

# Galatians 1:1-5 **By Jesus Christ**

## 1. Paul, an apostle • Galatians 1:1

- a. In our Colossians series we mentioned Galatians 1 as being one of the most clear defenses of Paul's unique apostleship. We will see this in the coming weeks.
  - i. 9 of 13 epistles mention this apostleship status in the greeting.
  - ii. 6 follow with, "by the commandment" or "by the will of God".
- b. "Not of men, neither by man", Paul's knowledge and apostleship was not gained by nor was he appointed by men. (Gal 1:1)
  - i. He did not learn from the other apostles. (Gal 1:12)
  - ii. Paul's knowledge of Christ, mystery and prophecy, came directly from Christ (1 Cor 11:23, Gal 2:6)
- c. Paul's apostleship was unique. Of the 12 apostles, there was no need for another. (Acts 1:21-22, 26, Mt 19:28, Rev 21:14)
  - i. Paul, as Christ's enemy, was saved by grace to be a pattern. He was not less than other apostles. (1 Cor 15:8-10, 1 Tim 1:12-16, 2 Cor 12:11)
  - ii. Paul's message: Grace, liberty (from the law) - the gospel of the grace of God, the cross.
- d. Those from Jerusalem had no small dissension, Paul's message was opposed.
  - i. In Acts 14 we had seen that Paul had traveled the region. (Acts 14:21, 15:1-2)
  - ii. The issue? Circumcision and the law of Moses (Acts 15:5)
  - iii. Those coming from Jerusalem claimed their apostle's authority as well.

## 2. To the churches of Galatia • Galatians 1:2-4

- a. These churches knew Paul, they knew of Christ's work ("that gospel"). (Gal 2:2, Col 1:27)
- b. Paul will go on to address corruption of "that gospel". (Gal 1:6, 1 Cor 15:1-4, 12)
- c. Paul does not want the gospel to be in vain, to fail to produce a worthy walk. (Col 2:6)
- d. Grace, mercy, and peace by the cross. (Gal 6:14)
- e. Christ died to deliver us from this present evil world.
  - i. He gave himself, this was the will of God. (Rom 4:25, Acts 2:23, Phil 2:8)
  - ii. He was delivered, so we could be delivered. (Rom 7:6, Col 1:14)
  - iii. Don't focus on earth, focus on things above. (Col 3:1-4)

## 3. Glory to God • Galatians 1:5

- a. The cross accomplished:
  - i. Israel's New Testament (earth) (Mat 26:28, Acts 3:21)
  - ii. The New Creature: the Body of Christ (heaven) (2 Cor 5:14-16, Rom 16:25)
  - iii. Different administrations, one Lord (1 Cor 12:4)
- b. By the cross we (the body of Christ) are no longer servants of sin. (Rom 6:7, 17-18)
- c. God calls us into grace by the gospel of the grace of God. (2 Thess 2:14, Romans 4:24-25, 5:1-2)
- d. To God be the glory. (Rom 4:5, Eph 2:8-9, Titus 3:5, Gal 2:20)