

Scraps from the margins of my Bible.

GALATIANS

with a little expansion
Phil Myers

Direct quotes from the Bible are
***bold** *underlined and **italicized*
i.e. scattered

Introduction

1. Sub-titled: Christian Liberty, love limits liberty
2. Sub-titled: The Just Shall Live by Faith
3. The cornerstone of the Reformation
4. An attack on 3 heresies:
 - Galatianism: saved by Law / no free gift of salvation
 - Legalism: sanctified by laws / no freedom for believers, holiness is keeping all the rules like a Pharisee
 - Anti-nominanism: abhor the laws of God / freedom from obeying any after salvation
5. Perhaps Paul's very first letter written shortly after his first missionary tour *pjm*
6. Key words: faith, liberty, justify, grace
7. Key verses: 5.1 "stand fast in the liberty" *Pastor Ron Hoffmann*
5.13 "by love serve one another" *Phil Myers* *pjm*
Theme = easy believism grants eternal life
Rom 3.8 "as we have been slanderously reported. . . let us do evil."
Kudos to all who have also been accused the same as Paul.
[see www.PhilMyersBlog.com](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com)
[Easy-believe-ism, you betcha!](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com/Easy-believe-ism_you_betcha!)
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8. "We have taken a strong stand on the Gospel. Not only the purity, but also the clarity." *Dr. David Peterson, my pastor*

- 1.2 the churches of Galatia, Iconium, Antioch, Lystra, Derbe [central Turkey]
- 1.6 another [heteron] Gospel which is not another [allo], *They've been snookered into thinking that this different message of the Gospel is just a different expression. It is not. It is false. It includes works for salvation.*
* OT Jews attending these church plants on Paul's first tour had crept into these new congregations.
- 1.8 though we 'or angel from heaven' preach any other Gospel unto you, this phrase 'or an angel from heaven' should have rung a bell in any Jew's brain.
* I Kings 13.18—The old prophet deceived the young prophet by telling him that an angel from heaven gave him different instructions than God had given to the young prophet. God killed the young prophet for listening.
accused, not very gentle language
- 1.12 I received. . . by the revelation of Jesus Christ, curious that God hadn't made this message crystal clear before this point in the life of the early Church, i.e. 49 or 50 AD
- 1.17 Arabia, = S.A.D. Seminary of the Arabian Desert, *II Cor 11.32,33, several years?*
- 1.21 Cilicia, the county of Tarsus, Saul's hometown

- 2.1 Barnabas, the first church missionary who had ever been sent. Sent years before to Antioch by the church of Jerusalem, Acts 11.22
Paul travels with Barnabas to Jerusalem = Acts 15, "Jerusalem Council" AD 50
- 2.3,4 Titus [not] circumcised, to show Paul didn't have to keep Mosaic Law
Timothy was circumcised to show to Jews in Lystra that Paul did keep Mosaic Law, Acts 16.3.
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[Circumcising Timothy & 2 Other Sins](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com/Circumcising-Timothy-2-Other-Sins)
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Note Paul's 3 recorded sins: OUT OF GOD'S WILL

- 1 **circumcises** Timothy to **placate** Jews, ch. 16.3
 - 2 **disregards** Holy Spirit's command **not** to go to Jerusalem, 21.4, **makes plans** to go
 - 3 takes a vow to **prove** to the Jews that he was still **under** the Law—here, 21.24
[see www.PhilMyersBlog.com](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com)
Circumcision of Timothy & 2 Other Sins
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- 2.8,9 target evangelism, also called "marketing the church" in our vernacular
- 2.9 Holy Spirit chooses **B & S** [Acts 13.1-3] as missionaries: no Job description, no destination, no finances, but later got **right hand of fellowship. . . Cephas & John**, to go to the **Gentiles. . . heathen**
- 2.10 **remember the poor**, social & financial implications of evangelism
- 2.11 **withstood him to the face**, I also have been rebuked one-on-one: R,B,S,D,A among others [in love] pjm
 public sins = public rebuke, public apology
 private sins = private rebuke, private apology
- 2.14-21 formal refutation: Legalism
 Peter rebuked by Paul, ends at end of v.14.
- 2.17 **God forbid**, Paul is denying a false conclusion drawn from a correct premise
- 2.20 I, PJM, have been crucified with Christ.
- 2.21 Chapter 3 answers the problem raised in this verse.

