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SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS BIBLE STUDY

Topic:

***MAXIMIZING THE MISSION BY MANAGING THE MINISTRY:
THE VICTORIOUS STAND IN CHRIST***

Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Presenter

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SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Dr. Otis T. McMillan, Instructor

THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

Author: Paul of Tarsus, the Missionary-Theologian and Apostle to the Gentiles

Date: Between A.D. 48 and 49, or A.D. 53 and 57, depending upon whether he wrote to the churches of northern or southern Galatia.

Recipients: Probably the churches of South Galatia, a Roman province, including Pisidia, Lycaonia, parts of Phrygia and Cappadocia, and Antioch, Lystra, Derbe, and Iconium, which Paul visited on his first and second missionary journeys.

Purpose: To lead the Galatians back to justification by faith alone by exposing the errors of a counterfeit gospel which combined salvation through Christ with procedures of the Mosaic law in Judaism

Theme: Salvation through Faith in Jesus Christ

MAXIMIZING THE MISSION BY MANAGING THE MINISTRY: THE VICTORIOUS STAND IN CHRIST

I. THE INTRODUCTION [1:1-5]

II. THE GOSPEL OF GOD'S GRACE (1:6 - 2:21)

III. THE VICTORIOUS STAND IN CHRIST JESUS (4:21-6:18)

- A. STAND IN GOD'S GRACE, NOT RIGID GUIDELINES (3:1-4:31)
- B. STAND IN GOD'S LIBERTY, NOT FLESHLY LOOSENESS (5:1-13)
- C. STAND IN GOD'S LOVE, NOT SELFISH LUST (5:13-26)
- D. STAND READY TO RESTORE, NOT HINDER (6:1-6)
- E. STAND READY TO DO GOOD, NOT HARM (6:7-10)
- F. STANDFAST IN CHRIST JESUS AS NEW CREATURES (6:11-18)

I. The Introduction (1:1-5)

- A. Paul's apostleship: a calling from God, not man (1:1)
- B. Paul's audience: the churches of Galatia (1:2)
- C. Paul's greeting: grace and peace from God (1:3)
- D. Paul's gospel: our salvation through Christ's atonement (1:4-5)

II. The Gospel of God's Grace (1:6 - 2:21)

- A. The gospel challenged by Judaizers (1:6-9)
- B. The gospel revealed to Paul by Christ (1:10-24)
- C. The gospel acknowledged by other Apostles (2:1-10)
- D. The gospel vindicated against Peter's compromise (2:11-15)
- E. The gospel clarified by Paul: salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (2:16-21)

III. THE VICTORIOUS STAND IN CHRIST JESUS (4:21-6:18)

Key Verse: Galatians 5:1 ¶ Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Purpose: To lead the Galatians back to justification by faith alone by exposing the errors of a counterfeit gospel which combined salvation through Christ with procedures of the Mosaic law in Judaism; to encourage them to stand victoriously and confidently in the true Gospel.

Questions for discussion

1. O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? v.1
2. Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? v.2
3. Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? v.3
4. Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain. v.4
5. He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? v.5
6. Wherefore then serveth the law? v.19

What strange, Satanic influence has come over you? By what horrible deceit have you been entangled and held captive? You have heard and known the way of salvation by faith in the crucified Savior--how could you then have been duped by legal teachers?

A. STAND IN GOD'S GRACE, NOT RIGID GUIDELINES (3:1-4:31)

- a. Our salvation is offered by grace through faith, not works. (3:1-14)
- b. Our salvation is given through the promise of faith, not law. (3:15-22)
- c. Our salvation is experienced through mature sonship, not slavery. (3:23 - 4:31)
 1. We are God's children through faith in Christ. (3:23 - 4:7)
 2. We are not to be led back into slavery to the law. (4:8-11)
 3. We are to be nurtured to maturity as God's children. (4:12-20)
 4. We are children in freedom by Grace, not servants in bondage. (4:21-31)

B. STAND IN GOD'S LIBERTY, NOT FLESHLY LOOSENESS (5:1-13)

- a. Freedom must not be lost through legalism. (5:1-4)
- b. Freedom is experienced by obeying truth (5:5-7)
- c. Freedom is always undermined through compromise. (5:8-12)

C. STAND IN GOD'S LOVE, NOT SELFISH LUST (5:13-26)

- a. Stand in God's love by willingly serving one another (13-15)
- b. Stand in God's love by refusing to gratify the desires of the flesh. (5:16-17)
- b. Stand in God's love by allowing the His Spirit to controls us (18)
- c. Stand in God's love by allowing His Spirit to produce His fruit in us. (5:19-26)

D. STAND READY TO RESTORE, NOT HINDER (6:1-6)

- a. Stand ready to restore those who have fallen (6:1)
- b. Stand ready to bear one another's burdens (6:2)
- c. Stand ready to serve humbly and faithfully (6:3-5)
- d. Stand ready to support pastors and teachers (6:6)

E. STAND READY TO DO GOOD, NOT HARM (6:7-10)

- a. Stand ready to sow good seeds and reap the benefit. (6:7-8)
- b. Stand ready to help those in the world with patience and longsuffering (6:9-10)
- c. Stand ready to offer special care and assistance to those in the church. (6:10)

F. STANDFAST IN CHRIST JESUS AS NEW CREATURES (6:11-18)

- a. Stand fast in Christ's atonement in spite of persecution. (6:11-12)
- b. Stand fast in Christ's atonement as the only thing about which we should boast. (6:13-14)
- c. Stand fast in Christ's atonement as the only way to become new creatures. (6:15)
- c. Stand fast in Christ's atonement as the only thing that really matters. (6:16-18)