

Galatians 3:1-8 **Having Begun in the Spirit**

1. Review • Galatians 2:16-21

- a. Paul addressed what was not upright according to the truth of the gospel.
- b. By the works of the law, no flesh is justified. (Gal 2:16)
- c. The Galatians knew and once obeyed the truth of their identity in Christ.
 - i. Justification by grace, life by grace, righteousness by grace, Christ by grace.
- d. Our walk, position, and perfectness do not come by the law.
- e. The grace of God ought not be frustrated (made of no effect). What we receive by grace and how we receive it is the key to walking worthy.
- f. Note: Though in serious error, the topic is not of losing salvation. If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful. (2 Tim 2:13)

2. Foolish Galatians • Galatians 3:1

- a. Foolish: Unwise, proceeding from folly, wicked, sinful (Gal 3:1)
- b. God makes foolish the wisdom of this world. (1 Cor 1:20)
- c. Obedience to the truth of God's word, here the gospel. The message. The faith.
 - i. Truth of the gospel must be believed to be saved, must be believed to walk. To know the gospel is to know God's grace. (Gal 2:14, Col 1:5-6)
 - ii. We are to rightly divide the word of truth. (What God has said in any dispensation.) (2 Tim 2:15)
 - iii. It is the will of God that men know the truth. (2 Tim 2:4)
- d. Bewitch: Charm, fascinate... to such a degree as to remove resistance.
- e. The Galatians knew better. (Gal 6:1)
- f. Part of our armor is to have our loins **girt about with truth**. This holds everything else together. (Eph 6:14)
 - i. Men can be destitute of the truth. The name of God and His doctrine ought not be blasphemed! (1 Tim 6:1, 5)
 - ii. Faith is overthrown when a man is overtaken in a fault. (2 Tim 2:18, 25-26)
- g. We should receive no other spirit, no other Jesus, no other gospel! (2 Cor 11:4)

3. Having received the Spirit • Galatians 3:2-5

- a. Christ crucified is evident among the Galatians. They have the Spirit. How did that happen?
- b. The Spirit of God bears witness with our spirit. If we are saved, we are sealed. (Eph 1:12, Rom 8:15-17, 1 Cor 2:12)
- c. The hearing of faith? Faith always comes by hearing the word of God. (Rom 10:17)
- d. We receive the Spirit to know the things of God. (1 Cor 2:12-14)
 - i. Perfect? A function of the word. (2 Tim 3:16-17)
 - ii. As we've received... so walk. (Col 2:6)
 - iii. Complete? In Christ, yes. (Col 2:10)

4. Having received the Spirit • Galatians 3:6-8

- a. A difference: "By works was faith made perfect." This was written to the twelve tribes of Israel and is doctrine according to their covenant. (James 2:20-24)
- b. Faith and works? Or faith in Christ's work? Insert Romans chapter 4. (Rom 4:5, 24-25)
- c. Imputed righteousness. The mystery was how God could do that and be just. The answer is Christ's crosswork. (Gen 15:6, Rom 3:25-26)
- d. The children of Abraham? Not Israel, but those who believe God. (Rom 4:9-15)
- e. The gospel to Abraham? It wasn't the gospel of the grace of God. It was that through his seed all nations would be blessed. (Gen 12:1-4)
- f. Rest in your position in Christ, you don't want to be back under the law. (Gal 4:1)