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- 3.4-4.7 formal refutation of Galatianism
- 3.2-14 faith & belief—10X, without works
- 3.8 **preached Gospel unto Abraham**, which did not include the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.
 But it was really, really good news [*evangelion, εὐαγγέλιον* = good message] to Abraham at Genesis 15.6: "Abe believed God and it was counted. . .!"

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- 4.2 **until the time**, "toga virilis" = become a man, wear a toga, & get citizenship, Roman custom
- 4.4 **fullness of time**, at just the right time
- Pax Romano = peace in the Roman empire
 - Network of Roman roads to spread the Gospel
 - Jewish monotheism permeated the Roman empire easily
 - Heightened Messianic expectation
- made under the Law**, born under the Law to fulfill the Mosaic Law, Matt 5.17
- 4.8 formal refutation of Legalism, resumed
which by nature are no gods, idolatry is built on fear, not love
 Paul doesn't deny spirits exist, but denies their deity
- 4.13 **through infirmity. . . I preached**, thorn in flesh, II Cor 12.7
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Paul's Thorn in the Flesh
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Suffering: 20 [mostly biblical] Purposes
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- 4.27 **many more children**, It seems that Hagar had more [Arab] children than Sarah [21st century]

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- 5.4 clearly salvation is not dependent on good works
- 5.11 **offense of the Cross / stumblingblock** NASB, **skandalon σκανδαλον** = scandalous
- 5.13 begin refutation of Antinomianism [i.e. the Christian has no laws to keep, libertarianism]
- "Liberty serves everyone with love"
 - "Love limits liberty"
 - "We are free now to become slaves to Christ"

- 5.16,18 **flesh lusteth against the spirit and the spirit against the flesh**, Old Nature & New Nature
 We were born with a bent to sin. No one had to teach a toddler to be selfish. see Eph 4.22-24
 16 passages of Scripture.
[see www.PhilMyersBlog.com](http://www.PhilMyersBlog.com)
New Nature & Old Nature, *Why do Christians still sin?*
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- v.16 **walk in the spirit**
- v.18 **led of the Spirit**, "The Spirit Himself blocks the craving of the flesh." Donald Campbell, pres. Dallas Sem
Not under the Law, Yes and no.
 * Yes, we are not allowed to participate in the 17 **sins of the flesh** mentioned in verses 19-21.
 * No, we are under the moral laws set out in the OT and are forbidden to break the 10 Commandments [less Sabbath keeping].
 * There was a small movement defying all laws and based on such verses as: I Cor 6.12 10.23
- v.22-23 **Fruit of the Spirit** [rather than expressed as "Commands of the Spirit"]
 * A 9-fold compendium of obedience.
 * "Fruit is to be eaten, not displayed." Warren Wiersbe
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- 6.1 **overtaken in a fault** [sin] = stuck, caught Nobody falls into immorality, or dishonesty. We march into it hoping the consequences don't outweigh the pleasure.
- 6.2-5 **burdens**, it may be my friend's own fault, but he needs a friend to help him out
 * a couple cautions
- 6.3 **when he is nothing**, Phil, don't try to make yourself look better than anyone else. Just be faithful.
- 6.6 **let him that is taught. . .communicate**,
 Example: Jason, age 8, asked his mother what this verse meant. Next Sunday he brought me a plate of fudge brownies he had baked himself. I was his Junior Church pastor.
[see www.BibleByParagraphs.com](http://www.BibleByParagraphs.com)
 "PDFs on Serving" category #19
Jason's Gift
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- 6.7 **whatsoever a man soweth**, sometimes children reap the results of parents' wild oats. Other times the blessings.
 We all decide what to sow.
- 6.16 **walk according to this rule**, [5.16 "walk in the Spirit"]
- 6.18 **brethren**, this is the only book that says "brethren" in the salutation