



Galatians: Defending the Gospel

June 7

INTRODUCTION: Galatians is written by Paul to the churches planted in Acts 13–14 because false teachers (Judaizers) contradicted Paul and preached “another Gospel.” In the first section of Galatians Paul sets about to defend (authority) and define (content) the Gospel.

KEY POINT: authority, defence, agreement, faith alone

A.M. SERMON RECAP (Acts 17: 22–34)

- Why is this a great pattern for reaching the lost?
- What was Paul’s result?

P.M. SERMON RECAP (Gal 1:10–24)

- Before he gets to defining the Gospel, why does Paul go to such lengths to defend the Gospel?
- How is justification the material/secondary issue in Galatians, how is authority the formal or primary issue?
- How is the Gospel defended through:
 - Revelation vs. reason
 - Salvation by grace
 - Christ’s calling
 - Conversion

READ: Gal 2:1–10

QUESTIONS:

1. *Paul continues to defend his Gospel. Not only was his call from Christ but his call and message were confirmed by the Apostles—the Galatians must believe it is the only Gospel.*
2. *V. 2- For what reasons did Paul go to Jerusalem on this occasion?*
3. *Paul’s external call depended on Christ, however, that didn’t mean he was a lone star preacher unconnected and indifferent to the other Apostles. They confirmed his call. Like the Judaizers, how are false teachers or self-proclaimed preachers dangerous?*

4. **When we feel God’s internal call to serve, why is it important to confirm this via the Church? Can you think of examples of this? How are these useful?**
5. **V. 3- How can we see one of the key points of the Judaizer’s faith + works ‘gospel’ of salvation here?**
6. **V.6- If the other Apostles believed that circumcision was necessary for salvation they would have...?**
7. *[vv. 4–5- “false brothers, slavery, liberty— we’ll largely save these for next time]*
8. *Paul uses ‘influential’ three time (vv. 2, 6). These may include Peter, James (the brother) and John in v. 9. He did not consult with all of the Apostles but some of the key leaders. As the Church is the Temple (Eph 2:21), these men were “pillars.”*
9. **V. 6- What is the meaning of Paul’s comment on Apostolic partiality? How does this strengthen his case?**
10. **v. 6b “added nothing to me”- If the Apostles didn’t amend Paul’s Gospel then they...?**
11. **V. 7- Paul and the other Apostles agreed in the Gospel. What else did they agree upon?**
12. **V. 9- This confirmation even extended to the formal act of?**
13. *Not only was Paul’s message and call of Christ (1:10–24), here we see that the Apostles also confirmed Paul’s ministry and message.*
14. *V. 10- Like earlier Gentile collections, the Gentiles remembering the Jewish poor in Jerusalem show they have been saved and were of one family.*
15. **How is Gospel agreement necessary for spiritual union and partnership?**

NEXT: June 14- Gal 2:15–21, Justification