and gives you his perfect one.**⁶

— So, I usually left church thinking about what I needed to do to make myself more acceptable to God rather than trusting in what God had done for me and promised to do in me.⁷

— Jesus last' words on the cross were not, "I got it started, now you go finish it up." His last words were: "*It. Is. Finished.*"⁸

— Greear: **Some churches emphasize...**⁹

— Many of us tend to view the gospel as the starting line of our lives with Christ. Once the "gospel gun" goes off, we are earnestly running the race, trying our best to grow spiritually. But from a biblical perspective, the gospel is not simply the starting line. It is the race itself.¹⁰

Notes on Galatians 1:6

- The news that the apostle had received about the Galatians left him stunned. In most of his letters, Paul would follow his greeting with a prayer of thanks for his readers based on what he had recently heard about them. Paul thanked God for the Romans and commended them for their well-known faith (**Romans 1:8**); he thanked God for the Corinthians (despite the moral lapses that he denounced in his letter, **1 Corinthians 1:4-9**); he thanked God for the Ephesians (**Ephesians 1:15-16**), the Philippians (**Philippians 1:3-10**), the Colossians (**Colossians 1:3**), and the Thessalonians (**1 Thessalonians 1:2-3**).¹¹
 - However, **no words of thanks occur in this letter**; instead, Paul immediately expressed astonishment at the Galatians' behavior.¹²
 - **The transition from doxology in v. 5 to rebuke in v. 6 is especially harsh, almost unparalleled in its jarring dissonance.**¹³
 - The expression "I am astonished" (*thaumazo*) conveys a rebuke similar to our expression, "I can hardly believe what I am hearing about you!"¹⁴
- **turning away.** This is better translated "deserting."¹⁵
 - The word translated "deserting" in the NIV is *metatithesthai*, which means literally "to bring to another place." The word is used in this literal sense in **Heb 11:5** to describe Enoch's translation from earth to heaven. It occurs eighteen times in the Greek Old Testament, where it translates a variety of Hebrew words meaning "to transplant," "to set in another place," "to alter or change." From these meanings it was extended metaphorically to **one who had changed allegiance from one country to another, a political traitor, or one who had switched sides in an armed conflict, a military deserter.**¹⁶
 - The Gr. word was **used of military desertion, which was punishable by death.**¹⁷
 - The verb is in the present tense, "are ... deserting" (*metatith-esthe*), and was used in military circles to indicate that a soldier was AWOL (absent without leave).¹⁸
 - The Greek word (*metatithēmi*) is an interesting one. It signifies 'to transfer one's allegiance'. It is used of soldiers in the army who revolt or desert, and of men who change sides in politics or philosophy.¹⁹
 - The form of this Gr. verb indicates that the Galatian believers were voluntarily deserting grace to pursue the legalism taught by the false teachers (*see notes on 5:4*).²⁰
 - To turn from the gospel of grace is to turn from the God of grace.²¹
 - "Are ... removed," which represents a Greek present tense verb, would be better rendered by an English continuous present, such as "are ... turning away from" (Goodspeed), "are moving away from" (Rotherham), "are ... deserting" (Weymouth). **The present tense shows that the defection of the Galatians was not yet final and complete; it was a process still going on.**²²
- Different gospel
 - The false teachers were evidently 'Judaizers', whose 'gospel' is summarized in **Acts 15:1**: 'Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.' **They did not deny that you must believe in Jesus for salvation, but they stressed that you must be circumcised and keep the law as well.** In other words, you must **let Moses finish what Christ has begun.** Or rather, you yourself must finish, by your obedience to the law, what Christ has begun. You must add your works to the work of Christ. You must finish Christ's unfinished work.²³
 - The Greek word rendered "another" denotes a qualitative distinction, "another of a different kind."²⁴

