An OUTLINE STUDY of "THE EPISTLE TO THE GALATIANS"

Theme:—"The True Gospel of Grace"

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him: And with His stripes we are healed."

Isa. 53:5
Foreword.

Surely no greater topic can secure our attention at the present day than
"The True Gospel of Grace"

So many people are groping among the many theories of the "Way of Life Everlasting" that the Scripture declaration and argument must at once demand our interest.

If the "Gospel of Grace" is truly "Good News of Unmerited Favor", one may ask,
What is the contents of its message?
Where does it get its authority?
What does it do for the faithful recipient?
These are some of the questions discussed in this Epistle.

The Epistle to the Galatians was written by the Apostle Paul just previous to his imprisonment in Rome and before he wrote Romans, which further develops this great theme, that forms the foundation of our Protestant Religion.

Every true Christian man or woman should therefore study to know these two great and glorious Epistles.

There are six chapters in Galatians, four of which deal with
"The richness of the Truth of the Gospel" and the remaining two with
"The constraint of God's Great Grace."

We submit but an outline to assist the earnest student in his study.

(Christianity is not an evolution of Judaism, but a revelation from God.)

A. The Gospel Stated. vs. 3-5.
   i. Substitution—"Himself for our sins."
   ii. Satisfaction—"Deliverance."
   iii. Governmental—"According to will of God."

   c.f. 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13; 1 Pet. 2:24; 1 John 2:2.

B. False Gospels condemned. vs. 6-9.
(Queries: Are there gospels to-day that are spurious?)
   i. Falsity consists in perversion.
   ii. Only one True Gospel of Grace.

C. Its Revelation by Jesus Christ vs. 10-24.

Queries: 1. When and where was the Gospel of Grace first revealed?
   2. Was it known in the time of Christ? Col. 1:26; Eph. 3:5.9.
   3. Was it evolved from Judaism?

   i. Not transmitted by man.
   ii. Revealed by Jesus Christ in the desert of Arabia.

Notes: By following this chapter closely, we are forced to the conclusion that our gospel, our Christian Religion, was not a product of the Jewish religion but it was a new dispensation which GOD began,—the sixth in order.

(Innocence. Conscience, Human Government, Promise, Law, Grace, Kingdom.)

It will also appear evident that there are false gospels, which are very destructive of the true life.

Read 2 Cor. 4:4; 2 Cor. 11:4, 14, 15; Acts 15:24.
Chap. 2. "Its Distinctive Character"
(Further vs. idea of Evolution of Christianity)

A. A New Communication, vs. 1–2.
Query: Was the Gospel of Grace known in Jerusalem before Paul’s visit?

i. Sent by Spirit.

ii. Paul’s Tact in Presentation.

iii. It’s Purpose.

(N.B. Paul always recognized the organized church.)

B. Its Official Recognition, vs. 3–10


i. The Strife in Debate.

ii. The Conference.

(Two Gospels noted vs. 7.)

iii. The Final Recognition.

C. A Most Important Distinction.

Query: Must a man not live a true life to be saved? c.f. Rom. 3:28–4:4.5; Rom. 10:4; Eph. 2:8.

i. Good people carried away. vs. 11–13.

ii. Inconsistent to be partly Jewish.

iii. Danger of frustrating the finished work of Christ. c.f Gal. 5:3,4; Rom. 11:6,7.

Notes: The strife in Jerusalem over the early communication of the Gospel indicates clearly the world’s great enmity towards it and points out what may be expected to-day.

Salvation freely by grace is salvation indeed and Satan opposes it. (2 Cor. 4:4)
Paul in this chapter shows clearly the difference between the two gospels, viz. The Gospel of the Kingdom and the Gospel of Grace. The Gospel of Uncircumcision was altogether of free grace apart from any works of the flesh. It is faith not life, trust not endeavor.

May God help us to know this truly! So many, many people like Barnabas are carried away to-day.

QUESTIONS IN REVIEW.

1. What three phases are there to the Gospel? Explain each and give Scripture references.
2. Why are false gospels so very dangerous to Christians?
3. Explain 2 Cor. 11:14,15 and 2 Cor. 4:4.
4. When, where and to whom was the Gospel of Grace first revealed?
5. Give Scripture to show that the Gospel of Free Grace was not known in the previous dispensations.
7. Was the gospel of the Uncircumcision known in Jerusalem before Paul’s visit?
8. How many gospels were preached in those days? What is the great difference between them?
9. How may a man frustrate the grace of God?
10. State clearly the bearing of Rom. 3:28; Rom. 4:4,5; Gal. 5:3,4 on this question.
CHAP. 3. **Its Dispensation.**

(The Dove-tailing of the Gospel Age into the dispensation of the Promise.)

A. **The Essential Feature of all God’s dealings.**
   (not works but faith) vs. 1-14.
   i. Present manifestation, vs. 1-7.
      in Conversion, Salvation, Service.
   ii. Scripture Declaration. vs. 8-14.
      the Kernel Promise,—the Curse of Law,
      —the Redemption through Christ.

B. **The Indissoluble Covenant.** vs. 15-23.
   (Read Heb. 6:13-20.)
   i. The Principle of Covenants. vs. 15.
   ii. The Abrahamic Covenant described.
      vs. 16-18.
   iii. The Place and Purpose of the Law.

