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Paul's Letter to the Galatians

Paul's Shared Gospel History Galatians 2:1-10 08/05/2018

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Galatians

Greeting

Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead), ² and all the brethren who are with me,

To the churches of Galatia:

Chapter 1

³ Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, ⁵ to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Galatians 1:1-2:10 – The Gospel As It Should Be (part 3)

- 1. Paul's Greeting (vv. 1-5)
- 2. Paul's Warning (vv. 6 10) \rightarrow https://wp1.NLFJI.org/357
- 3. Last week (vv. 11 24) → Paul's History validating His Call to Spread the Gospel among the Gentiles (https://wp1.NLFJI.org/358)
- Timeline of Salvation (Acts 9) until Acts 15 Council Decision regarding Gentiles coming to faith in Christ and NOT needing to follow the Israeli Mosaic Law in order to be saved and to "keep their salvation", etc.
- 1. Saved in Damascus, Syria (Acts 9)
- 2. Went to Arabia (after his salvation experience)
- **3.** Returned to Damascus **3** years then the "Basket Escape"
- **4.** Went to Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-30 → Barnabas right hand of fellowship)
- 5. Went to Tarsus for a number of years until Barnabas called on him in Acts 13 Antioch → Acts 13 thru 15 followed (First Missionary journey)
- 6. Gal. 2:1-10 → after 14 years → The Church Council of Acts 15: → Same Gospel, Shared Gospel → for Jews and Gentiles

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me.² And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain. ³Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. ⁴ And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage), ⁵ to whom we did NOT yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

Paul and Barnabas – after returning to Antioch, after their Missions to the Gentiles – which included the Galatians – they encountered some Judaizers – Hebrew Roots Movement Legalists – exactly as we have, now
→ Folks that want Christians to follow all of the Law of Moses along with the New Testament teachings – or you aren't a "real Yeshua Follower"

- Acts 15:1-6 (entire context: Acts 15:1-35) And certain men came down from Judea *[to Antioch]* and taught the
- brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." ² Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had NO SMALL dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question.
- ³ So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren. ⁴ And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders; and they reported all things that God had done with them. ⁵ But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses."
- ⁶ Now, the APOSTLES and ELDERS came together to CONSIDER THIS MATTER. (for more on this, please, go to: https://NLFJI.org/SABBATH)

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Paul was rehearsing SHARED HISTORY with the Galatian churches ... of what led up to the Acts 15 Church Council meeting ... the Question:
Should Gentiles coming to faith in Jesus Christ (for salvation)
1. First – before they are saved, become Law keeping Jews?

2. After they come to Christ (to Yeshua as Messiah) should they keep the Law in order to maintain their "salvation"?

NO: to Works Salvation – and Works Sanctification – based on the Law of Moses

But from those who seemed to be something—whatever they were, it makes no difference to me; God shows personal favoritism to no man-for those who seemed to be something added nothing to me. ⁷ But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter⁸ (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), ⁹ and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. ¹⁰ They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

Paul was NOT "dissing" the apostles and/or elders of the church in Jerusalem ... he was focused on the INTEGRITY of the CONTENT the Gospel Message. Some folks compromise based upon the "glory" of some special Man of God and his new revelation, etc. This kind of Human reputation does not matter compared to the TRUTH of God's Holy Word. That is what his focus is, here. We see this today all the time with Great and Popular TV Preachers, etc. (itching ears?)

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"added nothing to me" - What? Continue reading ... Paul is talking about the INTEGRITY of the CONTENT of the Message of the Gospel of Christ that he was preaching ... nothing needed to be added to it, nothing needed to change ... these "big wig" "apostles" did not have any different Gospel than Paul did. Same GOSPEL, SHARED GOSPEL – comparing notes, it was the SAME, on the Same Page. For Jew or Gentile – Same Gospel, Same Salvation, Same Savior & LORD

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"that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised." – have you read the book of James; 1 & 2 Peter; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd John; the book of Revelation? If you noticed the Jewish/Hebraic overtones, you weren't mistaken. Paul mentions that Peter, John, and James (the elder ½ brother of Jesus) – their ministry, for a while was to the "circumcised" or the Jews/Israelis, etc. And we see that in their writings.

Paul wrote mostly to Gentiles – and the book of Hebrews to the Jews.

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This rehearsal of shared history of their Shared Gospel, the SAME Gospel to Jews and Gentiles was to lay a foundation for what Paul talked about next → Exposing The Judaizers' False Gospel or Hebrew Roots Movement Legalism Any False Gospel – not only relates to How A Person Get's Saved – it also covers How "saved" people are to LIVE after they are saved, etc. It is a Perversion of the Genuine Gospel of Christ. If after being Genuinely Saved, Born Again in Christ – you live as if you must WORK to keep your salvation - you have believed and you are, now (with your life and/or lips), proclaiming a FALSE GOSPEL.

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The GENUINE Gospel of Christ is about the Real God, Real Human sinfulness, and our Real Savior and LORD – the Real Jesus Christ who is the Rescuer from the Wrath of God to come. It is the GRACE of GOD – not based upon works ...

Romans 3:19-20 (NKJV)

Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. ²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law NO flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

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Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV)

⁸ For by GRACE you have been SAVED through FAITH, and that NOT of yourselves; it is the GIFT of God, ⁹ NOT [a result] of WORKS, lest anyone should boast.