

Handout 1 (Printed 6/8/2019)

Paul's Letter to the

GALATIANS

An English Translation of the Greek Text

Digital file version: work in progress-C1

Translated by John A. "Jack" Crabtree

Address and Greeting

PART 1

- 1 From: Paul, an apostle—not from men, nor for a man, but rather for Jesus the Messiah and for God, the Father, who raised him from the dead—and all the brothers who are with me.

2•To: the *ekklesiais* of Galatia.

I:1–2

- 2 Grace to you and *shalom* from God, our Father, and from our Lord, Jesus the Messiah, the one who gave himself for our sins so that he might deliver us from this present evil age in accord with the will of our God and Father. 2•May glory be to him into the distant ages of the ages. 3•Amen.

I:3–5

Preliminary Remarks: Paul's Gospel As Divine Truth Rather Than A Novel, Human Innovation

§ 1 • Paul's Teaching Is To Serve God, Not For the Approval of Men

PART 2

- 3 I am amazed that you are so quickly turning away from the gospel that invited you on the basis of the grace of the *messiah* to a different gospel (which is not really all that different)—except that there are some who are confusing you by choosing to alter the gospel of the *messiah*. 2•Now, indeed, even if we or a messenger from heaven should proclaim to you a gospel at odds with what we have proclaimed to you, he is to be accursed! 3•Just as we said before, indeed, I say again now—if anyone instructs you in a gospel that is at odds with what you have already received, he is to be accursed!

I:6–9

- 4 So then, am I attempting to convince men now, in my proclamation of the gospel? 2•Either it is for God that I teach what I teach, or I am striving to please men. 3•And yet, if I were trying to please men, I would not be a bondservant of the *messiah*.

I:10

§ 2 • Paul's Understanding of the Gospel Is From God; It Is Not A Human Distortion or Innovation

§ 2.1 • Paul's History As Evidence That His Understanding Is From God, Independent of Any Man

PART 3

- 5 Now I disclose to you, brothers, that—the good news, the thing being proclaimed as good

news by me—it is not according to some man. 2•In fact, I did not receive it from a man, nor was I taught it. 3•Rather, I received it through a revelation of Jesus the Messiah.

1:11–12

- 6 Now you have heard of my way of life in Judaism at that time—namely, that I was persecuting the *ekklesia* of God in the extreme and was trying to destroy it; and I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my people, because I was more of a zealot for my ancestral traditions. 2•Now when God—the one who set me apart from my mother's womb and, through his grace, called me—was pleased to reveal his Son to me to the end that I might proclaim the good news about him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, neither did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me. 3•Rather, I went away to Arabia and then returned again to Damascus. 4•Then, after three years, I did go up to Jerusalem to get to know Cephas. 5•Now I did remain with him for fifteen days. 6•But I did not see any other of the apostles except James, the brother of our Lord.

1:13–19

- 7 Now, look, it is before God that I am writing these things to you, for I am not lying.

1:20

- 8 Then I went into the regions of Syria and Cilicia. 2•I was unknown by face to the believing communities in Judea that were in the *messiah*. 3•They kept hearing only that “he who once persecuted us is now proclaiming as good news the belief that he once tried to destroy.” 4•And they were glorifying God because of me.

1:21–24

§ 2.2 • Paul's History As Evidence That His Understanding Is Consistent With Apostolic Understanding

PART 4

- 9 Then, after fourteen years, I again went up to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along also. 2•I went up in accord with a revelation. 3•And I submitted to them the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles. 4• I did so in private, to those who seemed to be something, lest in some way I might be running, or had run, in vain. 5•But Titus, the individual who accompanied me who was a Greek, was most emphatically not put under obligation to be circumcised—even in response to the false brothers embedded within the community who infiltrated and closely observed the freedom that we have in Messiah Jesus, their goal being that they might enslave us. 6•But for them we did not yield to subjection for a single moment so that the truth of the gospel would remain for you. 7•Now, from those who seemed to be something... (what they then were makes no difference to me; God does not accept the face

of a man). Indeed, the ones who seemed to be something added nothing to me by way of correction. 8•Rather, to the contrary, seeing that I had been entrusted with the gospel for the uncircumcised just as Peter had been for the circumcised (for the one at work in Peter confirming his apostleship with regard to the circumcised also was at work in me in relation to the Gentiles) and acknowledging the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and John—the ones who seemed to be the pillars—gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of *koinoinia* to the end that we go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised, if only we might be mindful of the poor—which very thing I indeed made every effort to do.

2:1–10

§ 2.3 • Incident At Antioch As Evidence That Paul Shares the Same Understanding of the Gospel As the Apostle Peter

PART 5

10 Now when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was in the wrong. 2•For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and separate himself, fearing the ones from among the circumcision. 3•The rest of the Jews also played the part with him, with the result that even Barnabas joined with them in this play-acting. 4•But when I saw that they were not behaving rightly in relation to the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in the presence of all,

“5•If you, being a Jew, can live like a Gentile, and not like a Jew, how are you pressuring Gentiles to live like Jews? 6•We are Jews by nature and not sinners from among the Gentiles. 7•And yet, knowing that a man is not decreed *dikaïos* on the basis of his works of *Torah*—except in view of our belief regarding Jesus, the *messiah*—even we have believed in Messiah Jesus, with the result that we are decreed *dikaïos* by reason of our belief in the *messiah* and not by reason of our works of *Torah*. 8•Because, on the basis of works of *Torah*, no natural-born human will ever be decreed *dikaïos*.

9•But if, while seeking to be decreed *dikaïos* in the *messiah* even we ourselves have been found sinners, is the *messiah* then a servant of sin? 10•May it never be! 11•Indeed, if I again rebuild these things that I have previously destroyed, then I constitute myself a transgressor.

12•Now through my efforts to obey the Mosaic Covenant, I died by that covenant, with the result that I stand to live by God. 13•I have been crucified with the *messiah*, and no longer do I think I stand to live. 14•Yet, to my benefit, the *messiah* lives; and by reason of this I now stand to live in the midst of my present, physical

existence. 15•Because of my belief, I stand to live on the basis of the Son of God, the one who loved me and gave himself up on my behalf. 16•I do not reject the gift of God. 17•Indeed, if *dikaiousune* is through the Covenant, then the *messiah* died for no reason.”

2:11–21

§ 3 • The Galatians' Initiation by the Spirit of God Confirms the Divine Origin of Paul's Gospel

PART 6

- 11 O ignorant Galatians, who has cast a malicious spell on you so that you would not be persuaded of the truth? 2•Who has cast a spell on you in whose very eyes Jesus, the *messiah*, was previously portrayed as crucified? 3•This is the one thing I want to learn from you: did you receive the Spirit following a message about works of *Torah*, or following a message about belief? 4•Are you so foolish? 5•Having been initiated by the Spirit, are you now made complete in your body? 6•Did you experience so many things for nothing, if indeed it was for nothing? 7•So then, the one who gives you the Spirit and works miracles among you, did he do these things following a message about works of *Torah*, or following a message about belief?

3:1–5