

Galatians 1.6-1.24

Instructions

Carefully read verses 6 to 24 of chapter 1. Now read the **summary commentary** below to orient yourself to the message of the passage we are studying and then attempt to answer the questions which follow:

Summary Commentary Galatians 1.6-10

In this section, Paul delivers a stinging rebuke to the Galatian Christians for allowing false teachers the opportunity to teach “another gospel” among the Galatian churches. Paul strongly asserts that anyone, even if it be an angel, that comes and preaches another gospel contrary to that which he preached should be accursed, a word translated from the very powerful Greek “*anathema*” which means to put out and to have nothing to do with, even unto death.

1. Read Paul’s salutation to the Romans (1.1-7), Corinthians (I Cor 1.1-4) and Philipians (1.1-4).

How do these salutations differ from his statement to the Galatian Christians in 1.6?

2. What was it that shocked Paul so greatly about the Galatian Christians? (cf 1.6)

3. 😊 I have a little language study exercise to help you answer question 3

🙄 Oh, OK good, I like that..... thank you!

😊 So, Paul uses the Greek word “*kelein*” (to call) and this word is only ever used to refer to an effective call to which those called have responded rather than the word “*invitatio*” which merely means an invitation that may be either accepted or rejected.

😎 Oh yeah, that’s cool

What do you now understand it to mean when Paul says they were “called” into the grace of Christ?

4. Paul refers to “another gospel” in verse 6, but in verse 7 says it is “not another gospel.” How can you reconcile those two statements?

😬 Guuuulp I need some more help

😬 That’s OK, don’t panic. The word for another that Paul uses in verse 6 is *heteros* which means “another of a different kind” while the word he uses in verse 7 is *allos* which means “another of the same kind” Are you OK now?

😬 Oh, OK I think I get it now. Here is my answer:

5. In verse 8, Paul says these false teachers have troubled the Galatian Christians and perverted the gospel. What do you think Paul meant by;

Troubled (KJV)/confused (NIV)

Perverted

6. Paul says in verse 8 that these false teachers should be accursed. What do you think he meant by this?

7. In verse 9 Paul starts out by saying “As we said before”

Who is “we?”

When was “before?”

Why is he repeating what he has already said in verse 8

Summary Commentary Galatians 1.11-24

Galatians 1.11 is the beginning of the three major divisions of the epistle. From this point, the epistle is subdivided as follows.

History: The **basis** of our liberty (1.11-2-21)

Theology: The **truth** of our liberty (Chapters 3 & 4)

Ethics: The **effect** of our liberty (5.1-6.10)

This first autobiographical section relates to Paul's early Christian experience, his salvation and his meeting with the apostles in Jerusalem. He clarifies his source of the gospel as being by direct revelation from Jesus Christ and pointedly accuses the false teachers of being heretics

8. Whenever Paul used the phrase "I would have you know (1 Cor 12.3; 15.1; 2 Cor 8.1) he intended to draw particular attention to what he was about to say. What exactly is Paul drawing attention to here in verses 11-12?
9. In verses 13-14, how does Paul describe who he was before his conversion on the road to Damascus?
10. Read verses 15-17. Following his call to the ministry, what did Paul do to prepare himself?
11. How long after his call to the ministry was it before Paul went up to Jerusalem to meet Peter and James
12. Read verses 20-24.
 - Where did Paul go after he met with Peter and James? (vs 21)
 - What had those churches he visited there heard about Paul? (vs 23)
 - What was the result? (vs 24)