

Study of Galatians – Galatians 1:1-10
Bellevue Church of Christ – Spring 2012

I. Paul's Greeting (1-5)

ἀπόστολος apostolos;
Lit -a messenger, one
sent on a mission
Acts 1:21-26

Why does Paul identify himself as an Apostle?
(Rom, I & II Cor, Gal, Eph, Col, I & II Tim, Titus)

Acts 9:1-18
Acts 22:1-16
Acts 26:12-18

¹ Paul, an **apostle**—not from men nor through man, but through **Jesus Christ and God the Father**, who raised him from the dead—

Why does Paul not identify his companions as in...
I & II Cor, Phil Col, I & II Thess, Philem

² and **all the brothers** who are with me, To the churches of **Galatia**:

Common Greeting
-Rom, I & II Cor, Gal, Eph, Philem

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the **Lord Jesus Christ**,

Galatia - Likely the churches planted during Paul's first missionary journey in the province of Galatia in southern Asia Minor (Acts 13, 14)

Rom 3:21-31

⁴ who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

Doxology - Sets Jesus as the focus.

⁵ **to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

II. Paul's Grief (6-10)

Jesus is the ONLY Way!
John 3:16-18
John 14:6
Acts 4:10-12
I Cor 15:12-19

⁶ I am astonished that **you** are so **quickly** deserting **him** who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a *different gospel*—

Key Words To Describe Their Desertion:
 (1) You
 (2) Quickly
 (3) Him

⁷ *not that there is another one*, but there are **some** who **trouble you** and want to distort the gospel of Christ.

Who is responsible for the Galatians desertion from the gospel?

⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we *preached* to you, let him be **accursed**.

⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you *received*, let him be **accursed**.

ἀνάθεμα anathema;
Lit - Eternally condemned or damned

Matt 6:24

¹⁰ **For** am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Study of Galatians – Galatians 1:1-10
Bellevue Church of Christ – Spring 2012

Notes:

Apostle

693 ἀπόστολος (*apostolos*), ου (*ou*), ὁ (*ho*): n.masc.; ≡ DBLHebr 8938; Str 652; TDNT 1.407—**1**. LN 53.74 **apostle**, a special messenger of Jesus Christ, a restricted group, the exact number variously reckoned (Mt 10:2; Ac 1:2, 26; Ac 14:14; 1Co 12:28, 29); **2**. LN 33.194 **messenger**, envoy, one sent (Jn 13:16; 2Co 8:23; Php 2:25+)¹

652. ἀπόστολος apostolos; from 649; *a messenger, one sent on a mission, an apostle*:—apostle(19), apostles(52), apostles'(5), messenger(1), messengers(1), is sent(1).²

Acts 1:21–26 (ESV)

²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³ And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Acts 9:1–19 (ESV)

9 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. ⁴ And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” ⁵ And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸ Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he

¹ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Greek (New Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

² Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

Study of Galatians – Galatians 1:1-10
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is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; ¹⁹ and taking food, he was strengthened.

Acts 22:1–16 (ESV)

“Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you.”

² And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said:

³ “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. ⁴ I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, ⁵ as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished.

⁶ “As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. ⁷ And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ ⁸ And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ ⁹ Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. ¹⁰ And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’ ¹¹ And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus.

¹² “And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, ¹³ came to me, and standing by me said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. ¹⁴ And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; ¹⁵ for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶ And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.’

Acts 26:12–18 (ESV)

¹² “In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. ¹³ At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. ¹⁴ And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ ¹⁵ And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶ But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, ¹⁷ delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you ¹⁸ to open their eyes, so

Study of Galatians – Galatians 1:1-10
Bellevue Church of Christ – Spring 2012

that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’

Romans 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

1 Corinthians 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

2 Corinthians 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God that is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in the whole of Achaia:

Ephesians 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

Colossians 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

1 Timothy 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope,

2 Timothy 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

Titus 1:1 (ESV)

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God’s elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness,

All the Brothers

Mentions his companions in 1 and 2 Cor, Phil, Col, 1 and 2 Thess, Philem / why not in Galatians / probably to show that the message he delivered could stand alone without need for anyone else.

Paul’s Common Greeting

Romans 1:7 (ESV)

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:3 (ESV)

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Study of Galatians – Galatians 1:1-10
Bellevue Church of Christ – Spring 2012

2 Corinthians 1:2 (ESV)

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:3 (ESV)

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Ephesians 1:2 (ESV)

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philemon 1:3 (ESV)

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Salvation From God Through Christ

Romans 3:21–31 (ESV)

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. ²⁹ Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰ since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. ³¹ Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

Jesus is the Only Way

John 3:16–18 (ESV)

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

John 14:6 (ESV)

⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Acts 4:10–12 (ESV)

¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing

Study of Galatians – Galatians 1:1-10
Bellevue Church of Christ – Spring 2012

before you well. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

1 Corinthians 15:12–19 (ESV)

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

1 John 2:23 (ESV)

²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

Accursed

353 ἀνάθεμα (*anathema*), ατος (*atos*), τό (*to*): n.neu.; ≡ DBLHebr 3049, 3051; Str 331; TDNT 1.354—**1.** LN 33.473 **a curse**, an oath, the content of what is spoken (Ac 23:14; 1Co 12:3; 16:22; Lk 21:5 v.r. NA26); **2.** LN 33.474 **one cursed**, the object of the curse (Ro 9:3; Gal 1:8, 9+), for another interp, see prior³

331. ἀνάθεμα **anathema**; from 394; *that which is laid up*, i.e. *a votive offering*:—accursed(5), solemn(1).⁴

Serving Two Masters

Matthew 6:24 (ESV)

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

³ Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Greek (New Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

⁴ Thomas, R. L. (1998). *New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : Updated edition*. Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.