C. **Our Inheritance through Christ.** vs. 19-23.
   i. By Adoption.
   ii. The Glorious Result.

Notes: This Chapter contains the closest reasoning of any and shows how the gentiles through faith in Christ may come from that place as described in Eph. 2: 12 into the most glorious inheritance under the greatest Covenant of all. This is obtained not by the life of the Individual or the works of his flesh but through the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The place and purpose of the Law is well worthy of our study. So many to-day look upon the Mosaic Law as a Code of rules to give us life instead of condemning us to death for our failure.

Read Gal. 3: 21,22; Rom. 3: 19,20; Rom. 9: 31,32.
CHAP. 4. **Its Great Deliverance.**

(The Foundation of our Assurance)

A. Our Adoption made possible. vs. 1–7.

Query: How can one tell that he is the Child of God?

i. The Heir under Bondage.

ii. The Deliverance by Redemption.

iii. The Adoption into the Family of God.

c.f. 1 John 3: 2,3; Rom. 8:14.

B. The Dangerous Effects of Legality. vs. 8–18

Query: Is it not helpful for one to use the Law of Moses as a guide to right living?

i. Injurious to Spiritual Growth.

ii. Destructive of Christian Joy,

iii. Creates a false zeal.


C. Recognition of Deliverance Necessary.

(Two Classes of Christians,

1. Those who know deliverance is all grace. c.f. 1 John 5:13.

2. Those who do not know.

i. The Two Sons. (See above.)

ii. The Allegory.

iii. The Only Ground of Inheritance.

Notes: Assurance to the Christian is his very substance and joy. He is expected to recognize his deliverance and his adoption into the Family of God as apart entirely from his own merits or works. His Salvation is all of Christ. Once he is
born of God he comes into the liberty of the Royal Household and therefore does not require the Mosaic Law. We recognize our Sonship not so much by our outer garments, our manner or our conduct, but rather by our inner consciousness and communion with the Father.

QUESTIONS IN REVIEW.

1. What is the essential feature of God’s dealings with man?

2. In what way does the present Dispensation dovetail into the Dispensation of Promise?


4. Explain then Acts 7:4,5.

5. If Righteousness can not be by the Law, why then was the Law given? Gal. 3:21,22.

6. Did Adam have the Ten Commandments? Gal. 3:17.

7. How do we come into the inheritance of the Covenant?

8. What two purposes are mentioned in Chap. 4:5, for Christ's incarnation?

9. How can one tell that he is a child of God?

10. Is it helpful or harmful to use the Law of Moses as a guide to Spiritual life?

11. State clearly the truth contained in 1 John 5:13.
The Constraint of God’s Great Grace.

Chap. 5. The Gospel Appeal.

A. Look to Holy Spirit Alone. vs. 1–12.
   i. Not to Law.
      (Law and Grace opposed.)
   ii. Our Guide and Hope – the Holy Spirit through submission and surrender.
   iii. False Doctrine – Beware.

B. Remember Your Two Natures. vs. 13–26.
   (Christians should know this doctrine.
   cf. Rom. 7:15–25.)
   i. The Danger. vs. 13.
   ii. The Strife of the two.
   iii. The Working Signs.
      of the Flesh.
      of the Spirit.

Notes: Christians, we must recognize that it is submission to the Holy Spirit that is the great essential of true Christian life. We MUST recognize that personal effort to keep the Law and thereby merit recognition is directly opposed to Free Grace. Our only hope is in and through the Holy Spirit. Man has two Natures, the Carnal and the Spiritual. Bear in mind the Carnal is opposed to God and cannot be made subject Rom. 8:7. We must support and develop our Higher Nature.

(Query: What view of life and our fellowmen does the Gospel give?)

A. The Attitude of Charity.
   i. Faultfinding gone.
   ii. Foolishness of Vanity.
   iii. Mutual Helpfulness.

B. Conclusion.
   i. Avoid Show in Flesh.
   ii. Glory not in Works.
   iii. Christ Jesus alone availeth.

Note: In this closing chapter Paul puts before the followers of the LORD a broad outlook upon life. We are to be charitable to our fellowmen, rather hesitating in our censure of them, remembering that we too may fall. There is none that can think so highly of himself that he sins not. Hence we must stand together, helping one another, for thereby our spirits are edified.

Note the summary. Paul recapitulates his argument in order that there may be no mistake.

Students of GOD'S Holy and Infallible Word, we call you unto the full Assurance of the Gospel of Unmerited favor. "By Grace ye are saved through Faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8, therefore Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" Gal. 5:1.
Outline in Full.

Theme "The True Gospel of Grace."

A. The Richness of the Gospel Truth.
      a. Gospel Stated.
      b. False Gospels Condemned.
      c. Its Revelation by Jesus Christ.
   2. Its Distinctive Character.
      a. A New Communication.
      c. An Important Distinction.
   3. Its Dispensation.
      a. Essential of God's Dealings.
      b. The Indissoluble Covenant.
      c. Our Inheritance through Christ.
   4. Its Great Deliverance.
      a. Our Adoption.
      b. Dangerous Effects of Legality.
      c. Recognition of Deliverance Necessary.


   a. Look to the Holy Spirit.
   b. Doctrine of Two Natures.

   a. Charity to All.
   b. Conclusion
      not flesh
      not works
      but JESUS CHRIST alone.
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