

## Galatians Study Summary

### Lesson 1 – Galatians 1:1-2:1                      Deserting the Gospel Paul Proclaimed

Q1, 2 – The true Gospel is clearly stated in 1 Corinthians 15:1-9: Jesus died for mankind's sin according to the prophecies in scripture, was buried, and then resurrected on Day 3. He gave Himself for our sins to deliver us from this "present age."

Q3 – False gospels "delivered by angels" are found in Mormonism and Islam. They distort the truth.

Q5 – Paul is God's chosen Apostle to the Gentiles. After conversion on the Damascus Road, he spent 3 years in Arabia, 14 in Antioch, and began his 1<sup>st</sup> missionary trip at 35-45 years of age.

### Lesson 2 – Galatians 2:2-21                      The Life I Now Live...I Live by Faith

Q2, 4 – False brothers (Jewish converts) of the Circumcision Party challenged Paul, demanding that Gentile believers first become Jews (circumcised) before they could be saved. Paul successfully refuted this before James, Peter and John. They accepted him as the Apostle to the Gentiles.

Q6 – Justification before God is by faith only. No one will be justified by obeying (Jewish) laws. God shows no partiality --- we are all saved by faith!

Q7 – Put the past in the past --- forget it --- and move on as a new creation in Jesus. Live by your faith!

### Lesson 3 – Galatians 3:1-14                      Faith vs. Works

Q1, 2 – The false brothers taught that to truly please God, one must know and observe all the Mosaic Laws and live like a Jew. But Paul taught that we receive the Spirit of God by hearing with faith.

Q3 – The Holy Spirit gives us new birth, dwells within, and becomes our teacher. He guides us into truth, gifts us for service, "seals" us as God's children --- guaranteeing our heavenly inheritance --- and glorifies Jesus.

Q4-7 – Abraham believed God, and his true descendants are also people of faith.

Q8 – It is evident that no one is justified before God by trying to obey all the Law. To be guilty of one is to be guilty of all.

### Lesson 4 – Galatians 3:14-29                      God's Promises and God's Laws

Q1-4 – Abraham (faith) preceded Moses (Law) by 430 years. Why did God give the Law? Because of man's transgressions.

Q6-8 – By defining sin with the Law, all mankind was imprisoned and held captive. The Law makes nothing perfect. The Law was intended to point out our great need and lead us to Christ as our Deliverer. We have become children of God by faith, and we are now part of Abraham's lineage.

### Lesson 5 – Galatians 4:1-11                      Adopted as God's Children

Q2 – God's Law worked for us as a guardian and manager until Jesus came in the fullness of God's time.

Q3, 4 – Jesus redeemed us so that we might receive adoption as God's sons (and daughters). We can now rightfully refer to God as "Daddy" (Abba, Father).

Q7-9 – Why would we foolishly trade our freedom in Christ to become slaves again to the Mosaic Law with so many rules and observances?

### Lesson 6 – Galatians 4:12-20                      Paul Reaches Galatia

Q2, 3 – Paul was grateful to work among the Galatians, even though he personally struggled with his own thorn in the flesh. 3X he asked God to remove it, but God said "no" to keep him humble.

Q5 – True friends are willing to share tough truths! (Proverbs 27:6)

Q8 – Paul longed to see Christ formed within the believing Galatians! He hated seeing them vacillate between saving faith and being ensnared by false teachings and the newest trending ideas. They needed to mature and grow up.

Lesson 7 – Galatians 4:21-31                      Cast Out the Slave Woman and Her Son!

- Q1-2 – Hagar and Sarah represent two covenants: God’s Law through Hagar, and God’s Promise through Sarah. Ishmael was a normal birth, but Isaac was the child of promise.
- Q4 – God’s 1<sup>st</sup> Covenant of Law came through Moses on Mount Sinai. God’s 2<sup>nd</sup>, “better” (Hebrews 8:6), covenant of “freedom from the Law’s demands and sin” came through Jesus.
- Q6 – In the churches, Law followers often persecute promise followers. God’s Law was meant to guard and guide us until Jesus came, bringing with Him salvation by faith. Some prefer the old ways...
- Q7 – Jesus said all God’s Laws are summed up with loving the Lord with all our hearts, and loving others as we love ourselves (Matthew). Christian living is not about rule following, but expressing faith.

Lesson 8 – Galatians 5:1-12                      You Were Running Well...Do Not Submit Again to...Slavery!

- Q1 – Stepping out of slavery to laws and procedures, Paul counsels us not to become enslaved again.
- Q5, 8 – Circumcision is irreversible and ties one to the covenant of Judaism. For a Christian to choose to become circumcised AFTER salvation is to reverse the course of grace and faith to embrace the failed law-keeping attempts of the old covenant. Paul says circumcision counts for nothing!

Lesson 9 – Galatians 5:13-24                      The War Rages On: My Spirit vs. The Holy Spirit!

- Q1 – Being freed from sin’s penalty should never lead to sinful, selfish living – but to serve one another!
- Q2 – When my focus becomes finding other people’s faults, I’m likely to find them and become divisive.
- Q5 – There is a war raging within me: God the Holy Spirit battles my spirit for control of my heart and actions. I often fail to do the good I want to do because of this.
- Q7 – Evil deeds of the flesh --- post-salvation behaviors --- come with a warning: If you live like this, you cannot expect to inherit God’s Kingdom. How many times does it take for this to be true about anyone? Only God knows, and it is God who will judge.
- Q8, 9 – There is NO law against the Fruit of the Spirit. We should be growing in these ways.
- Q10 – Believers must strive to “crucify” their sinful passions and desires.

Lesson 10 – Galatians 5:25-6:10                      Church Discipline, Personal Responsibility, and Stewardship

- Q1 – Understanding what God is saying to us is NOT the same thing as doing it. We are to “keep in step” with the Holy Spirit as we live by the Holy Spirit.
- Q2 – Christians ought not to compare themselves to other Christians. Don’t become conceited, don’t provoke others (through criticism), and don’t envy them. The goal is not, “I’m better than you!”
- Q4 – Trustworthy spiritual leaders in a church --- when aware of sinful behaviors among the believers --- are to approach the individuals with gentleness and the goal of restoration. They who discipline believers must be careful to avoid being led away by similar temptations.
- Q5 – Church fellowships benefit when the believers bear each other’s burdens and are supportive and helpful --- which fulfills the Law of Christ!
- Q6 – Christian maturity is in becoming Christlike. We are to strive to measure up to the stature of Christ’s fullness, not that of other believers. Some people can’t or won’t see themselves as God does. The remedy? Measure oneself against Jesus.
- Q7 – We are indebted to those who teach us God’s Word and should share “all good things” with them.
- Q8 – In life, we reap what we sow. If we sow to the Holy Spirit, we get life and salvation; if we sow to our own desires, we will reap corruption.
- Q9, 10 – Never weary of doing good for others, especially the fellow Christians in our church family.

Lesson 11 – Galatians 6:11-18                      Make Your Choice: Circumcision or New Creation

- Q3 – The Circumcision Party pushing new believers to get circumcised compel them to fail just as the Jews failed. It is an impossible task. Failure in just one way means guilty of failure in all ways.
- Q6 – What truly counts in life is being a NEW CREATION in Christ Jesus.