- Here at the beginning of the letter he wanted them to realize that the God who called them out of pagan idolatry to salvation and new life in Jesus Christ did so on no other basis than his own good pleasure and gratuitous favor. To forget this is worse than betraying an army or a country; it is to betray the true and living God.²⁵
- Don't forget, however, that much of the teaching of the Judaizers was right down the line, biblically speaking. They acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah, and they even acknowledged His death on the cross. They claimed to believe all the truths that other Christians believed, and they certainly weren't telling people that they denied the gospel. Instead, they were improving it, adding requirements and standards from the old covenant to the new covenant. But the reality is that **as soon as you add anything to grace, you lose grace altogether.**²⁶
- So quickly
 - **"so quickly"** Two senses are possible: (1) so soon after they accepted the gospel that Paul preached, or (2) so soon after the false teachers came.²⁷
 - *Their turning away from the gospel happened so soon!* Paul is "amazed" that those in the churches at Galatia were turning "so quickly!" **The words "so quickly" call to mind the golden calf incident in Exodus 32:7-8.** Israel had just been liberated from Egypt, received God's law, and made a covenant with God. But immediately—while Moses was up on the mountain speaking with the Lord—they made a golden calf and worshiped that idol in the place of their Redeemer.²⁸
- **called you.** This could be translated, "who called you once and for all" (cf. **2 Thess. 2:13, 14; 2 Tim. 1:8, 9; 1 Pet. 1:15**).²⁹
- By adding additional requirements for salvation to what Jesus Christ has once and for all done, the Galatians had deserted God.³⁰
- Note a shocking fact: how close false teaching within the church is to the truth! How a little addition here and a little subtraction there distorts the purity of the gospel! How diligently we must guard against adding our own ideas to the gospel of God.³¹
- **If we leave grace behind, we become like every other religion in the world.**³²

¹ Wayne A. Grudem, *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine* (Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; Zondervan Pub. House, 2004), 906.

² Wayne A. Grudem, *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine* (Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; Zondervan Pub. House, 2004), 906.

³ Bruce B. Barton, *Galatians*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1994), xiv.

⁴ Bruce B. Barton, *Galatians*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1994), xv.

⁵ Bruce B. Barton, *Galatians*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1994), xviii.

⁶ Greear, A Freedom Worth Fighting For" // Gal 1:6–10

⁷ Greear, A Freedom Worth Fighting For" // Gal 1:6–10

⁸ Greear, A Freedom Worth Fighting For" // Gal 1:6–10

⁹ Greear, A Freedom Worth Fighting For" // Gal 1:6–10

¹⁰ Alan Kraft, *Good News for Those Trying Harder* (Colorado Springs, CO: David C Cook, 2011).

¹¹ Bruce B. Barton, *Galatians*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1994), 12–13.

¹² Bruce B. Barton, *Galatians*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1994), 13.

¹³ Timothy George, *Galatians*, vol. 30, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994), 89.

¹⁴ Bruce B. Barton, *Galatians*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1994), 13.

¹⁵ John MacArthur Jr., ed., *The MacArthur Study Bible*, electronic ed. (Nashville, TN: Word Pub., 1997), 1788.

¹⁶ Timothy George, *Galatians*, vol. 30, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994), 91.

¹⁷ John MacArthur Jr., ed., *The MacArthur Study Bible*, electronic ed. (Nashville, TN: Word Pub., 1997), 1788.

¹⁸ Bruce B. Barton, *Galatians*, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1994), 13.

¹⁹ John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Galatians: Only One Way*, *The Bible Speaks Today* (Leicester, England; Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986), 21–22.

²⁰ John MacArthur Jr., ed., *The MacArthur Study Bible*, electronic ed. (Nashville, TN: Word Pub., 1997), 1788.

²¹ John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Galatians: Only One Way*, *The Bible Speaks Today* (Leicester, England; Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986), 22–23.

²² Curtis Vaughan, *Galatians*, *Founders Study Guide Commentary* (Cape Coral, FL: Founders Press, 2005), 19.

²³ John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Galatians: Only One Way*, *The Bible Speaks Today* (Leicester, England; Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986), 22.

²⁴ Curtis Vaughan, *Galatians*, *Founders Study Guide Commentary* (Cape Coral, FL: Founders Press, 2005), 20.

²⁵ Timothy George, *Galatians*, vol. 30, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994), 92–93.

²⁶ David Platt, Tony Merida, and Daniel L. Akin, *Exalting Jesus in Galatians* (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2014).

²⁷ Robert James Utley, *Paul's First Letters: Galatians and I & II Thessalonians*, vol. 11, *Study Guide Commentary Series* (Marshall, TX: Bible Lessons International, 1997), 10.

²⁸ David Platt, Tony Merida, and Daniel L. Akin, *Exalting Jesus in Galatians* (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2014).

²⁹ John MacArthur Jr., ed., *The MacArthur Study Bible*, electronic ed. (Nashville, TN: Word Pub., 1997), 1788.

³⁰ Timothy George, *Galatians*, vol. 30, *The New American Commentary* (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994), 92.

³¹ Leadership Ministries Worldwide, *Galatians-Colossians*, *The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible* (Chattanooga, TN: Leadership Ministries Worldwide, 1996), 14.

³² David Platt, Tony Merida, and Daniel L. Akin, *Exalting Jesus in Galatians* (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2014).