

# The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Galatians



Sunday, September 10, 2017 Pastor Tom Gang

The seriousness of the letter sent to the Galatian churches cannot be underestimated as it addresses a very critical problem—false brethren were combining human works with the \_\_\_\_\_ of grace. This immense tragedy not only affected the region of Galatia, but would ultimately spread to the entire Christian world, even reaching through \_\_\_\_\_ to our present day. Humanly speaking, Paul carried a heavy load of responsibility concerning these matters. We thank God that this satanic attack was put in check by the inspired words of this powerful epistle. This morning's message will reveal the apostle's unusual \_\_\_\_\_. He begins without a word of praise or thanksgiving; after all, how could honor and blessing be given to those who pervert the good news of Jesus Christ? Here in his salutation we see that there is no place in the \_\_\_\_\_ for a salvation gained or maintained by keeping the law. Therefore, we will approach this simple opening text with anticipation, ready to be strengthened by its profound truths.

## A GRAVE GREETING – GALATIANS 1:1-5

### 1. Paul's authority – Galatians 1:1-4

#### a. His unique ministry – verses 1-2

- Paul is an \_\_\_\_\_ – Mt. 10:1-5; Acts 9:1-6; Gal. 2:7-8

*A "sent forth one"*

*(Not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead)*

- Paul has co-laborers (*all the \_\_\_\_\_ which are with me*) – Ro. 15:5; Phil. 2:2, 20

- He is writing to churches (\_\_\_\_\_) – Acts 9:31; 15:41; 16:5; 19:37; Ro. 16:4, 16; 1 Cor. 7:17; 11:16; 14:33-34; 16:1, 19; 2 Cor. 8:1, 18-19, 23-24; 11:8, 28

#### b. His powerful message – verses 3-4

- Grace and peace from God

- Jesus Christ is our \_\_\_\_\_

*He gave himself for our sins...*

*That he might deliver us from this present evil world...*

*According to the will of God and our Father...*

2. Paul's motive – Galatians 1:5

- To \_\_\_\_\_ God for ever and ever – Ro. 15:5-9; 16:27; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 10:31; 2 Cor. 1:20; 4:15-18; Eph. 3:21; 1 Peter 2:12; 4:16; Rev. 15:4
  
- He is zealous about this issue – the conclusion of the greeting is: \_\_\_\_\_

Next week: Galatians 1:6-9